



## **DSP Policy**

### **We are an inclusive school**

The Designated Specialist Provision offers an enriched, individually orientated curriculum within an integrated setting where the pupil can learn alongside their peers at a pace and with the support that suits their needs. The aim of the provision is to support pupils to gain independence in both their learning and their personal and social skills whilst encouraging them to achieve their academic potential.

### **Framework for Inclusion**

The aim of the DSP is to provide an education appropriate to each pupils needs within the mainstream classes with support from the DSP. We provide DSP pupils with a range of supported groups, individual work and whole class support with access to the full national curriculum. This includes access to extra curricular activities, educational visits and social events as appropriate.

### **Type and range of Provision**

DSP for autistic spectrum disorder promotes the development of pupils with a diagnosis of ASD by providing an additionally resourced special educational service within a mainstream school. All pupils placed in DSP for ASD will have complex ASD within a broad spectrum and will require specialist provision beyond that which is normally available within a mainstream school. Pupils must have a diagnosis of ASD and a Statement of Special Educational Needs.

### **Area Served**

Pupils come to the DSP primarily from the schools in the *north* of Bradford. However, where places are unavailable at other facilities in the area placement will be considered for pupils from other areas.

### **Pupil Numbers**

The total number of places is 12 (NCY 7 – 11) and the maximum number per year group is 3 places per year. In addition post 16 places will be purchased on an individual basis following the Yr 11 review and will not exceed the 3 places per year group.

### **Specialist Resources**

#### **Staff**

The resource is currently staffed by the Head of the DSP, a teacher and 7 support staff. Support staff are allocated to classes with DSP pupils as needed. The staff are trained and experienced in working with pupils with ASD. The staff undergo an ongoing training program.



## **Environment**

The provision has a suite of rooms as a base for pupils to work on specific skills requiring a quieter environment. All pupils who are members of the DSP have access to this suite either on an individual or small group basis for some part of their school day as appropriate to them. This includes breaks and lunchtimes when they are encouraged to bring their friends into the DSP with them.

## **Professional Support**

Weekly speech and language therapy input is in place to support the pupil's access to both the academic curriculum and their social skills. Support and advice from the Educational Psychology service is ongoing. See attached page for details of Speech and Language.

Other professionals including CAMHS, occupational therapy, social services and ACST are involved as necessary.

## **School Organisation**

Holy Family Catholic School is a voluntary aided secondary school with specialist language college status serving the Keighley and district area. Facilities include 4 ICT suites, sports hall, studio, specialist design technology areas, library, laboratories and languages facility. Holy Family has a thriving Sixth Form facility. As a Catholic School, pupils have access to a chapel and a prayer room is provided for Muslim pupils and those of other faiths.

## **Home School Liaison**

This is vital to achieve the pupils full potential and for continuity of approach. Staff are available through out the day if parents have concerns. Regular liaison with parents takes place through pupil planners, text, email and by telephone.

## **Admissions**

Referrals for the DSP come via the Special Educational Needs Inclusion Panel which meets weekly at Education Bradford. Parents or professionals who are considering a DSP placement should first consult with their SEN Officer who will then make the necessary arrangements. SEN Bradford will consult with the DSP regarding the suitability of potential candidates for DSP places at the initial stages of the admissions process in accordance with the SEN Code of Practice.

## **Transitions**

Transition from primary school to secondary, or from another secondary, is a stressful process for pupils and parents. Transitions are managed by the DSP in consultation with the existing provision. Transition visits are made to the DSP by the new pupil with staff from the existing provision and visits to the existing provision are made by DSP staff. The number and nature of the visits is individually tailored depending on the pupils needs.



## **Assessment/ Review/Monitoring**

Within 6 weeks of placement in the DSP an initial planning meeting is held. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss how the pupil is settling in and to plan the first year's educational arrangements in line with part 3 of the statement. Parents meet with the Head of the DSP on this occasion.

A review of the pupil's statement takes place at least annually, in accordance with the 1993 education Act, LEA guidelines and the SEN Code of Practice (November 2001). These are held with parents and Holy Family and all relevant professionals are invited.

Open evenings for all pupils in school take place once a year. Additionally parents are welcome to discuss progress at any mutually convenient time.

The Educational Psychologist is available to monitor progress and offer advice where necessary.

The speech and language therapist will assess and advise parents and school as necessary.

Each pupil has an annual written report in line with school policy.

## **Transfer to next stage**

Transitions planning for post 16 starts in Yr 9 with advice from the Connexions service. Pupils have regular meetings with their Connexions worker. Information about post 16 provisions is available within the DSP including local colleges, sixth form provision and work options. Visits and taster courses at local colleges can be arranged. All pupils take part in a work experience week in year 11. As with transfer in to the DSP, transfer to other facilities is carefully managed in consultation with parents, the pupil and other professionals involved.

## **For further Information please contact**

Mrs. C Kane  
Head of Designated Specialist Provision  
Holy Family School  
Spring Gardens Lane  
Keighley  
BD20 6LH

Telephone: 01535 210212

The Holy Family

Catholic School

