

Branscombe Church of England Primary School

What sort of school is Branscombe Primary School?

Branscombe is a mainstream primary school which is proud of its provision for children with Special Educational Need and Disabilities. (SEND).

The most recent OFSTED report in September 2017 states "You have successfully created an inclusive ethos in which all pupils are valued. Your commitment to nurturing pupils' personal development, as well as their academic skills, is shared by all staff. It is appreciated by parents, particularly parents whose children have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Parents praise the teachers and teaching assistants for the care and support they provide for their children and for the way in which they develop the children's enthusiasm for learning."

Pupils at the school are aged 4- 11. We currently have 29 children on role and have two classes, a Foundation and Key Stage 1 class and a Key stage 2 Class.

There is a Preschool included within the Foundation Provision and currently there are 2 children aged 3 and 4.

What type of special educational needs do pupils currently have at Branscombe?

The school successfully includes pupils with a wide range of needs including learning difficulties; developmental delay; communication and interaction difficulties; autistic spectrum disorder and sensory or physical needs.

How does the school identify pupils needing additional support?

The Executive Head Teacher and Class Teachers closely monitor the progress of all children in the school on a regular basis. The school tracks children's progress on the National Curriculum to ensure that all children maintain progress. The school also uses whole class screening programmes, such as Reading Bench Marks and regular assessment tasks.

The SENDCo has regular meetings and discussions with parents, teachers and teaching assistants where progress and concerns can be discussed. Children needing extra help are identified and added to the register of need. The teachers will assess need and provision against the Federation Core Provision Map and the Devon graduated Response Tool. Some children may need extra help for a short period of time, whilst some may have longer term SEN. The progress of children already receiving extra help is monitored to ensure they are making good progress and any changes in provision are discussed and agreed.

The school will discuss concerns with parents and also listen to the views and concerns of parents to work together to assess need and provide provision.

The school has a close relationship with many other agencies and professionals and in some cases may seek additional advice for children with SEND. This may be from professionals such as educational psychologists, behaviour advisory teacher, speech and language therapist, occupational and physiotherapists and the school nurse. This help is only requested after discussion and consent from parents.

What should I do if I think my child needs more help in school?

Teachers are available at the beginning and end of the day to talk to parents about any concerns. A separate time can be arranged to have longer discussions if necessary. The SENDCo can be contacted by email admin@branscombe.devon.sch.uk or by phone 01297 680339 and is happy to meet with parents to discuss any concerns and agree the way forward.

How will I know about support planned for my child?

At termly parents' evenings, teachers discuss progress with parents and agree plans for extra support. The SENDCo is available at parents evening to meet with parents if necessary.

Support will be laid out in the federation core provision map and then on termly class provision maps. This provision will be discussed with parents and reviewed throughout the school year. Some children may have a more detailed "My Plan" which will be agreed by the school, parents and other professionals involved with the child. This will be reviewed regularly to ensure that the child is making as much progress as possible.

Children with an Educational and Health Care Plan (EHCP), or a statement, have annual review meetings where progress and future plans can be discussed and agreed with the parents and child.

At times of transition between classes or schools additional meetings and support plans are put into place for the child and their families.

In all the above meetings the support and views of the parents on their child's learning are welcomed and valued as a contribution towards helping the child progress.

What sort of support might my child have?

The school aims to include every child in as much learning in the classroom alongside peers as possible. A detailed Federation Core Provision Map and the Devon Graduated Response Tool shows the range of help that may be given.

The curriculum may be adapted to meet individual children's needs. They may be supported in the classroom or on their own or in small groups outside the classroom. The time given to a provision may vary.

How will I know if my child is doing well?

In addition to parents' evening the school encourages informal conversations between staff and parents so that success can be celebrated quickly and problems discussed at an early stage. The children and their parents are seen as key players in ensuring successful supporting of children with SEND and regular contact is important. All children receive an annual written report.

How will my child be included in school activities?

All children with SEND are part of a mainstream class. There are opportunities to be involved in all relevant activities and outings. The staff and parents will discuss how their child can be included and what provision is needed whilst taking into account of the child's individual needs.

Children with SEND play a full part of school life and are valued members of the school community.

Who supports children with SEND in school?

All staff in school support children with SEND but the following may be particularly involved in supporting your child;

Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENDCo): Kate Prince

SEN Governor: Clare Rooke

Educational Psychologist: Ruth Arnell

Speech and Language Therapist: Tanya Bowden

School Nurse: School Nurse Service Hub 03332341903

The SENDCo has had many year of experience working with children with SEND and has completed her National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination.

All staff are skilled in meeting the needs of a wide range of SEN and receive regular training and advice to extend and update their knowledge.

How is the school equipped to meet the needs of children with SEND?

Branscombe School has a safe and secure school site. The school allocates funds to meet the needs of smaller items of specialist equipment and works with outside agencies to provide larger items of equipment. While the main means of access to our school site would present difficulties to pupils and visitors with mobility difficulties, there is level access suitable for a wheelchair through the school car park.

How can I get more information about SEN in Devon?

Devon Information Advice and Support (DIAS) www.parentpartnershipdevon.org.uk provide general advice and support on many aspects of Education of children with SEND and can be of particular help at times of transition from Primary to Secondary Education.

The support provided by Devon Local Authority for children with SEN and disabilities can be found at https://new.devon.gov.uk/send/

The Head teacher and SENDCo can direct parents to other organisations and services that could provide additional support.

What should I do if I am worried or unhappy about the support my child is receiving in school?

Parents are encouraged to talk to the class teacher or the SENDCo in the first instance. The head teacher is also happy to arrange a time to discuss any concerns. If a parent is still concerned the SEN Governor can be contacted. Devon Information Advice and Support (DIAS) can advise parents on how to proceed if they feel their concerns are not being adequately addressed by the school or Local Authority.