

Gosforth Park First School

Annual SEND Report 2023-24

This **Annual SEND Report 2023-24** should be read in consultation with the **Accessibility Plan**, **SEND Information Report** and the **SEND Policy**. Together they include details of:

- The school's admission arrangements for pupils with SEN or disabilities
- The steps school have taken to prevent pupils with SEN or disabilities from being treated less favourably than other pupils
- The facilities provided to assist access to the school by pupils with SEN and disabilities.

(Children and Families Act 2014, Part 3)

Special Needs Coordinator (SENCO): Mr James Hindess

Contact Details: james.hindess@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

Tel: 0191 285 2559

The SENCO is the advocate for Special Educational Needs on the Senior Leadership Team and has been in post for 7 years. Mr Hindess is also the Deputy Headteacher and achieved the accredited National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination (NASENCO)

SEN Link Governor: Mr Eric Ferguson



This report reflects how Gosforth Park First School has used the allocated Special Educational Needs funding to meet pupils' needs

Context:

Gosforth Park is an average sized first school. The school is located to the North East of the City of Newcastle upon Tyne in the Parklands ward. The proportion of pupils eligible for pupil premium is below average and has decreased from 12.4% in 2019 to 7.8% in 2023. The majority of pupils are from a white British heritage (72%) and the remaining 28% of the school population is made up out of 11 of the 17 ethnic groups, the highest being *Any other White background*, 7.31%. The proportion of disabled pupils and those who have Special Educational Needs (SEND) in 2023-24 was below the national average at **7.9%**

Pupils with SEND	Number of Pupils	Percentage of school	Percentage nationally (Jan 2022)
School Population (Nursery-Y4)	290		
SEND total	23	8.2%	18.4%
SEND support	18	6.4%	13.6%
SEND support with additional funding	1	0.35%	
Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	4	1.4%	4.8%
SEND + Pupil Premium	5		


Types of SEND	Number	% of SEN	% of school
Communication and Interaction			
Speech and Language	6	26%	2.1%
Autistic Spectrum Disorder	6	26%	2.1%
Cognition and Learning			
Specific Learning Difficulty	1	4.3%	0.35%
Moderate Learning Difficulty	4	17.4%	1.4%
Social, Emotional and Mental Health	5	21.7%	1.8%
Sensory Difficulties			
Hearing	0	0%	0%
Physical	1	4.3%	0.35%

In 2023-24 there were **23** learners at Gosforth Park First School who had identified Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The population of learners with SEND at Gosforth Park is below the National Average for Primary Schools. The population of learners at Gosforth Park with SEND is broadly in line with schools in Newcastle with a similar demographic and/or catchment area. **Communication and Interaction** is our most common category of learner with SEND and this is reflected in our learning environment and additional and different support.



Absence Data

For all pupils of statutory school age attending Gosforth Park First School

Absence 2023/24				
	Sessions Missed		Persistent Absence	
	School %	2023 National %	School %	2023 National %
SEN Support	6.5	11.1%	14.3	26.2
No SEN	4.2	6.9%	4.1	15.6

Pupils with SEN Support have fewer absences than those with No SEN and National comparisons.

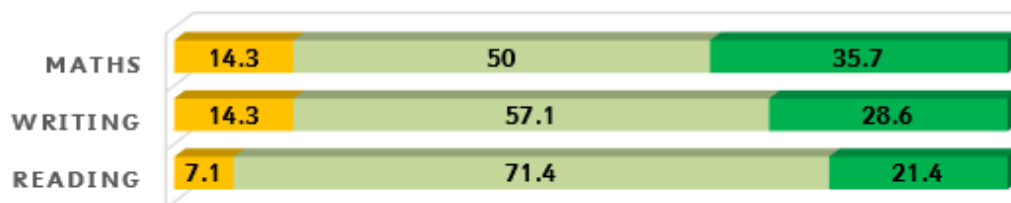
Exclusion Data

- Across the whole school, there were **no suspensions** in 2023/24
- There were **no permanent exclusions** in the whole school in 2023/24

SEND Attainment and Progress

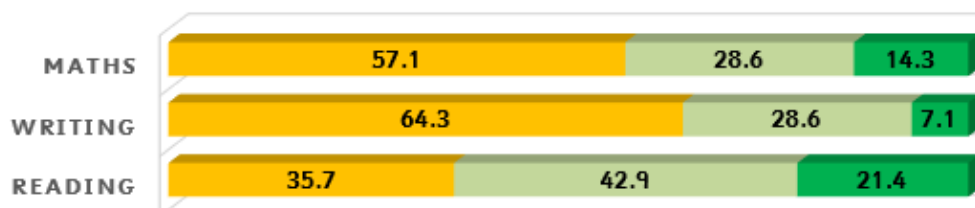
WHOLE SCHOOL SEND PUPIL PROGRESS 2023-24

Below Expected Above



WHOLE SCHOOL SEND PUPIL ATTAINMENT 2023-24

Below Expected Above





Working with Outside Agencies:

During the 2023-24 academic year Gosforth Park First School bought into the following *traded* services:

- **Educational Psychology** (Ask Psychology- *Sarah Brook*): Ask Psychology offers input in relation to a wide range of issues that impact on children's learning and progress, including specific and general learning difficulties, language and communication skills, issues relating to social, emotional and mental health and physical/sensory difficulties.
- **SEND School Improvement Service** (*Jill Tough, Sue Alexander*): Gosforth Park First School has bought into this service at a Silver level agreement. Newcastle SIS offers support and advice to Special Educational Needs Coordinator
- **Chameleon Connections Counselling Service:** (*Elaine Morrell*) Gosforth Park First School provided counselling support from a specialist psychotherapeutic counsellor to support children with SEMH difficulties.

Gosforth Park First School also referred to and worked collaboratively with the following *non-traded* services:

- Newcastle SEND Outreach Service – Early Years Team (*Helen Matthews, Victoria Almond, Suzanne Dixon*)
- NHS Occupational Therapy
- NHS Speech and Language Therapy
- The Children's Speech and Language Clinic (Newcastle University)
- Newcastle SEND Outreach Service – Speech, Language and Communication Needs (*Tracy Hawdon*)
- Newcastle and Gateshead Children and Young People's Service (CYPs)
- School Health Services
- Newcastle SEND Outreach Service – Cognition and Learning Needs (*Alex Rayner, Nadia Motie* – Hadrian Outreach)
- Newcastle SEND Outreach Service – Communication and Interaction Needs (*David McLeod, Christie Johnson, Suzanne Dixon*)
- Newcastle SEND Outreach Service – Specific Learning Difficulties (*Nicola Cook*)
- Newcastle SEND Outreach Service – SEMH (*Karl Elliott* – Trinity Outreach)
- Children North East Counselling Service
- RISE Children's Mental Health
- Stomping Grounds Forest School
- Newcastle SEMH Team (*Helen Cowan, Amanda Barrass*)

We also work closely with our Gosforth Schools Trust, including regular peer-to-peer support within our schools, to further develop our provision for pupils with SEND.



Staff Training and Expertise:

At Gosforth Park First School, the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) of staff is regularly reviewed to ensure that expertise is having the greatest impact for all of our pupils, including those with SEND.

During the 2023/24 academic year, the following CPD relating to learners with SEND has been undertaken by staff:

- **Safeguarding – KCSIE 2023**
- **Downs Syndrome Awareness Training** (Alex Rayner)
- **Little Wandle Phonics** (including 'Keep-up' interventions)
- **Mastering Number** (EYFS and KS1)
- **1st Class @ Number** (KS1)
- **OPAL** (Outdoor Play and Learning – Whole Staff)
- **SEND Processes and Adaptive Teaching Strategies**
- **GPFS Behaviour Management Training** (Restorative Approach)
- **Positive Handling Training**
- **Trauma Informed Behaviour Training**
- **Makaton Training** (EYFS)
- **Incredible 5-Point Scale** (SENCO)
- **SEND Descriptors of Need** (SENCO)
- The SENCO is trained to deliver **LEGO-Based Therapy**; a tool for supporting social and communication needs. The SENCO has also trained other staff to deliver this intervention.
- Staff are **updated with SEND information** on a regular basis in staff training, with additional training and support delivered to ECTs



The school receives yearly support from the Local Authority School Improvement Service. They monitor procedure and practice, provide advice and training and support in the assessment and support of SEND pupils across the school.

We ensure that the school's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) is at the forefront of current developments relating to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

During the 2023/24 academic year, the SENCO:

- Attended the annual SEND conference and termly **Network Meetings**.
- Attended termly **Gosforth Schools Trust (GST)** Network Meetings which provided peer-to-peer support and challenge from other colleagues.
- Completed training to become a **contracted Lead Ofsted Inspector**.



Preparation for September 2024

Gosforth Park First School was identified by Newcastle Educational Psychology Service (EPS), in consultation with the SENDOS Early Years Team, as having a ***'Complex Intake of Reception Children from September 2023.'***

In preparation for September 2024, Gosforth Park have taken the following steps to ensure that staff are able and ready to ensure a smooth and successful transition for learners with SEND from EYFS to KS1.

- ✓ **Downs Syndrome Awareness Training** - Delivered by Alex Rayner
- ✓ **SENCO Visit to Thomas Bewick Special School – Engager Pathway**
- ✓ **EHCP Funding** increase accepted from Band D to Band F for pupil with high-needs SEND
- ✓ **Recruitment of 32.5 hours TA** to support learner with high-needs in Year 1
- ✓ **Whole-school Transition Morning**
- ✓ **2x staff meeting time** dedicated to **Transition**
- ✓ **SEND Transition Reviews** with Parents
- ✓ **September 2024 Training Day** – Whole School Training: Pupils with SEND
- ✓ **Hadrian Outreach Service** – Supporting Y1 Class for learner with Downs Syndrome
- ✓ **Communication and Interaction Team** – Bespoke support for Y1 Class for learners with Autism
- ✓ **Autism Training** – Christie Johnson (selection of Y1 and EY staff)
- ✓ **SEMH Team** – Bespoke support for staff in Y1 relating to SEMH needs of pupils and support/supervision for staff
- ✓ **EP Service** – Priority Setting Meeting September 2024 and subsequent assessment work with 2 learners
- ✓ **EP Service** – Bespoke support for staff in Y1 relating to learners with Autism
- ✓ **Plans for upgrading KS1 breakout classroom and provision for 'engager pathway'** to support learners who are not ready to fully access National Curriculum
- ✓ **SCART Assessments Completed** – learners who are not working at NC
- ✓ **Pending Bids for Funding Sensory Room and KS1 Breakout Space**
- ✓ **Year 1 visiting Hadrian School (Downs Syndrome CPD)**
- ✓ **Pillars of Play** – Whole school CPD November 2024

Additional school support purchased in order to further support learners with SEND, from September 2024:

- ✓ **Newcastle SEND School Improvement Service (SIS) – Bronze Package**
- ✓ **Private Educational Psychology Service (EPS)**



Pupil Views:

Pupil views are collected regularly as part of the Assess, Plan, Do, Review process. These are recorded and shared with parents using the SEN Support Plan document. Where appropriate, children are invited to attend their own review meetings.



Parents/Carers' Views:

Parent views are collected at least 3 times per year through the SEN Support Plan review process. Parents are encouraged to email the school SENCO directly if they have any questions. The following comments were gathered through a Peer Review conducted by the Gosforth School's Trust in collaboration with Newcastle SIS and Gosforth Park's SEND Governor:

'There have been vast improvements since he (SENCO) came, he is very proactive'

'I couldn't ask for more support in the classroom'

'School is incredibly supportive'

'There has been a massive change for the better'

'He (SENCO) is doing a brilliant job'

'He (SENCO) has been helpful and quick to put things in place'.

What Ofsted says...

Gosforth Park First School has a real sense of family. This is a view shared by pupils, parents and staff. The new motto, 'together we make a difference', is felt as you walk through the door.

Staff effectively meet the needs of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). These pupils are supported well in the classroom to access the curriculum alongside their class mates. Recommendations from other professionals, such as the educational psychologist, are followed closely to support pupils with SEND.

(Ofsted Inspection Report, 2020)



Next Steps

In 2023, Gosforth Park First School has been identified by Newcastle Educational Psychology Service (EPS), in consultation with the SENDOS Early Years Team, as having a '*Complex Intake of Reception Children.*'

These children are now making the transition from EYFS to KS1, an important transitional milestone in their school careers. As such, there will be a strong focus in 2024-25 on **upgrading provision** and **upskilling staff** to ensure that learners with high-needs SEND are given the very best education at GPFS.

1. Working with professionals and outside agencies to ensure provision for children with high-needs SEND in KS1 is of the highest quality.

Date of Report: October 2024

Date of Next Review: July 2025

Link to Newcastle Local Offer: <https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/what-local-offer>

