

**DRAKE PRIMARY ACADEMY**  
**Special Educational Needs (SEN) Information Report**  
**2025-2026**

**Drake Primary is part of Reach South Academy Trust. We pride ourselves on our support of SEN children and ensure that ALL children, regardless of their needs, are treated equally and are fully included in activities throughout the day. We have a highly experienced team who will be involved in supporting your child.**

**[Click Here](#) for further information and frequently asked questions**

# Special Educational Needs- Frequently asked Questions

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# What Does SEN Mean?

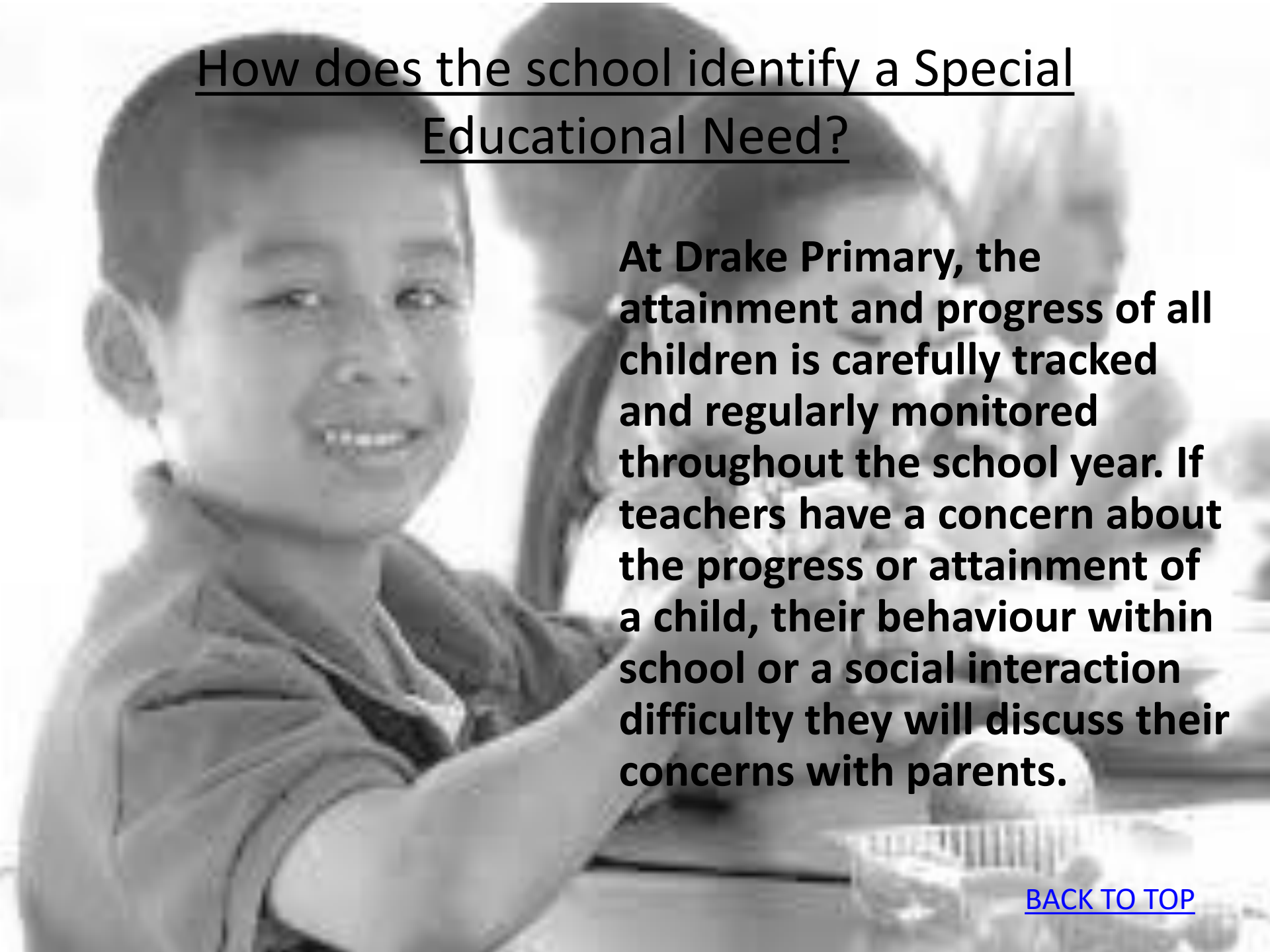
**Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)** is a term that is used to describe pupils who have needs over and above those that can be met by quality first teaching in the classroom. These needs may be within speech and language; cognition and learning; social and communication difficulties; or emotional and behavioural difficulties. They may be for a short period or throughout a child's educational life. They may be identified before a child has even entered school or they may come to be recognised at a specific point in their education.

# Who are the best people to talk to in this school if I think my child may have a Special Educational Need?

**We are always open to parents contacting the school if you have a concern about your child. Children's needs are most effectively met by working closely with parents to ensure we offer the best possible outcomes for your child. This may take many forms, for example: individual review meetings; multi-agency meetings; parent workshops; home-school books/ emails or phone calls.**

If you have concerns about your child you should initially speak to your child's class teacher. You can also speak to the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo), Mrs Phillips. Mrs. Phillips runs an SEND surgery on a Tuesday morning between 8.50am and 9.15am when you can make contact with her and discuss an SEN related enquiry. You can of course make an appointment at another time if Tuesday is not convenient. Our SEND Governor can also be contacted for support.

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## How does the school identify a Special Educational Need?

**At Drake Primary, the attainment and progress of all children is carefully tracked and regularly monitored throughout the school year. If teachers have a concern about the progress or attainment of a child, their behaviour within school or a social interaction difficulty they will discuss their concerns with parents.**

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# How does the school support children with a Special Educational Need?

Special educational provision is underpinned by high quality teaching. At Drake Primary Academy our priority is to ensure that all children, including children with SEN have access to outstanding lessons which are appropriately differentiated and personalised to meet the needs of individual children.

We also recognise that some children will require educational provision that is 'additional to' or 'different from' this. To achieve this, we engage in a cyclical four-stage process: 'Assess, Plan, Do and Review':

**Assess:** The class teachers and if necessary the SENCo and professionals from external agencies, assess the needs of the individuals.

**Plan:** We identify the barriers to learning, intended outcomes and plan appropriate support and intervention to meet those outcomes.

**Do:** We provide appropriate support either within the classroom or as part of a targeted intervention programme. This could involve the provision of a resource, a change in an approach to learning, access to technology or working with an adult. This support is recorded on an Individual Education Plan (IEP)

**Review:** We evaluate the impact of the support provided and consider whether changes to the support need to be made.

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## What training and specialist expertise do the staff at Drake Primary have around SEN?

Teachers and support staff attend training courses run by outside support agencies that are relevant to the needs of the children at our school. Training might involve all staff or just specific members of staff who will be working with individually or with groups of children. This training includes Speech and Language, Autism Spectrum Disorder and Dyslexia.

What further external support can the school access to support children and their families?

We have access to a range of external support services including the Multi Agency Support Team (MAST), Communication Interaction Team (CIT), Children's Speech and Language Service, Social Care, Plymouth Psychology Service and Counselling services. The Plymouth Online Directory (POD) is a very useful website which contains details Primary Schools, Secondary Schools, Special Schools and agencies involved in supporting children and young people.

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# How are parents/carers and children supported to share their views and concerns, and work alongside the school?

At Drake Primary we recognise the value of working in collaboration with parents and carers of children with SEND in order to achieve the best outcomes for them. As a school we strive to ensure a high level of communication with parents so that you feel well informed about what is happening in school and how your child is progressing. This includes our Parents' meetings once a term for our SEND children and those on a 'Record of Concern', a written report and additional meetings should they be necessary with the class teacher, SENCo, Executive Head, Assistant Headteacher or professionals for outside support agencies working with your child.

For children with Education, Health and Care Plans, parents will be invited to attend their Annual Review meeting in which children's progress against their individual targets is looked at in detail and future provision is jointly agreed.

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## How does the school support children and their families when they join our Foundation Class and when they leave to join Secondary School?

**We follow the Plymouth Local Authority transition procedures which give guidance for supporting all children starting school and at transition times throughout their school life.**

**If your child has an identified SEND before joining school we will have a transition meeting with parents, Nursery/Pre-school staff and any professionals who may already be working with your child to discuss the best way to support your child in school. This may include arranging additional visits to school for your child prior to starting school. An action plan is written during this meeting to ensure you are fully aware of the support that will be put in place.**

When your child is preparing to leave Year 6 and join Year 7 we use the Transition Portal to share information and will meet with Secondary School staff as part of an enhanced transition if needed. This might include the child taking part in activities at the Secondary School or staff from the school visiting the child at our school.

## How will the school let me know if they have any concerns about my child's learning in school?

If your child's teacher has concerns about any aspect of their learning they will contact you to arrange a meeting. The SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) may also attend this meeting where the concerns will be discussed and ways to support your child will be discussed. This may include additional support outside of the classroom within a small group or support within the classroom.

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# Where can I find information about the Local Authority's 'Local Offer'?

The Plymouth Online Directory (POD) contains information on services provided in the Plymouth area, both in and outside school. Please use the link below to access further information.

[Plymouth Online Directory - Plymouth Online Directory](#)

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