

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Policy

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1. Introduction

At Swift Learning we are fully committed to ensuring that all students, including those with Special Educational Needs (SEN), have access to an inclusive, high-quality education. In line with both Coventry City Council's SEND Local Offer and Warwickshire County Council's SEND Local Offer, this policy outlines our approach to identifying, assessing, and meeting the needs of students with SEN, ensuring compliance with both local guidelines and national legislation. Specifically, this policy adheres to:

- The Children and Families Act 2014
- The SEND Code of Practice 0-25 (2015)
- Coventry City Council's SEND Local Offer
- Warwickshire County Council's SEND Local Offer

Our provision is designed to ensure that every student with SEN receives the tailored support they need to succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.

2. Definition of Special Educational Needs (SEN)

In line with the SEND Code of Practice (2015) and the guidance set forth in Coventry and Warwickshire's SEND Local Offers, we define a student as having Special Educational Needs (SEN) if they have a learning difficulty or disability that calls for special educational provision to be made. This provision goes beyond what is typically available to students of the same age. SEN can fall under the following categories:

- Cognition and Learning: e.g., Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and intellectual disabilities.
- Communication and Interaction: e.g., Speech and Language difficulties, social communication challenges.
- Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH): e.g., Anxiety, Depression, ADHD, and Attachment Disorders.
- Sensory and/or Physical Needs: e.g., Visual Impairment, Hearing Impairment, Physical Disabilities.

We ensure that our provision is responsive to the needs of students in these areas, fully aligned with the expectations of both Coventry and Warwickshire's Local Offers.

3. Aims of the SEN Policy

This policy aims to:

- Ensure early identification and assessment of SEN, in line with both Coventry and Warwickshire's guidelines.
- Provide students with SEN access to a differentiated, inclusive curriculum that meets their individual needs, as specified in the SEND Local Offers.

- Foster strong partnerships with parents and external agencies, ensuring that students benefit from a multi-agency approach to support.
- Ensure that all students with SEN are supported to achieve their academic, social, and emotional potential.
- Provide a framework for continuous improvement that reflects local authority guidance and compliance with national SEND standards.

4. Identification of SEN

We follow a clear, structured approach to identifying students with SEN, ensuring that we comply with the identification processes outlined in both Coventry and Warwickshire's SEND Local Offers. Our approach includes:

- **Initial Referrals and Observations:** Referrals from staff, parents, and external agencies are assessed in line with both local authority frameworks.
- **Regular Monitoring and Tracking:** Ongoing assessment of student progress, including academic, behavioural, and social-emotional development, in line with the tracking systems recommended by Coventry and Warwickshire.
- **Engagement with Parents and Carers:** We actively involve parents in identifying their child's needs, as stipulated in both Coventry's and Warwickshire's Local Offers, ensuring that family input is central to the identification process.
- **External Professional Assessments:** Where appropriate, we work with external agencies such as Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists, and other professionals in accordance with the support available via Coventry and Warwickshire's services.

5. The Graduated Approach

We have fully implemented the graduated approach to SEN as outlined by both Coventry and Warwickshire's SEND Local Offers. This approach provides varying levels of support depending on student need:

- **Universal Support (Wave 1):** High-quality, differentiated teaching to meet the needs of all students, ensuring that universal strategies are implemented across the school to address general learning needs.
- **Targeted Support (Wave 2):** More focused interventions for students who require additional support. This may include small group sessions, specific skill-building interventions, or more frequent check-ins, as recommended by the SEND Local Offers.
- **Specialist Support (Wave 3):** For students with more complex or specific needs, we provide tailored one-to-one interventions, which may involve working with external professionals such as speech therapists or mental health specialists. This support is in direct alignment with the services outlined in Coventry and Warwickshire's Local Offers.

6. Provision for Students with SEN

We are fully aligned with Coventry and Warwickshire's SEND Local Offers in the provision of support for students with SEN. We offer:

- **In-Class Differentiation:** Teachers use a range of strategies to differentiate the curriculum, including visual aids, assistive technology, and flexible teaching methods, to ensure accessibility for all students.
- **Targeted Group and Individual Support:** For students requiring additional help, we provide small group or one-to-one support. These interventions are carefully tailored to address specific areas of need, with strategies derived from the SEND Local Offers.
- **External Support:** For students with more complex needs, we collaborate with external agencies such as the Coventry and Warwickshire SEN Teams and local health services to provide specialist support.

Both Coventry and Warwickshire Local Offers offer a wealth of services and resources, including speech and language therapy, mental health support, and physical therapies, all of which are fully integrated into our provision.

7. Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)

For students with more significant needs, we develop Individual Education Plans (IEPs) or Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), in close collaboration with parents, staff, and external agencies. We ensure that these plans:

- Reflect the individual needs of the student, with clear, measurable targets.
- Include appropriate interventions and support strategies, consistent with the services available through Coventry's and Warwickshire's SEND Local Offers.
- Are reviewed regularly, at least termly, with all stakeholders involved in the process, ensuring that the provision remains responsive to the student's evolving needs.

For students with an EHCP, we follow the statutory review process outlined by Coventry and Warwickshire councils, ensuring that all plans are reviewed annually.

8. Parental Involvement

We fully recognise the importance of parental involvement in supporting the learning and development of students with SEN. Our approach is in full alignment with the recommendations from Coventry's and Warwickshire's SEND Local Offers:

- **Regular Communication:** We maintain ongoing communication with parents, ensuring they are fully informed about their child's progress, interventions, and support.
- **Active Participation in Planning:** Parents are involved in the development and review of IEPs and EHCPs, ensuring their voice is heard in decision-making processes.

- Signposting to Local Support: We provide parents with information about additional resources and services available through the SEND Local Offers, including family support services, mental health resources, and educational advocacy.

9. Collaboration with External Agencies

We work closely with external agencies to provide the best possible support for our students with SEN. This includes collaboration with:

- Coventry and Warwickshire SEND Teams: We actively engage with the SEND support services provided by both councils to ensure our students have access to the full range of available services.
- Health and Social Care Professionals: We work with a variety of professionals, including Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists, and CAMHS, in line with the services outlined in both Coventry's and Warwickshire's Local Offers.

10. Staff Training and Development

To ensure that we can effectively support students with SEN, we prioritise staff training in alignment with both Coventry and Warwickshire's Local Offers:

- Ongoing Professional Development: All staff receive training on SEN awareness, specific conditions, and effective teaching strategies.
- Specialist Training: Staff supporting students with specific needs, such as autism spectrum disorder (ASD), ADHD, or sensory impairments, receive targeted training to enhance their expertise.

Both Coventry and Warwickshire provide access to specialist training for schools, and we ensure our staff are well-equipped to meet the needs of students with SEN.

11. Monitoring and Review

We closely monitor the progress of students with SEN through regular assessments and reviews:

- Ongoing Assessments: Regular assessment of academic, social, and emotional development.
- IEP and EHCP Reviews: Termly reviews ensure that targets are being met and adjustments are made where necessary.
- Annual EHCP Reviews: For students with an EHCP, we conduct annual reviews in accordance with Coventry and Warwickshire's statutory guidelines.

12. Transition Support

We support students through key transitions, in line with Coventry and Warwickshire's Local Offers:

- Transition into and out of Mainstream Education: We ensure that students moving between different educational settings have the necessary support and resources in place. This includes providing continuity of support and collaboration with other

educational providers, particularly when students transition into or out of mainstream education.