



Resources available for our pupils with SEND

At Finchale Primary School we strongly believe in providing a high quality of education for all our pupils. We have an extremely committed staff team who work hard to ensure that children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) have the opportunities to access a fully inclusive curriculum.

Within school we have access to a wide range of resources and equipment which are used for our pupils with SEND.

Staffing

We have a highly skilled team of Teaching Assistants (TAs). Staff are usually allocated to work in specific year groups where their expertise will meet the needs of the pupils within that particular class. Sometimes TAs provide 1-1 support for a child if this is deemed appropriate. TAs are also often deliver small group or 1 to 1 Intervention Programmes. We ensure that staff are fully trained where necessary prior to delivering any programmes. Where less formal training is required, one of our SENCOs, either Ms Johnstone or Mrs. Marley, or a relevant professional such as a Speech and Language Therapist will spend time with the TA to ensure they are fully aware of how the programme should be delivered, for example, Magic Spelling, Speed Up Programme, Write from the Start etc.

At Finchale we have our **Wellbeing Co-ordinator**, Mrs. Rice, who works with staff to identify children who require further support with their mental health and wellbeing. She delivers support for pupils, either individually or in small groups and signposts parents/carers to local and national wellbeing and mental health services. Mrs. Rice also co-ordinates mental health support throughout the school. Many of our TAs are also trained to provide **social and emotional support** for pupils suffering from stress or anxiety and we offer programmes such as 'Connecting with Children' and Lego Therapy. In addition, we have access to the Resilience Nurse who also offers support in this area. Dr. Whitton is Finchale's **Mental Health Lead**.

Where a new pupil transfers into Finchale Primary School, or a new programme of support is to be delivered to a particular pupil, it is the responsibility of one of our SENCOs to purchase the appropriate resource and/or organise appropriate training for the TA who would be delivering the programme. Where possible, we train two TAs, this allows for continuity and a greater capacity to support individual pupils.

In addition to our own staff, employed to work in Finchale, we have access to additional professionals who offer support in a number of areas including Speech and Language, Occupational Health, assessments and advice for Specific Learning Disorders etc. These are bought in when appropriate at an additional cost to the school.

Resources and Equipment

We have a wide range of resources to meet the needs of our individual pupils with SEND. These can be programmes of support/intervention which can be delivered in a small group or 1 to 1. Some of the Intervention Programmes we currently offer in school are Lexia, Connecting with Children, Lego Therapy, Motor skills etc. A range of equipment can also be used to support a pupil such as wobble cushions to support posture when seating, specific pen grips and cutlery to support children with hand grip difficulties. We can also provide children with fiddle toys to aid them with their concentration. Technological support can be provided such as an Alphasmart/laptop for pupils who have difficulty completing sustained writing tasks. Many of the above resources may have been recommended by an external professional such as an Occupational Therapist or an Educational Psychologist.