



**Oakdale School**

*To be the best we can be*

**SEN INFORMATION  
REPORT**

## **Section 1**

*What kinds of Special Educational needs does Oakdale School make provision for?*

Oakdale School is a community maintained primary Special School. We have provision to meet the needs of children with severe and profound and multiple learning difficulties. Pupils may also have Autism, physical difficulties and multi-sensory impairments.

## **Section 2**

*How would Oakdale School identify and assess my child's Special Educational Needs?*

Every pupil has a Statement of Special Educational Need or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). These are reviewed annually. In addition children are constantly observed and progress noted.

Pupils are assessed against their own Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Pupils progress is monitored and discussed termly with class teachers and senior leaders. The school works closely with therapists and external agencies to identify the holistic needs of every child.

## **Section 3**

*a) How does the school evaluate the effectiveness of provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs?*

We have a robust system of reviewing our provision each term using Ofsted framework to self-evaluation. This includes looking:

1. Leadership and Management
2. Quality of teaching, learning and assessment
3. Personal development, behaviour and welfare

Governors are involved in this process and receive regular reports through the Headteacher's Reports, and minutes from each committee meeting.

Any interventions such as additional funding such as pupil premium are identified and tracked to ensure the impact is effective.

The school was inspected February 2013 and was rated as Good for the overall effectiveness.

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

We meet with you as parents once a term. One meeting is the Annual / EHCP Review to discuss targets for your child. We discuss progress at Annual Reviews, discuss IEP's and our expectations for your child. We meet the Therapists during a 'Back to Basics' Inset Day to discuss your child's needs and we will raise on your behalf any questions or concerns you may have.

*c) How will staff support my child? How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?*

Every child has their own statement / EHCP plan which identifies long term and short term objectives. The staffing ratio is approximately 1:2 children. Children may be taught 1:1, in small groups or whole class (no more than 10) depending upon the activity.

All planning, both medium and short term is highly differentiated within each class. Generally each class has a Teacher; Teaching Assistant Level 3; and at least 3 Teaching Assistants Level 2 and Level 1. School staff are supported by Speech and Language Therapists, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, School Nurse and special teacher advisors where and when appropriate.

*d) How do you adapt the curriculum?*

Our aim is to provide a curriculum that is relevant and broad and helps children to become as functionally literate, numerate, communicative and as independent and autonomous as possible in an environment that promotes positive learning experiences.

*e) How is the decision made about the level of support my child receives?*

Your child will initially have their needs identified through their statement / EHCP. We constantly review this and using our expertise and experience will identify when and where additional support may be needed.

*f) How will my child be included in activities outside the school curriculum including trips?*

At Oakdale School every child has the opportunity to access trips. Provision is again highly differentiated and if for example an activity is not deemed appropriate alternative activities are organised.

No child is excluded from activities at Oakdale School.

*g) What support is there for my child's overall well-being?*

We have a robust safeguarding policy and protocol in place. Pupils' health and well-being is paramount. Personal care is conducted discreetly and with dignity and fostering independence whenever possible.

We work closely with medical practitioners if your child has a health need and will discuss with you a Health Care Plan and administration of prescribed medication. We also work closely with social services and with Integrated Service for Children with Additional Needs (ISCAN).

We work closely with CAMHS (child and adolescent health services), CABS (Child and adolescent behaviour services) if your child needs that level of support.

## **Section 4 & 5**

*What training is provided for staff supporting children and young people with SEN's?*

All of our teachers have undertaken specialist further professional development that is closely related to the needs of their class group and may include Autism specific training, PECS, Team Teach and rebound.

Our Teaching Assistant also have a wide range of expertise – including supporting children with a wide range of needs including sensory and physical, moving and handling and Autism. This is not an exclusive list and ongoing professional development is key to ensuring staff of all categories remain updated and skilled.

## **Section 6**

*How accessible is Oakdale School?*

Our school is fully accessible with dedicated parent and disabled parking bays and toileting facilities. We have overhead tracking and hoists in most classes, bathrooms, hydrotherapy suite and sensory room. We have changing facilities for children who require adult support.

Our grounds are inclusive and we have wheelchair swing and roundabout, extensive outdoor play activity equipment including a coracle swing, stage area, ball hoops, bikes and bike track. We have a sensory garden and sensory outdoor play equipment.

## **Section 7 & 8**

*How are parents involved in the school?*

*How can you get involved and who should you contact?*

We hope to meet new parents at the stage when you are deciding which school is your preferred choice for your child. We hold a parents open evening in the summer term for parents of children who will be starting Oakdale School in the September.

We hold regular coffee mornings / workshops where parents can meet each other, we have guest speakers and we also share / show parents how to create symbols to help them communicate with their child at home.

At Parents meetings across the year we discuss targets for your child for the forthcoming term as well as annual / EHCP review meeting. There are Christmas Productions, Sports Days and in our Foundation Stage Unit there are play and stay opportunities for parents. Parents are encouraged to come along to the many events we hold in school.

Oakdale School has a PTFA and we encourage parents to get involved in events and fundraising activities. We support various charitable activities i.e. Jeans for Genes, Children in Need, Remembrance Day, MacMillan Coffee Morning are just a few of the charities / fundraising activities we support.

For further information our website is regularly updated with upcoming events or alternatively please contact our school office.

*How do parents and children get involved in their education?*

We keep you informed of your child's progress through the Annual Reviews and by sharing targets through the termly meetings. We also write to you using home-school books, send text messages or ring you if needed and we hope you will also keep in touch with us too.

The children are involved in the running of the school through the school council. We support children to understand their own targets and next stages.

## **Section 9**

*What do I do if I have a concern about school provision?*

In the first instance we encourage you to contact your child's class teacher. If you still have concerns then please contact the headteacher.

In the unlikely event that your concern is not resolved then please contact our Chair of Governors. Ultimately, parents have recourse to the Secretary of State at the time if the situation is still yet to be resolved.

## **Section 10 & 11**

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

We work closely with the following to support your child's needs;

Therapy Services currently managed by Tameside NHS;- Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy. Specialist Services including Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment, Educational Psychology Services, CABS, CAHMS, Social Services, Music Therapy and Sports Coaching.

Your child will need a Statement of Educational Need or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or going through an assessment for a statement before being considered for admission to our school. Your point of contact to discuss this is the Local Authority SEN (Special Educational Needs) Team.

## **Section 12**

*How do you prepare my child for joining your school or transferring to another school?*

We offer a structured transition process which will include staff visiting your child in their current setting (if applicable), visits to our school and spending time in the class your child will be going in.

When the time comes for your child to move on we will liaise with the receiving school and work on an agreed transition process. We will enhance this with social stories and extra visits if necessary.

## **Section 13**

*Where can I get further information about services for my child?*

Tameside Local Offer can be accessed via our school website or via the Tameside MBC website at <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/localoffer>