

STONE HILL SCHOOL

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION TO DONCASTER LOCAL AUTHORITY'S LOCAL OFFER FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

The information set out below will be added to Doncaster LA's Local Offer site located under Education (Schools). Presenting this information in a consistent way will enable parents/ carers, young people, settings and services across education, health, care and the voluntary sector to find and compare provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

All settings must co-operate with the LA in the development and review of the Local Offer as set out in Chapter 4 of the SEND Code of Practice (January 2015) and the associated Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 (Part 4).

Schools have additional duties under the Regulations to provide more detailed information in their SEN Policy, SEN Information Report and how the school meets the duties of the Equality Act 2010.

Brief description of the school

(age range, size of school, LA maintained/ Academy/Free School and any Mission Statement you wish to include)

Stone Hill is one of five Doncaster schools offering special provision throughout the authority. The school accommodates pupils from 5 to 16, who have full EHCPs with a variety of MLD and associated needs, including a high proportion with Autism (58%). Stone Hill is currently the recognised special school for children with these needs in Doncaster. The school is oversubscribed and has 123 pupils in total, having been built for 110.

There is a new Headteacher (Jan 18) and Deputy (May 18) in post.

The attainment of pupils is wide and based on their individual learning needs and progress. In order to accommodate the pupils' individuality, we offer a range of qualifications and accreditation, ensuring that pupils leave with credentials that reflect the diversity of our curriculum. The majority of school leavers usually transfer to Doncaster College. A small group will also transfer to alternative, needs based Post 16 provision.

The school is a Duke of Edinburgh Award Centre and all pupils have the opportunity achieve Bronze and Silver awards. Sport Leaders Awards and Young Leader Awards are achieved in Year 9.

The school has also achieved the following:

- Eco Schools Silver Award
- Basic Skills Charter Mark for Primary Schools
- Basic Skills Charter Mark for Secondary Schools
- Healthy Schools Award (including Active Playgrounds)
- Sing Up Platinum Award (the first and only Special School to achieve this standard)

- Anti-bullying Gold Charter Mark

The Pupil Premium for financial year 2017-18 was £65 237 and covers 42% of the school populous.

All staff are given a comprehensive induction and training package which includes safeguarding and basic autism awareness strategies. Although we are a small school we work hard to ensure our staff have the opportunity to access a wide variety of CPD opportunities not only that enhances daily practice but also extends professionalism e.g. Middle Leaders, NPQML and M'Ed. As well as supporting TAs and NQTs who have gained their full status as teachers in school we have also appointed experienced mainstream teachers and enhanced their skills with regard to SEND. The school has close links with Sheffield Hallam and has supported student teachers on their final placements as well as many other trainees and students throughout the year.

Stone Hill, alongside the LA, offers Outreach to primary schools two days a week for Autism and Communication; a very professional and respected service which is always in demand. Additional to this we offer Cygnet training for both parents and professionals.

SMSC and PSHCE permeate all that we do in school. Pupils across all Key Stages access an enriched social, creative, sporting and spiritual curriculum where pupils are given the opportunity to go out into the wider community, participating in musical events, sporting/leisure activities, work experience and college link courses. A wide variety of activities and clubs are available for pupils to attend at lunch times.

The children take part in a Christmas production, demonstrating their improved confidence and ability to show perseverance and teamwork. This is re-enforced throughout the year through our awards assemblies both weekly and termly.

The school delivers an outstanding education to pupils at all Key Stages and according to our recent StEP visit, continues to be 'self improving'. Pupils achieve both academically and with their personal and social development, as a direct result of the extensively enriched curriculum. The pupils enjoy a full curriculum of creative arts and music, as well as experiences of outdoor learning, including camping and sporting events.

Recently, the Choir was requested to sing for a local church luncheon group again. Sporting activities are arranged to develop links with other schools and provide opportunities for social interaction with their peers.

The school has an extremely pro-active democratically elected school council who meet on a regular basis with Governors to discuss proposed developments, as raised by the pupils. They were an integral part of interviewing the current Head and new Deputy, always interview any prospective teachers and were also invited to the LA to interview candidates for a Senior Officer appointment.

Pupils in Key Stage 4 leave school well prepared for Post 16 options, after accessing a range of transitional activities including College link placements and links with

other Post 16 Providers.

The diversity and opportunities that the pupils are offered and undertake are exceptional for a small school; most of which come from the enthusiasm and commitment of all the staff.

How we identify if your child may need additional help and/or has special educational needs (SEN)

Children with special educational needs have learning difficulties that call for special provision to be made. Children have a learning difficulty if:

- they have significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age
- they have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of the educational facilities that are provided for other children of the same age

All the children who join us have been in early education and have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP). All children are assessed when they enter our school, so that we can build upon their prior learning. We use this information to provide starting points for the development of an appropriate and personalised curriculum for all our children.

We use a range of strategies that make full use of all available classroom and school resources. The child's class teacher will offer interventions that are different from or additional to those previously provided in mainstream schools. The class teacher will keep parents/carers informed and draw upon them for additional information.

We will record the strategies used to support the child based on their short term outcomes which are set at their EHCP review meeting to support their medium term outcomes. The short term outcomes will be reviewed mid-term and then again at the annual review meeting. In some cases, children will be given extra support in school by external support services. This may lead to additional strategies and interventions being used.

Early identification and interventions are vital and all pupils will have specific targets set as soon as any child has entered the school and been assessed. The class teacher and the Headteacher assess and monitor the children's progress in line with existing school practices. This is an on-going process.

The assessment of children reflects as far as possible their participation in the whole curriculum of the school. The class teacher will break down the assessment into smaller steps in order to aid progress and provide detailed and accurate indicators.

How we involve parents and carers in meeting the needs of their child and in whole school developments

The Headteacher works closely with teachers and parents/carers to plan an appropriate programme of support.

The school works closely with parents/carers in the support of their children. We encourage an active partnership through an on-going dialogue with parents/carers. The home-school agreement is central to this. Parents/carers have much to contribute to our support for their children. We inform the parents/carers of any outside intervention, and we share the process of decision-making by providing clear information relating to the education of their children.

The school operates an 'open door' policy where parents are welcome to come into school at any time instilling confidence that our school will listen and act appropriately.

The school information pack is issued to parents/carers of new pupils to the school. The school website is updated regularly and contains details of our policies and other useful

information.

We publish information on our website about the Pupil Premium (expenditure and impact) http://stonehillschool.co.uk/?page_id=499

How we will involve your child in the planning and review of their support

In our school, we encourage children to take responsibility and to make decisions. This is part of the culture of our school and relates to children of all ages. The work in all Key Stages recognises the importance of children developing social as well as educational skills at the appropriate level.

Pupils create a One Page Profile of their likes, dislikes, family, friends, strengths, needs and aspirations for their future. Children are involved at an appropriate level in setting PSHCE and other curricular target. Children are encouraged to make judgements about their own performance against targets. We recognise success in all aspects of school life.

Stone Hill has a pro-active and effective school council.

How we match the curriculum, teaching and learning approaches if your child has SEN

All children have an entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum, which is differentiated to enable them to:

- understand the relevance and purpose of learning activities
- experience levels of understanding and rates of progress that bring feelings of success and achievement

Teachers use a range of strategies to meet children's special educational needs. Lessons have clear learning objectives; we differentiate work and curriculum resources appropriately and we use assessment to inform the next stage of learning.

We support children in a manner that acknowledges their entitlement to share the same learning experiences that their peers enjoy. Wherever possible, we do not withdraw children from the classroom. There are times, though, when to maximise learning, we ask the children to work in small groups, or in a one-to-one situation outside the classroom.

How we provide additional support if your child has learning needs

How we provide additional support if your child has social and communication needs

- to support ASC pupils make sense of our world through support and consideration of individual pupil needs
- to provide structured work activities and play situations which take account of the barriers in generalisation, communication and empathy experienced by pupils with autism
- to create a safe environment where the pupils can learn and develop independence and social knowledge
- to work with parents and visiting professionals in order to share and discuss

problems and to develop possible strategies for reducing difficulties

- to include pupils with autism in the school in all possible situations
- to provide access to the National Curriculum with appropriate modifications and differentiation to suit individual needs
- to provide a relevant curriculum which includes individual and small group activities if appropriate
- to implement recommendations from Statements and to set short term targets on accordingly
- to continue to develop staff expertise in working with ASC pupils through relevant courses and reading material
- to continue to work beyond the school to share ideas and work together with other agencies in training

How we provide additional support if your child has physical, sensory and/or medical needs

Some children in our school have medical conditions and sensory needs that require care and support to enable full access to education, including school trips and physical education. Some children with sensory needs or medical conditions may be disabled and where this is the case the school will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010.

Further details are outlined in our POLICY AND PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS IN SCHOOL.

How we provide help to support your child's emotional health and well being

Our school has extensive pastoral support that is accessed by a number of children and is available to all.

We believe that education in P.S.H.C.E. enables children to become healthier, more independent and more responsible members of society. We encourage our pupils to play a positive role in contributing to the life of the school and the wider community. We have the Gold ABCM.

In so doing, we help to develop their sense of self-worth. We teach them how society is organised and governed. We ensure that the children experience the process of democracy through participation in the school council. We teach children about their rights and about their responsibilities. They learn to appreciate what it means to be a positive member of a diverse and multi-cultural society. Indeed, the teaching of P.S.H.C.E .helps in many ways to meet the objectives set out in The Children's Act 2004, 'Every Child Matters' – that those children 'be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution, and achieve economic well-being'.

Our **objectives** in the teaching of P.S.H.C.E .are for all of our children:

- to know and understand what is meant by a healthy lifestyle;
- to be aware of safety issues;
- to understand what makes for good relationships with others;
- to have respect for others;
- to be thoughtful and responsible members of their community and their school;

- to become active members of our democratic society;
- to develop self-confidence and self-esteem;
- to make informed choices regarding personal and social issues;
- to develop good relationships with other members of the community

How we promote developing independence

Our school's ethos is based upon the promotion of independence and life skills. The whole school curriculum is based on the development of these skills with particular emphasis when the children take part in residential. However, all opportunities are taken to ensure that the children are best prepared for an independent life.

How we measure and review your child's progress against their targets and longer term outcomes

In line with the LA, we complete annual reviews that evaluate and monitor the progress made by all children in our school.

Reviews are arranged annually and help to ensure that the children's progress is monitored and evaluated which also takes into account and includes the parents and carers views. Parents evenings are also arranged where the needs of the children can be discussed.

How we adapt the learning environment and ensure that our school facilities are safe and welcoming to children with SEND

Children's diverse needs are catered for through individually assessing their requirements. The environment can then be adapted accordingly

How we include children with SEND in the life of our school

In our school, we aim to offer excellence and choice to all our children, whatever their ability or needs. We have high expectations of all our children. We aim to achieve this through the removal of barriers to learning and participation. We want all our children to feel that they are a valued part of our school community. Through appropriate curricular provision, we respect the fact that children:

- have different educational and behavioural needs and aspirations;
- require different strategies for learning;
- acquire, assimilate and communicate information at different rates;
- need a range of different teaching approaches and experiences.

Teachers respond to children's needs by:

- having high aspirations for every child setting clear progress targets;
- providing support for children who need help with communication, language and literacy;
- planning to develop children's understanding through the use of all their senses and of varied experiences;
- planning for children's full participation in learning, and in physical and practical activities by considering their individual needs;
- helping children to manage their behaviour and to take part in learning effectively and safely;
- helping individuals to manage their emotions, particularly trauma or stress, and to take part in learning.

How we ensure that all our staff are trained and supported to meet a wide range of children's

needs

(basic awareness of SEN, enhanced skills and specialist in depth training for staff with additional responsibility for providing advice and supervision)

- regular cycle of in-house training for staff to ensure all have a basic awareness and understanding of autism and other additional needs.

External support and expertise we can call upon to help us to meet children's needs

School uses and provides support for and within the community.

These are services that become involved when a need is identified.

- Outreach from school
- School nurse
- Educational Psychologists
- SALT
- OT
- HI/VI Team
- LAC virtual school team
- regular discussion groups and workshops for parents of ASC pupils from Link schools and from Stone Hill School
- regular visits from support and teaching staff from other schools for hands-on experience of ASC pupils and of the application of strategies for working with these pupils
- in addition, alongside outside agencies, the school has entertained a range of outside speakers on ASC to further develop awareness
- our school works with outside agencies such as Education Psychologists, school nurses, Occupational Therapists and Speech and Language Therapists to enhance provision for all pupils within the school including those with ASC
- our school is represented on the Doncaster Autism Forum Group
- L Chambers is an NAS EarlyBird Trainer and Cygnet Trainer (parenting programmes for parents/carers of children with an autism spectrum condition and Cygnet Practitioner Programme to develop skills of professionals involved with children with autism)
- many staff in the school hold recognised autism-specific post-graduate qualifications

How we prepare children to join our school

For all children, we will ensure early and timely planning for transfer into our school, within our school year groups and onto the next phase of education. All children are encouraged to visit school to become familiar with the setting. School information is passed to the family to ensure that the transition is smooth and worthwhile, often being tailored to individual needs.

How we prepare children to move on from our school

When children are due to leave our school, they and their parents will be encouraged to consider all options for the next phase of education. We will involve outside agencies, as appropriate, to ensure information is impartial, comprehensive but easily accessible and understandable. Accompanied visits to other providers may be arranged as appropriate.

We will discuss transition needs of all children at their statutory Annual Reviews.

From Y9 at the earliest we will begin to discuss children's hopes for the future and other aspects in preparing for adulthood. This is also addressed through opportunities to take part in work placements where children are encouraged to experience a working environment and begin to understand the next steps towards independence.

How we deploy our resources to meet the needs of children with SEND

The Headteacher is responsible for the operational management of the resourcing for special needs provision within the school. He informs the governing body of how the funding allocated has been employed.

The Headteacher then draws up the resources bid when the school is planning for the next school development plan.

Contacts for more information

Head teacher: Mr Paul Scotting

Chair of Governing Body: Mr Mike Galafent

Address: Stone Hill School, Barnsley Road, Scawsby, Doncaster, DN5 7UB

Telephone: 01302 800090

Email: admin@stonehill.doncaster.sch.uk

Website: <http://stonehillschool.co.uk>

SEND Policies and SEN Information Report link(s):

Please note:

Schools should ensure that the information is easily accessible by young people and parents and is set out in clear, straightforward language.

Please return this proforma to Natalie Pendleton, Families Information Service, by email to fis@doncaster.gov.uk

If you have any queries, please contact Helen Barre on 01302 73753, Darren Dickinson 01302 735978.

Thank you.