



21/10/24

Review Date: 21 October 2025

Orchard Academy

www.orchard-academy.com

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy

1. Introduction

1.1 Orchard Academy is dedicated to ensuring that all students, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), have equal access to high-quality education. We recognize that every student has unique needs and potential, and we strive to create an inclusive learning environment that supports the diverse abilities of our learners.

1.2 This policy outlines our commitment to identifying, supporting, and meeting the needs of students with SEND within our online learning framework.

2. Statement of Intent

2.1 Orchard Academy aims to:

- Ensure that all students with SEND are provided with appropriate resources and support to achieve their full potential.
- Promote an inclusive culture that values diversity and actively supports students with additional needs.
- Foster effective communication and collaboration with parents, guardians, and external agencies to support students with SEND.

3. Identification of SEND

3.1 We follow the guidelines set out in the SEND Code of Practice (2015) to identify students who may have SEND. This includes:

- Continuous monitoring of student progress and performance.

- Gathering information from parents, teachers, and external professionals.
- Using a graduated approach to assess, plan, implement, and review interventions.

3.2 The four broad areas of need identified by the SEND Code of Practice are:

- Communication and Interaction
 - Cognition and Learning
 - Social, Emotional, and Mental Health
 - Sensory and/or Physical Needs
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4. Supporting Students with SEND

4.1 Orchard Academy adopts a graduated approach to support students with SEND, which includes:

- Assess: Identifying students' needs through assessments and observations.
- Plan: Developing an Individual Education Plan (IEP) that outlines specific goals and strategies tailored to the student's needs.
- Do: Implementing the IEP with appropriate support and resources.
- Review: Regularly reviewing the effectiveness of the support and making adjustments as necessary.

4.2 Our staff will receive training on best practices for supporting students with SEND to ensure they are equipped to meet diverse learning needs.

5. Collaboration with Parents and Guardians

5.1 We recognize the crucial role that parents and guardians play in supporting their children's education. Orchard Academy will:

- Engage parents in the assessment and planning processes for their child's education.
 - Provide regular updates on progress and any changes to support strategies.
 - Encourage open communication to address any concerns or questions regarding their child's education.
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6. External Agencies and Resources

6.1 Orchard Academy will collaborate with external agencies, such as educational psychologists, speech and language therapists, and other specialists, to enhance the support provided to students with SEND.

This collaboration may involve:

- Referral for assessments or interventions.
 - Accessing additional resources or training for staff.
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7. Monitoring and Evaluation

7.1 The effectiveness of the SEND Policy will be monitored regularly by the SEND Coordinator and senior leadership team. This will include:

- Reviewing student progress and outcomes.

- Gathering feedback from staff, students, and parents.
 - Adjusting practices and resources based on evaluation findings.
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8. Training and Professional Development

8.1 Orchard Academy is committed to continuous professional development for staff in relation to SEND. We will provide:

- Regular training sessions on SEND best practices.
 - Opportunities for staff to share experiences and strategies.
 - Access to resources and support materials.
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9. Conclusion

Orchard Academy is committed to creating an inclusive environment that supports the educational needs of all students, including those with SEND. This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with best practices in supporting students with special educational needs and disabilities.

Approved by: Management Committee of Orchard Academy

Next Review Date: September 2025