

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

Pentland School complies with the education (Additional support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004. As amended by the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2009.

North Lanarkshire Council's Policy is contained within "Support for Learning Policy into Practice", a copy of which is available in school. The school has a Support for Learning Policy, available from the school on request, which is consistent with North Lanarkshire Council Guidelines.

A staged intervention process is followed to provide support when this is appropriate.

Level 1 - Internal support, where education staff identify that a child or young person needs support or planning which can be met within the existing classroom or playroom setting.

Level 2 - Internal support, where education staff identify that a child or young person needs support or planning from within the school or early establishment.

Level 3 - External support from within Learning and Leisure Services, where it is identified that the child or young person requires support or planning from beyond the school or early years setting but within educational services.

Level 4 - External support provided on a multi-agency basis, where the child or young person's needs are identified as requiring support or planning from multi-agency services and these support needs are likely to last for more than one year.

A child has additional support needs where, for whatever reason, the child is or is likely to be unable without the provision of additional support to benefit from school education provided or to be provided for the child or young person.

The needs of pupils at Pentland School are such that pupils require to be provided with a place at Pentland School because they have significant Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties which cannot be sufficiently helped within a mainstream school.

Pentland School provides the necessary supports, structures and high levels of staff expertise that allows our pupils to have their needs met.

Aims

We aim to support all our pupils to achieve their potential and become:

- Successful learners
- Confident individuals
- Responsible citizens
- Effective contributors

We do this by providing:

- A highly structured and supportive learning environment.

- A “peacekeeping school” where pupils and staff follow many varied ways of maintaining an ethos of respect and calm.
- Highly competent staff who possess the necessary skills to provide our pupils with high expectations of behaviour and work.
- Tailored programmes of work.
- Opportunities for parents to be highly informed and involved in their child's education.
- Termly pupil progress meetings where the progress of each pupil is scrutinised to ensure each pupil is attaining to potential with additional supports provided as required (and where possible).
- Regular reviews with parents and all stakeholders to review progress and plan next steps.
- Appropriate supports will be provided as available for pupils with English as an additional language.
- All pupils are deemed to have additional support needs including those who are looked after. All pupils therefore have an additional support plan where short and long term targets are set, revised and assessed as a continuous working document.

Looked After Children i.e. children who are cared for directly or whose care is supervised by the local authority are deemed to have Additional Support Needs unless assessment determines otherwise. Reference should be made to designated Personnel and any relevant arrangements within the school for Looked after Children.

Parents and young people can request an assessment at any time to establish whether a child or young person has additional needs and/or requires a Co-ordinated Support Plan.

Parents and pupils are an essential part of the assessment; planning and review processes and your views will be actively sought.

Planning

Additional Support Plans (ASPs) enable staff to plan effectively for children with Additional Support Needs.

Some children may require significant support from education and at least one other agency, such as health, social work, voluntary agency to help them meet their learning targets. Where this support requires a high level of coordination the opening of a Co-ordinated Support Plan (CSP) may be considered.

A CSP may be initiated by the school or another agency.

Parents and young people can, if they wish, request a CSP and are very much part of the process. A CSP may be initiated by the school or another agency. Parents will receive letters from the Education Authority throughout the process of producing a CSP. Parents and young people will be invited to take part in multi-agency meetings and their views will be recorded in the plan.

Dispute Resolution

North Lanarkshire Council is committed to resolving any differences of views through discussion, dialogue and building on common ground.

If the matter cannot be resolved with the Education Authority you have the right to request **mediation**. An independent mediation service is available to parents and young people through Resolve (see contact details at the back of this handbook). Mediation is free and independent of the Education Authority.

In the event that a disagreement cannot be resolved through mediation, then an application for **Independent Adjudication** (see contact details at the back of this handbook) can be made by parents free of charge. The Independent Adjudicator will make recommendations to the Education Authority about how the dispute should be resolved.

The Additional Support Needs **Tribunal** has been set up to hear appeals made by parents or young people on the decisions made by the Education Authority relating to Co-ordinated Support Plans and placing requests. If you disagree with any decision relating to your child's Co-ordinated support Plan or the content of it may be able to refer to the Tribunal.