**SENDco:** Ms Susan Perkins

**Deputy SENDco:**Mr Ian Rowland

**Contact details:** senco@bucklersmeadacademy.com

### SEND policy:

- Sets out how our school will support students with special educational needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in providing for students with SEND
- Follow the academies' Visions and Values to guide our practice.
- Should be read in conjunction with Buckler's Mead Academy's SEN Information Report

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following Midsomer Norton School Partnership polices:

- Admissions
- Anti-bullying
- Behaviour Management
- Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Procedure
- Data Protection / Freedom of Information
- Equal Opportunities
- Health & Safety
- Accessibility Plan

### An Inspiring Education for All

At Buckler's Mead Academy, we believe in 'An Inspiring Education for All'

Buckler's Mead Academy seeks to ensure all students enjoy high-quality learning experiences through which they are able to achieve their full potential. Our inclusive ethos aims to encourage all students to be actively involved in their own learning. This involves valuing all students and staff equally and reducing barriers to learning and participation.

Our School Values

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| **Success** | Sky High Expectations and aspirations for all, making success inevitable. |
| **Ambition** | Building desire and determination. Inspiring hope to be the best version of yourself. |
| **Enjoyment** | Challenging one another, finding the joy in every day and fostering a lifelong love of learning. |
| **Opportunity** | A wealth of opportunities to acquire powerful knowledge and culturally rich experiences. |
| **Community** | An inclusive community working together to succeed together. |

### We Aim to:

- Provide every child with access to a broad and balanced education. This includes the National Curriculum in line with the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.
- Promote independence, equality, and consideration for others.
- Ensure that we celebrate the wide range of our students' achievements.
- Support all students to excel by offering multiple pathways for progression.
- Equip students with the skills and attributes necessary for adult life.
- Create a welcoming atmosphere for parents.

## In practice, we will

- **Seek to identify the needs of students with SEND as early as possible.** This is most effectively done by gathering information from parents, education, health and care services (and feeder schools) prior to the child's entry into the school. Where needs have not been previously identified staff have an obligation to report observations to the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENDco).
- **Monitor the progress of all students** in order to aid the identification of students with SEND. Continuous monitoring of those students with SEND by their teachers will help to ensure that they are able to reach their full potential.
- **Make appropriate provisions** to overcome barriers to learning and ensure students with SEND have full access to the National Curriculum. This will be coordinated by the SENDCo and the Learning Support Department. Students will be carefully monitored and regularly reviewed.
- **Work with parents** to gain a better understanding of their child, and involve them in all stages of their child's education. This includes supporting them in terms of understanding SEND procedures and practices and providing regular feedback on their child's progress.
- **Work with and in support of outside agencies** when the student's needs cannot be met by the school alone. Buckler's Mead Academy can receive further support for example, from the Education Psychology Service, Speech and Language Therapy, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Visual Impairment Service, and Hearing Impairment Service.
- **Create an environment where students can contribute to their own learning** by offering all students the opportunity to voice their own opinions. This is achieved by encouraging positive relationships with adults in school and carefully monitoring the progress of all students at regular intervals.

## Legislation and guidance

Buckler's Meads policy and information report is based on the statutory Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of Practice and the following legislation:

- Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014, which sets out schools' responsibilities for students with SEN and disabilities
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014, which set out schools' responsibilities for education, health, and care (EHC) plans, SEND coordinators (SENDCOs), and the SEN information report
- Equality Act 2010 sets out how schools must try to identify and help assess children with special educational needs and disabilities, providing reasonable adjustments. If a child has an EHC Plan these must be reviewed annually.

## Development and Consultation of the SEND Policy.

On an annual basis, the SENDco will consult with the following stakeholders to develop the SEND Policy and Information Report.

- Parental Body
- Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership
- The teaching staff and Senior Leaders at Buckler's Mead Academy
- External agencies who help to monitor and advise on SEND e.g. Support Services for Education.

## Roles and responsibilities

### The SEND Governor

The SEND Governor is Mr. M Gulliver, he will

- Help to raise awareness of SEND issues at Local Governing Board meetings
- Monitor the quality and effectiveness of SEND provision within the school and update the governing board on this
- Work with the Headteacher and SENDco to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school

**The Headteacher**

Mr. M Lawrence as Headteacher will:

- Work with the SENDco and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEND policy and provision in the school
- Have overall responsibility for the provision and progress of learners with SEND and/or a disability

**The SENDco**

The SENDco is Ms. S Perkins. The deputy SENDco is Mr. I Rowland.

They will:

- Work with the Headteacher and SEND governor to determine the strategic development of the SEN policy and provision in the school
- Have day-to-day responsibility for the operation of this SEND policy and the co-ordination of specific provision made to support individual Students with SEND, including those who have EHC plans
- Provide professional guidance to colleagues and work with staff, parents, and other agencies to ensure that Students with SEND receive appropriate support and high quality teaching
- Advise on the graduated approach to providing SEND support
- Advise on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet Students' needs effectively
- Be the point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority and its support services
- Liaise with potential next providers of education to ensure Students and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned
- Work with the Headteacher and governing board to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
- Ensure the school keeps the records of all Students with SEND up to date

**Class teachers**

Each class teacher is responsible for:

- The progress and development of every student in their class
- Working closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff to plan and assess the impact of support and interventions and how they can be linked to classroom teaching
- Working with the SENDCO to review each Student's progress and development and decide on any changes to provision
- Ensuring they follow this SEND policy

**Arrangements for Coordinating & Resourcing SEND Provision**

The Learning Support Department will hold details of all SEND Support records such as the SEND Register. All staff can access the following documents on the school systems:

- The Buckler's Mead Academy SEND Policy and Information Report.
- A copy of the full SEND Register
- Guidance on identification of SEND in the Code of Practice.
- Information on individual students' special educational needs including Personalised Learning Passports (PLPs) and information sheets where applicable.
- Practical advice, teaching resources, and information about types of special educational needs and disabilities.
- Information available through Somerset's SENDS Local Offer. Somerset's SEND Local Offer

By accessing the above, every staff member will have complete and up-to-date information about all students with special needs and their requirements, enabling them to provide for the individual needs of all students. This policy is made accessible to all staff and parents in order to aid the effective coordination of the school's SEND provision.

The SENDCo and Senior Leadership Team are responsible for:

- Keeping staff fully informed of the special educational needs of any students including sharing progress reports, medical reports, and teacher feedback.
- Providing regular training and learning opportunities for staff in all departments on the subject of SEND and SEND teaching. This is done through INSET days, trust-wide training, and bespoke training offered as required. This ensures staff members are kept up to date with teaching methods which will aid the progress of all students including those with SEND.
- In-class provision and support (e.g. Teaching Assistants) are deployed effectively to ensure that students can access the curriculum and help to differentiate and/or scaffold where necessary alongside the class teacher.
- Inclusion boxes are available to use by both teachers and students in all classrooms.
- Individual or small group tuition is available where it is felt that students would benefit from this provision.
- Setting appropriate individual targets that motivate students to do their best, and celebrating achievements at all levels.
- Following Assess, Plan, Do, Review (APDR) cycles for learners who have/may have SEND.

**Admission Arrangements**

Please refer to the information contained on the Bucklers Mead Academy website Admissions.

The admission arrangements for all students are in accordance with national legislation, including the Equality Act 2010. This includes children with any level of SEND; those with Education, Health and Care Plans, and those without.

Students with EHCPs will be assessed by the Local Authorities SEND team at county hall to help secure an appropriate placement to meet a child's needs.

Where appropriate upon transition; children with identified needs will be supported through liaison meetings with parents, key staff from both settings, and support agencies. An individual plan of action to aid transition will be offered.

**Parents / Carers**

We encourage parents/carers to be fully involved in their child's learning and progress. This can be completed through

- Meet the Tutor evenings / Parent evenings
- Progress reports issued three times per year
- Contributing to and editing their child's Pupil PLP.
- Following the Assess Plan Do Review (APDR) processes
- Completing and contributing to SEND reviews both internally and where appropriate for external agency support.

**External Agencies**

There are times when Buckler's Mead Academy will seek support and guidance from external agencies to help individual learners and improve school practice and knowledge about inclusion. Some examples of external agencies we often connect to are;

- Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST) and Young Somerset. Mental Health Support Team (Schools) | Young Somerset
- The Educational Psychology Service (EPS) Educational Psychology Service (somerset.gov.uk)
- Child and Adolescence Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Somerset CAMHS - CAMHS (somersetft.nhs.uk)
- Support Services for Education Support Services for Education
- Inclusion Advice Inclusion Advice Line
- Autism and Communication Service Somerset Autism Spectrum Service | Somerset NHS Foundation Trust (somersetft.nhs.uk)
- Virtual School

**Complaints about SEND**

In the first instance, you should contact the school SENDco or Deputy SENDco. You can do this by;

1. Calling the school office on 01935 424454.
2. Email directly to the SENDco by using the email senco@bucklersmeadacademy.com
3. Email the main office at office@bucklersmeadacademy.com and mark it F.A.O Ms. Perkins
4. You can write a letter, please find the school address on our Website.

Please also see the school complaints procedure found on the school website.