

Supporting Children with Additional Support Needs at Broomlands Primary School



Every Child Matters - At Broomlands Primary School, we want every child to feel happy, valued and included. We are committed to helping all children achieve their full potential and understand that every child learns and develops in their own way.

Sometimes children need a little extra help to get the most from school. In Scotland, this is known as having Additional Support Needs (ASN).

What Are Additional Support Needs? Additional Support Needs can arise for many different reasons and may be needed for a short period of time or throughout a child's school journey. A child does not need a formal diagnosis to receive support. If a child needs extra help to learn, participate or thrive in school, we will work with them and their family to identify and provide the support they need.

Additional Support Needs can include:

- Dyslexia and other learning difficulties
- Autism
- Speech, language and communication needs
- Social, emotional or behavioural difficulties
- Attention and concentration difficulties
- Physical disabilities or sensory impairments
- Medical or health conditions
- Mental health and wellbeing needs
- English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- Being particularly able or gifted
- Family circumstances that may affect learning, such as bereavement, illness or family change

We recognise that many children may need additional support at some stage in their lives, and we are committed to responding positively and sensitively when this happens.

Our Inclusive Approach - We believe children learn best when they feel safe, supported and that they belong. Wherever possible, we aim to meet children's needs within their mainstream class, learning alongside their friends and peers.

Our approach is built on:

- Strong, caring relationships
- A sense of belonging for every child
- High expectations for all learners
- Early identification of needs
- Close partnership with families
- Listening to children's views and involving them in decisions

How We Support Children - Every child is different, so support is tailored to individual needs.

Support for All Children - All children benefit from high-quality learning and teaching, including:

- Learning activities matched to individual needs
- Clear routines and expectations
- Positive and supportive relationships
- Flexible teaching approaches
- Support for wellbeing and inclusion

Additional Targeted Support - Some children may benefit from more focused support, such as:

- Small group learning programmes
- Literacy and numeracy interventions
- Social skills and emotional wellbeing support
- Support from Pupil Support Assistants
- Personalised targets and plans
- Access to quiet or regulated spaces when needed

Specialist Support - Where appropriate, we work closely with a range of professionals to ensure children receive the support they need. This may include:

- Educational Psychologists
- Speech and Language Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Physiotherapists
- Health professionals
- Children and Families Social Work
- Scottish Borders Council Additional Support for Learning services

Skilled Staff Who Care - One of the strengths of Broomlands is the commitment of our staff to supporting all children to succeed. Our teachers and Pupil Support Assistants regularly take part in professional learning to help them better understand and respond to children's needs. This includes training in nurturing approaches, trauma-informed practice, positive behaviour support and inclusive teaching.

More recently, staff have undertaken additional training to develop their understanding of autism and how best to support autistic learners within mainstream classrooms. By working together and sharing expertise, our staff strive to ensure that every child receives the right support at the right time.

Working Together with Families - We know that parents and carers know their children best. Building strong relationships with families is a key part of our approach. We value your knowledge, insights and concerns, and we will work alongside you to understand your child's strengths, identify any barriers to learning and agree how best to support them. If you have any concerns about your child's learning, development or wellbeing, please speak to their class teacher in the first instance. Together, we can discuss any support that may be helpful and consider next steps if needed.

Our Promise - At Broomlands Primary School, we believe that inclusion is everyone's responsibility. We are committed to creating a caring, supportive and ambitious environment where every child feels they belong, is respected for who they are and is given every opportunity to succeed.

By working together with children, families, staff and partner agencies, we aim to remove barriers to learning and help every child flourish.