



SEN Information Report September 2018

The following report sets out information about our provision for children and young people with SEN.

The report should be read in conjunction with our main prospectus and the prospectus for our sixth form which can both be found on the website. Here you will also find key documents and policies.

About our school

Fitzwaryn School provides for children and young people from 3 – 19 years old with a range of SEN ranging from moderate to severe and profound difficulties.

In February 2013, the school became an Academy with Kingfisher School and Abingdon and Witney College as our partners.

Fitzwaryn is situated on a large site on the outskirts of Wantage. Since 2008 the school has undergone major building and refurbishment works. We now have a state of the art building with a variety of facilities including modern and airy classrooms, a sensory theatre and a Jacuzzi.

We have an Integrated Foundation Stage class situated at Millbrook School in Grove which caters for 3 and 4 year olds on a part time basis. Currently the places remain unfilled.

How do we identify and give extra help to children and young people with SEN?

As a special school, all our young people have a statement of SEN or an EHCP. Admissions to the school are via the Local Authority.

Assessments are made as part of the EHCP process and we liaise with parents, schools and early intervention services in order to gain a full understanding of a child's needs before attending.

Once at school, we take time to assess each child so that we can plan accurately and individually for their future development. We work closely with other agencies that support the school e.g. Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Speech and Language Therapists and Clinical Nurse Specialists.

Other professionals are invited to the school in order that the requirements of statements and EHCPs are met. We also ask for help and advice from the Educational Psychologist should the need arise. The school liaises with health professionals and has a school nurse allocated for 3 days per week.

All children in the school have an Individual Education Plan outlining specific targets that are to be worked on. Parents are asked to be involved in this process.

How do we work with parents and children/young people?

The school prides itself on having strong links with parents. We welcome parents to contact us at any time to discuss their child at Fitzwaryn. Should we have any concerns about a child while they are at school, we would always contact the parents or carers immediately.

The more formal structures in place for parental contact are: home/school notebooks, parent evenings (3 x a year), annual reviews, and careers evenings.

In addition to this many parents have frequent contact with their child's teacher. Parents are invited to join us for informal coffee mornings as well as to share some key events e.g. Harvest Festival, Christmas Production, RDA Gymkhana, Sports Day, End of Term Assemblies, Leavers Service, work experience celebration event.

In addition we have various fund raising events when parents and families are welcomed. Key information is shared with parents in regular newsletters and via the website. We also have parentmail system in place for those parents who wish to receive information in this way.

The School Council meets regularly to discuss issues that may arise from the pupils' perspective. The group comprises of a representative member from each class. A governor is invited to attend the meetings.

We ask our pupils on a regular basis to feedback to us regarding their time at school and the specific activities that they are involved in. Pupils are welcomed to take part in their EHCP meetings and can be involved in target setting for their IEPs.

Responses from our annual parent questionnaires help us to formulate our School Development priorities.

Adapting the curriculum to meet the needs of our pupils

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum. The school follows the requirements set out in the National Curriculum. A new curriculum was written for implementation from Sept 2014 and is updated on an annual basis, more details of which can be found on our website. The post 16 curriculum is based around three areas of Functional skills, Vocational skills and Personal Development.

The curricula we offer is differentiated to the needs of our pupils and individualised to meet need. The pupils are taught in small classes with high staff ratios but additional educational activities are provided for some. We follow a Values Education programme which is enhanced by a Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning programme.

What expertise do we offer?

The school prides itself on the Continuing Professional Development it offers its entire staff. In 2011, we achieved the CPD mark which recognised the commitment it makes to fulfil the objective of matching staff expertise to pupil need.

We follow a robust recruitment exercise for all our staff and once employed at the school, there is a fully embedded induction programme.

We also draw on the expertise of visiting professionals that can enhance the offer at Fitzwaryn.

Such is our expertise that we offer training to local mainstream schools and we are now a Strategic Partner for Oxfordshire Schools Teaching Alliance.

How are children and young people with SEN helped to access activities beyond the classroom?

All children and young people are included in activities and trips following risk assessments. During a normal school week we offer riding, hydrotherapy, integration into mainstream classes and trips that enhance the teaching of life skills.

One off trips and visits are planned as part of the curriculum e.g. trips and visits to castles, museums, residential trips, day trip to France!

Our Out of School Liaison Officer works with families to place the children in holiday clubs and out of school schemes. As from September 2017, the school will run a holiday club and after school club at the school. There is information about activities and events for disabled children and those with SEN in Oxfordshire in the Family Information Directory:
<http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk>

How do we support the well-being of children and young people with SEN?

The School Council meets regularly to discuss issues that are important to the pupils. The group reports back to the Headteacher to discuss the way forward with any initiatives highlighted. The PHSCE curriculum is fundamental to teaching the pupils about their own well-being and safety.

Emphasis is placed on the Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural and Physical development of the pupils - more details of this can be found on the website.

We follow a Values Education programme and follow the SEAL themes which enhance the work carried out in class. We take bullying very seriously and we follow an Anti-Bullying unit for the SEAL resources on an annual basis. Social skills and communication are taught routinely to enable our pupils to understand how to behave in certain situations.

Our school nurse is contacted should we have concerns regarding a child's health and well-being along with other agencies as appropriate e.g. LD CAMHS.

How do we know if SEN provision is effective?

Feedback from parents is almost exclusively very positive.

The school has devised its own target setting and assessment procedures.

IEPS are reviewed every half term. Targets are based on assessment and all staff are aware of them.

The progress of all pupils is tracked carefully. Soft data is gathered routinely to enhance our more formal assessment procedures.

Progress data is communicated to the Strategy and Performance of the local governing body. We make judgements on our progress based on a range of exacting criteria which is shown on the website. Our Maths and English outcomes are outstanding across the school.

Joining the school and moving on

We welcome prospective parents to the school. Once a place has been agreed, we encourage the pupils and their families to visit. Transition arrangements are agreed with the individual family and can vary from child to child. We offer a staggered entry to school should it be required. A prospectus and induction pack are provided for each family. Once at school, parents are invited in to school early in the term to meet with their child's teacher.

From Year 9 we offer transition reviews. We provide advice for our families and encourage other agencies to attend key reviews e.g. social care.

In the Autumn Term, we ask the local college in to speak to parents and carers about possible options.

Once a placement is agreed, we support transition visits to new settings and pass on important information that a receiving placement will need about the young person.

Who to contact?

Please contact the school office in the first instance on 01235 764504

Or email office.7027@fitzwaryn.oxon.sch.uk

If you require information about the school please go to our website www.fitzwaryn.oxon.sch.uk

If you would like impartial advice from SENDIASS please contact 01865 810516 (term–time only)

SENDIASS Oxfordshire

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If you would like to know more about opportunities for children and young people with SEN and their families, please go to the Family Information Directory: <http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk>

Oxfordshire's local offer contains lots of information for parents: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk>

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