



At Brookside Primary we nurture and develop a very inclusive and supportive environment for children and adults to work in. We are proud of having achieved the Inclusion Quality Mark on several occasions, and we believe that you can see that recognition in our practise every day.

What support is provided for pupils with SEN?

Individual Needs.

In any classroom there are children with very different levels of ability. At Brookside we ensure teachers provide high quality, well-differentiated lessons to meet the needs of the majority of pupils in their class. Our learning environments ensure that the needs of pupils with commonplace conditions are met; for example having dyslexia-friendly classrooms, Autism-friendly classrooms, motor skills activities, co-operative learning opportunities and language-rich environments. We base our Quality First Teaching on the Stockport Entitlement Framework. Every child in the school has the opportunity to complete their One Page Profile, which enables them to express 'What Is Important to Them', 'How Best to Support Them' and 'What People Like and Admire About Them'. This allows all staff to have a sound understanding of the pupils' individual needs.

Small group interventions.

At times groups of pupils in a class will require intervention support for one or more areas of the curriculum. Therefore we have small groups set up that can be run by a teacher, or a Learning Support Assistant. These groups include Language Link, Motivational Maths, Narrative Therapy, Reading Recovery, Phonics support group, Motor Skills United, Nurture, Zones of Regulation, cooking and sensory groups. These groups are all part of everyday good practise in classes, and most children will access these activities at some point in their education. They take place in or out of the classroom.

What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the school?

At Brookside, we are fortunate to have staff who are well trained in several interventions and therapies. We have a fully trained Forest Schools practitioner, who takes every pupil for a Forest School lesson each week. In addition to our own staff, we have staff from outside services who work in Brookside. They include:

Learning Support Service.

This is a teacher who works for one afternoon a week with pupils who have been identified with specific difficulties or with a general learning difficulty. She is called Ms Hand. She works with pupils on a 1-to-1 basis, and her focus is to support children in phonics, reading, writing or maths.

Behaviour Support Service.

This is a teacher who works in school for 2 hours a week with pupils who are struggling to cope with their emotional or mental health. She is called Mrs Partridge. She will support on a 1-to-1, group or whole class basis, however, she also supports the school in its teaching of PSHE (Personal Social and Health Education).

Sensory Support Service.

These are teachers who work with pupils who have visual or hearing impairment. They provide a specialised 1-to-1 teaching programme designed specifically for pupils with these difficulties. The input from these teachers can vary according to the needs of the pupils. They also provide support to the school in providing appropriate access arrangements for pupils with hearing or visual impairments.

School Nurse.

The school has one school nurse who will only visit the school if there has been a specific request. She is available to advise the school on medical matters.

Therapists.

Speech and Language Therapy.

The school has 3 Speech and Language Therapists attached to the school. One supports our mainstream pupils with an EHC Plan. She offers support and advice to the school by writing a therapy plan or recommending an intervention programme. Another therapist provides support mostly for our pupils with severe language difficulties who need a specialist plan for their speech and language. In addition, the school buy back 2 hours every 2 weeks so that a therapist can provide training for support staff, deliver language programmes, and assess pupils with language difficulties. We also occasionally have support, for Resource pupils, from a language technician.

Occupational Therapy.

The Occupational Therapist will visit the school when a referral has been made to the service. She supports pupils with acute motor difficulties. She also assesses pupils with sensory difficulties and advises the school on equipment and adaptations for pupils with EHC Plans.

Physiotherapy.

Some children have support from the physiotherapy service. Their role is to advise staff on physiotherapy programmes of work for mobility and posture and monitor the use of specialist equipment such as hoists and toileting facilities.

Therapies and interventions are implemented by therapists and delivered by the Resource teacher, the Learning Support Assistants in school. These are then reviewed on a regular basis.

Additional Support Services (require referrals from school).

Educational Psychologist.

The school has one Educational Psychologist attached to the school. The school has 6 visits a year which the school pays for from the SEN and Resource budget. She advises the school on strategies to use with pupils with SEN. She also observes and assesses children learning needs and their behaviour, and she writes and presents with recommendations if further support is needed. The EP also provides invaluable support for parents and staff, such as advice on transition.

HYMS (Healthy Young Minds previously CAMHS)

This is the child and adolescent mental health service. School can make referrals to this service if it has been agreed with parents and deemed to be appropriate. HYMs also carry out Autism assessments and ADHD assessments.

The Autism Team.

This agency provides support for pupils with a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Condition. They can advise school or home with strategies, and provide some out-of-school activities.

KIDS (Information & Advice Service Stockport)

This agency provides a range of support for parents of pupils with SEND; this includes facing transition, or for attending meetings or appeals.

Primary Inclusion Team.

Their role is to advise schools on the inclusion and appropriate support of pupils with EHC Plans in a mainstream school.

All agencies involved with a pupil are always invited to review meetings held at school. These are Person-Centred Reviews which put the child at the centre of any discussions and decisions made. The school always makes every effort to ensure all the agencies involved attend the meetings. However, this is not always possible. Any referrals to outside agencies are made by the school, working with the family.

What does our Resource School offer?

At Brookside each Resource child has a personalised provision map. We integrate Resource pupils in mainstream classes as well as provide them with a bespoke provision to meet their individual needs. This will combine 1-to-1 therapies, small group teaching and differentiated mainstream class work. The Resource pupils spend time in class with their peers, accessing differentiated topic work, doing PE, Circle Time or Music. The rest of their time is spent doing therapy work, being taught by the Resource teacher, having sensory activities or working on life skills such as cooking. As well as a Resource teacher, the school has Learning Support Assistants, who are trained in programmes such as physiotherapy, speech and language, motor skills and Autistic strategies.

Working alongside their peers in mainstream classes, allows the Resource pupils to develop social skills from role models their age. All the pupils in the school grow up understanding and accepting different types of disability, and they develop into nurturing and caring young people. For most of our Resource pupils the emphasis for their curriculum is on communication and 'life skills'. This can range from social communication to mobility. The results show that most of our Resource pupils make significant progress in this environment. This is what makes Brookside a unique, and very special place, and has been recognised as such by parents and professionals.

How does my child access this provision?

Pupils must have an EHC Plan to be able to request a Resource place. Parents can make a request to Stockport Local Authority for the school they wish their child to go to. Resource places across Stockport are allocated by the Local Authority. Once a school has been allocated for that child it will be named in their Education Health Care Plan.

Who do I contact in school if I am concerned that my child has a Special Educational Need?

The first point of contact, if you have a concern, is always your child's class teacher. All parents can arrange to talk to their child's class teacher about their child's progress. Once there has been a discussion about the child's progress, Mrs Warner the Inclusion Manager/SENCO will then meet with parents and/or class teacher to discuss what strategies or interventions may or may not be appropriate. This could include some recommendations for strategies in the class and at home to support your child. The child will then be monitored to see what progress is made. If there is a lack of progress after a term of trying new strategies, a further assessment or referral may be needed. This would be with an outside agency such as Learning Support

Service, or the Behaviour Support Service. These assessments may indicate that further support is recommended, and the school will put this in place after discussions with parents. A referral to the Educational Psychologist is only made when the school have serious concerns about the lack of progress a child is making, and feel there is an underlying problem that the school is not able to identify.

If you have a concern about your child, which is relevant to school and which you have consulted your GP about, it would be helpful to let school know as well, so that any referrals can be processed as quickly as possible. Any information passed to school is always treated with the utmost confidence by any school staff.

How do I let the school know if I have concerns about my child's progress?

If you have a concern about the progress of your child, the first person to speak to is your child's class teacher. Parents and teachers will discuss what actions are felt necessary. If, after an initial discussion and an action plan has been put in place, you continue to have concerns about your child's progress, you and/or the class teacher can approach Mrs Warner, the Inclusion Manager/SENCO, to discuss further what further support may be necessary.

Who has responsibility for SEN in school?

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for all the pupils in the school including those with SEN. Mr Tavernor is the Headteacher. He also oversees procedures for SEN and reports termly to the Governors on matters around SEN. You can contact him on headteacher@brookside.stockport.sch.uk

Mrs Warner is the Inclusion Manager/SENCO. She has the responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of Special Educational provision in the school. She is responsible for the teaching and learning of the Resource pupils in school. You can contact her on lindsay.warner@brookside.stockport.sch.uk

The SEN Governor is responsible for ensuring the necessary provision is made for children with SEN in the school. She is kept up to date with procedures by the Inclusion Manager/SENCO termly. Mrs Lisa Robinson Hall is the SEN Governor.

What teaching and learning does the school provide?

Curriculum.

At Brookside our focus has always been on providing the pupils with a creative curriculum, enriched by activities that go beyond the classroom. This includes class and school trips, with all our Year 6 pupils having the opportunity to go to The Conway Centre in Anglesey in the Summer term. We believe that getting all the pupils involved in activities that go beyond the classroom, enriches their education, challenges the children to push themselves and gives them essential skills in independence.

We ensure that every pupils has a well-balanced curriculum of Science, Geography, History, RE, PSHE (Personal Social Health Education), Music, PE (including swimming) and computing. However, the key to accessing the curriculum are good literacy and numeracy skills, we strongly believe that a good foundation in English and Maths is central to the teaching of all these subjects and therefore runs through the whole curriculum. Our Resource pupils have a bespoke curriculum to meet their needs. This includes communication skills, motor skills and life skills running through the National Curriculum subjects.

How do I know how well my child is doing at school?

Your child's progress is continually monitored by his/her class teacher. His/her progress is reviewed formally every term to see if they are meeting National Curriculum expectations. Progress is also discussed with parents every term as part of parents' consultation meetings and in the form of written reports. If your child is in Year 1 and above, but is not yet able to access the National Curriculum, a more appropriate assessment tool is used which shows their attainment in more detail and will also show smaller, but significant steps of progress. This may be the Engagement Scale assessment tool. Pre-key stage progress is measured on Pre-Key Stage Standards. Some of our SEN pupils are assessed annually using the Pre Key

Stage Standards, if appropriate. All pupils have on-going assessments throughout the year and end of term assessments. The progress of children with an EHC (Education Health Care) Plan is formally reviewed at their annual 'Person-Centred Review' held once a year with all adults involved with the child's education. The child will attend their own review, and the school ensures they can access the meeting with support. These meetings are an opportunity for the family and child to have their say and express their wishes and/or concerns for the future, as well as the chance to say what works well and what does not work well from their perspective. In addition to the annual PC review, parents of pupils with SEN get the opportunity to discuss their progress at the parent consultation meetings with class teachers.

At the end of each key stage (i.e. at the end of year 2 and year 6) all children are required to be formally assessed using Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). This is something the government requires all schools to do and the results are presented to Governors and shared with parents. If a child is working below the Key Stage expectations and he/she cannot access this test, the school will carry out teacher assessments to evaluate their progress.

What extra-curricular opportunities does the school provide?

At Brookside we offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities. These include multi-skills, football, sport, brass band, running club, Chess Club, dance and gymnastics. We always offer and encourage our pupils with additional needs to participate in the activities they would like to do.

What involvement does the school have with the local community?

The school has a chosen charity every year that we support and fundraise for; these have included Beechwood Cancer Care, Farms for Africa, the RNLI, NSPCC, Children in Need, Comic Relief and Sport Relief. We have close links with Hazel Grove Baptist Church and St Thomas's Church in High Lane; the vicar is a popular visitor to school. Our Resource pupils also have regular visits around High Lane, including going to the local library every half term, visiting the church, the local riding school, the local tennis club and visits to the local shops. We have strong links with Lyme Park, as we have guardianship of the park, and visit there on a regular basis.

On our school site we have a private Nursery called 'Nina's Pre-School at Brookside'. We work closely with the Nursery to ensure the children have a smooth transition when they start school. 'Nina's Pre-School' also provides 'wrap around care', for before and after school care. The school prospectus gives more information about this provision.

How accessible is Brookside School?

We ensure that all our pupils have access to the appropriate curriculum and activities that we provide. We also ensure as part of the curriculum, that pupils have access to activities such as Forest School & environmental studies, cookery and outdoor activities at Lyme Park. The school has an excellent and informative website which is updated on a regular basis.

We also have close links with the private Pre School on site; 'Nina's Pre-school at Brookside'. They have transition visits and are invited to school events.

We welcome the support and involvement of all parents in school events. We have a PTA (Parent Teacher Association) which all parents become part of when their child joins the school.

Physical Environment. At Brookside we have one set of steps, on which we have a wheelchair lift. We have a fixed and a mobile hoist for moving children with limited mobility. We also have a medical bed for changing. We have toilets that are wheelchair accessible.

Brookside has a sensory/calm room for pupils who need support when anxious. We also have a therapy room for speech and language work, small group work and therapy exercises. The Resource pupils have a Resource room where they work with the Resource staff. This room also doubles as a children's kitchen and a meeting room.

How is support for my child allocated?

The funding from the school's budget pays for support in the class, 1-to-1 programmes of work delivered in class time, group interventions and additional supervision such as at play and dinner times. This support is allocated according to the individual needs of the pupils; for example, some pupils require less 1-to-1 time, but more group intervention. Recommendations for the level and form of support are discussed with parents and agencies at review meetings, which are held annually. School also has to 'buy-back' services that provide specialist support for some of our SEN pupils.

The school has a budget from the Local Authority, which is expected to meet the needs of most of the pupils in the school. This includes pupils with Special Educational Needs. However, for pupils with an EHC (Education Health Care Plan) that recommends over 16 hours of class support a week, additional funding is provided to meet their individual needs. These will be children with complex difficulties who require an individualised provision map to meet all their requirements. Pupils with less than 16 hours allocated have their support funded by the school.

Funding for Resource pupils enables the school to have a part time Resource teacher to provide group and 1-to-1 teaching.

What support is there for my child's well-being? How does the school manage the pastoral and behavioural support for my child?

At Brookside we feel that the key to good well-being is to foster good relationships. We have adopted the Restorative Approach to behaviour management. The pupils have the opportunity to share and discuss any worries they have in a 'Circle Time', held once a week in classes. If they do not wish to do this, then they can talk to members of staff at any time. Some classes have 'Worry Boxes' which allow them to tell a teacher if there is a problem, anonymously. Pupils have a strong voice at Brookside, and they do say that they feel listened to. Other agencies and visitors to the school always remark on what a 'kind and caring' school Brookside is. In addition to the school staff, we have a Behaviour Support Teacher who is in school once a week to support children who are facing challenges either in or out of school. She also helps to deliver some of our PSHE work for each class. School can also make a referral to other agencies to support children and their families, such as Primary Jigsaw.

Children with SEN often find social communication difficult, and school uses many strategies that can support them in the classroom and in their next steps at High School; such as Social Stories, Comic Strips and visuals.

Parents are always welcome to make an appointment to discuss any concerns they have for their child, and school will always seek to provide the support it can, or recommend outside agency support where appropriate. School has a Behaviour Policy and a Relationships and Health Education Policy, both of which are reviewed and updated regularly.

How does the school manage transition?

Moving from one school to the next is a big event in any child's life. At Brookside, we have a well organised transition programme from Nursery to Reception Class, and from Year 6 into high school.

In Early Years, once your child has been offered a place at Brookside Primary, you will receive an admissions pack. This gives you information about the school. If there are any questions in the pack that are not answered, the school will happily answer any queries about SEN. School works closely with all the Nurseries, including Nina's Pre-School at Brookside, Charnwood and other local nurseries. The children from our local private nursery and surrounding nurseries then have visits for ½ days to become accustomed to the routines, classroom and staff. If your child is a Resource child or has SEND, the Resource Manager and Learning Support Assistant will visit him or her in their Nursery setting. The children will start Reception for 2 weeks of half days, then full time thereafter.

Deciding on the right High School for your child is very difficult. At Brookside we will support you through this process by explaining all the options for a child with SEN at Key Stage 3. There will be a Person-Centred Transition Review in Year 5, and this will give parents the chance to discuss their wishes for High School education. Representatives from all outside agencies will be present to offer their comments and advice. However, the final decision falls to parents on their choice of high school. Once a place has been given to a child, Brookside will work with that high school to ensure a smooth transition. This includes visits to the school and a programme of work to prepare them for the new routines and expectations at high school.

How does the school manage medical needs? Many of our support staff are First Aid trained. This includes 4 Paediatric First Aiders. In addition to this, we ensure all staff have up to date Asthma and Anaphylaxis Training and any other specific training depending on the medical conditions of the children in school. Children with medical conditions may need a Health Care Plan, if appropriate, from the school nurse. This will then be kept in the school office and all the relevant staff will be informed. There is a note in each class of the medical needs of each child in that class. This is kept confidentially.

What support does the school provide for families?

Parents have the opportunity to discuss their child's progress every term at Parents Consultation Meetings. Some of our pupils have Home/School Communication Books which teachers and parents complete on a regular basis. Homework can also be adapted to meet the needs of pupils with additional needs. At Brookside we have Person-centred Reviews for the pupils with SEN. They are held once a year and have the child and his/her family at the centre of the review. If you have a concern that requires immediate attention, an appointment can be made with Mrs Warner; Inclusion Manager/SENCO. If she is not available, you can make an appointment to see the Headteacher; Mr Tavernor.

'Open Mornings' are regularly held at the school, when parents get the opportunity to see the pupils work and to chat to the staff in their child's class. These are usually held at the end of a themed week such as 'Enterprise Week' or 'Faith Week', so the children can showcase their work.

As well as support from the school, we would also recommend that parents seek support from other outside agencies such as KIDS, Autism Team, Children's Learning Disability Team, the Parenting Team and Aiming High. School will support parents through the referral process to get support from these agencies, and we will always seek to work as a team in the best interests of the child.