



### ***Special arrangements in relation to COVID-19***

From September, the government announced plans for all children to return to school on a full time basis. Following the guidelines provided by the government, which can be found below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

St Meriadoc CofE Junior Academy put the following arrangements in place for September 2020/21 for all pupils:

- Staggered drop offs and pick up times to limit large groups of adults and children coming into contact and to maintain social distancing.
- We continued to operate within 'bubbles' to limit the amount of people our staff and pupils come into contact with.
- A broad and balanced curriculum for the children for September, which included a recovery curriculum matched to our pupils needs. It also allowed us the flexibility to focus on our pupils' wellbeing and mental health.

**SEN Provision during  
COVID-19 2020-21**

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## SEN Provision during COVID-19 2020-21

- Children will have access to all provisions as listed in SEND Provision section of the SEND information report. These include:
  - activities linked to the outcomes on their Education Health Care Plans
  - visual supports such as visual timetables, working memory boards, now and next cards or task cards
  - coloured overlays, ear defenders and sensory boxes
  - technology where appropriate, such as laptops and iPads.
  - Access to TIS activities and resources to support emotional well-being, such a social or emotional stories.
  - Online provisions, such as Lexia, Reading Plus, iDL, spelling shed, Times table Rockstars and My Maths.
  - In class provisions, such as precision teaching, RWI, Spelling Shed and SALT activities.
- Interventions will take place within pods. Trained Teaching Assistants will deliver these interventions following government social distancing guidelines and hygiene.
- SEND children will have access to break out spaces, should they need time out of their classroom for any reason relating to their SEND needs.
- Children will have access to Behaviour Support Plans should they need one.
- SEND support plans will continue to be in place for children on the SEND register and reviews will be conducted via Email, Edukey provision Map or Telephone call.
  - EHCP annual reviews or meetings will be held via Zoom/Microsoft Teams/Telephone call with professionals and parents.
  - Outside agencies will begin providing interventions within school or online via Zoom/ Microsoft Teams/Telephone calls, where necessary, following all guidance on social distancing and hygiene.

## SEN Provision during COVID-19 2020-21 School Closures

Following the closure of schools from the 23rd March 2020 Government guidelines stated:

*All schools have been ordered to effectively close, retaining a skeleton staff to provide education for the children of key workers, and 'vulnerable children.'*

*Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those with an Education Health Care Plan (EHC plan). The majority of children with SEN, who receive SEN Support at school but do not have an EHC plan, would be expected to stay home unless they have a social worker or a parent/carer who is a key worker.*

*Those with an EHC plan should be risk-assessed by their school in consultation with the local authority (LA) and parents, to decide whether they need to continue to be offered a school or college place in order to meet their needs, or whether they can safely have their needs met at home. This could include, if necessary, carers, therapists or clinicians visiting the home to provide any essential services. Many children and young people with EHC plans can safely remain at home.*

At St Meriadoc Junior Academy, in accordance to 'Guidance for schools and settings named in children and young people's Education, Health and Care plans during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic', robust risk assessments were undertaken for each child with an EHC plan. The necessary actions in relation to statutory SEN processes for children with EHC plans during the Coronavirus (COVID19) pandemic have been assessed in accordance with each of the four assessment needs stated by The Department for Education (DfE).

In order to ensure that our pupils with EHC plans were supported we consulted families with regards to whether or not their child needed to attend school. We have ensured that the expectations for work being completed at home is understood and that pupils can access the work being set by school staff. As a school, we undertook weekly check ins to ensure that pupils outcomes are kept at the forefront and that their emotional needs are being met. Work set by class teachers took in to account the needs of the pupils in their classes and is open-ended in nature to allow pupils to engage with and further their own learning.

Parents of SEND pupils who require school support at this time can use the messaging facility on Class Dojo which allows for private conversations to be held between staff and parents as well as follow up phone calls when necessary. The SENCO (Mrs Tanya Nisbet) could also be reached on Class Dojo, on the school phone number or at [tnisbet@rainbowacademy.org.uk](mailto:tnisbet@rainbowacademy.org.uk).

We were aware that the transition period for our pupils with SEND has been greatly affected by the current situation and we continue to work alongside our infant and secondary colleagues to ensure that the information needed is shared. During the second half of the summer term we sent out transition style material to the Infant School pupils who would be joining in September 2021. As well as creating a focus group of pupils with SEND/additional needs from St Meriadoc Infant School, who visited St Meriadoc Junior School on a weekly basis during Summer 2 term to meet key staff, feel confident in the school environment and starting to build relationships with key staff.

Resources that support our pupils' emotional and social development during this unprecedented time had been uploaded on to the school website in the SEND section. They continued to be updated over time.

External agencies will only become involved if necessary following the usual graduated response process.