



St Thomas Aquinas
Catholic Multi-Academy Trust



Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy

SEND Information Report 26/27



About us...



Mrs James Head Teacher (3 days) Mrs Sexton (2 days)

Mrs Sexton – Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Sharpe – SENCO & Assistant Head(Mat leave)

Mat cover Ms Seema Kaur

Mrs Chapman/ Mrs Livingston – Assistant Headteachers

Mrs Green / Mrs Gopal behaviour mentors

TBC – Mental Health Champion

School Office - office@sacredheart.Leicester.sch.uk

Mrs Pye – SEND Governor

Inspection: Ofsted (2026) – Strong for Inclusion



Our SEND Intent



At Sacred Heart, SEN provision is at the heart of our inclusive community, where we celebrate diversity and value each individual's abilities. We strive to create a nurturing environment that ensures all children, regardless of their needs, feel supported, included, and empowered to reach their full potential. We embrace a person-centred approach, recognising that every child's journey is different, and we tailor our teaching and support accordingly.

We foster a strong partnership with parents and carers, considering them an integral part of our school family. Together, we strive to create a supportive network that promotes a sense of belonging and enhances each child's educational experience. With our dedicated and passionate staff, our SEN provision lays the foundation for the holistic development of all our students, enabling them to flourish and succeed in all aspects of life.

We share the Academy Trust's mission of shaping young people's lives to the highest possible standards.





SEND at Sacred Heart



Number of children in school: 276

Number of SEND pupils: 102

Number of pupils with EHCP/high needs funding 18

We make provision for ALL children including those who have significant learning difficulties and/or disabilities. We support children with...

- Communication and Interaction (CI) e.g. Speech and language and autism
- Cognition & Learning (CL) e.g. Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, moderate learning difficulties.
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) e.g. ADHD
- Sensory and/or physical (SD) e.g. visual impairment.



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The Spirit of God at work in our Community

For your child this would mean:

- Teacher has the highest possible expectations for your child and all pupils in their class.
- Teaching is based on building on what your child already knows, can do and can understand.
- Different ways of teaching are in place so that your child is fully involved in learning in class.
- Specific strategies are in place to support your child to learn.
- Assessment - Your child's teacher will have carefully checked on your child's progress and will have decided that your child has a gap in their understanding/learning and needs some extra support to help them make the best possible progress



What is SEND?



SEND stands for Special Educational Needs/Disabilities
Indicators of possible SENDs are...

- **Not similar to progress of peers** starting from baseline
- **Below** previous rate of progress
- Attainment gap remains **the same or widens** between them and their peers
- They **do not make adequate progress** despite appropriate interventions and adjustments and good quality personalised teaching.
- **Below expected rate of development** (physically and mentally).
- **A significant difference in learning styles.**
- When a **SpLD** may be present.

If it is agreed by teachers, parents and the SENCO then a child will be placed on our School SEND Register.



Partnership - Other Professionals



- The SENCo works closely with a variety of professionals.
- Speech and Language Therapy,
- Educational Psychologists
- The Social and Emotional, Mental health team
- The Early Years Support Team,
- Learning Communication and Interaction team
- Other medical professionals

The school will regularly communicate with health professionals including GPs and community paediatricians

- Joe Dawson, our Trust Educational Psychologist, also works closely with the School and SENCo



Partnership – Pupils & Parents



- Children and families are at the centre.
- Pupil Passports seek the views of family members and pupils.
- Partnership between home and school increases pupil success.
- Information about a child's difficulty and the strategies they need is included.



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SENIF / Element 3 Funding



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SENIF stands for Special Educational Needs Inclusion Fund, and Element 3 funding is a part of this scheme. This funding is designed to support children with special educational needs who require additional help beyond what is normally provided in schools. It helps to ensure that these children can access the education they need in a supportive environment. Schools can apply for this funding to assist with extra services and resources for these students.

SENIF funding is allocated based on the specific needs of the pupils. Schools must submit a request outlining why they believe the child needs additional support and how the funding will be used. The allocations are reviewed by local councils, and they make the final decisions on funding based on the information provided. (SENIF = F1/F2 and Element 3 = Primary/Secondary).



Governing Body



Our Chair of Governors is Caroline Pinto

The **SEND Governor Rosemary Pye** is the Governing Body's champion for Learners

with **SEND** and those with inclusion needs. She will support and challenge the school to ensure that no Learner is treated less favorably, denied opportunity or left behind because they have additional needs.

The SEND governor and SENCo work closely together and meet approximately once every term.



SEND Support Pathway: Videos to Support Families with the SEND Process



The SEND support service has created a series of short, informative videos to help families understand the Graduated Approach and SEND support pathways available in Leicester.

These videos explain the processes, key stages, and available support for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

- The Graduated Approach [School support \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- SEND Information Reports [What is a SEND information report? \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- BERA [What is a BERA? \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- What to do if you think your child or young person may have SEND [Think your child has SEND \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- Advice for attending meetings in school [Preparing for a SEND meeting with a school \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- SEND Support Services [Support with SEND in Leicester city \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- Top Up Funding [What is top up funding? \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- What a DSP is [Designated Specialist Provision \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- What a Unit is [SEND unit \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- Requesting an assessment for an EHCP [Request an education health care plan needs assessment \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- The EHCP Assessment Process [Statutory assessment process \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- Consultations and school places [Choosing a school for a child with SEND \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- Annual Reviews [Annual review \(Local Offer website\)](#)
- Challenging Decisions [Challenging decisions \(Local Offer website\)](#)



The logo is a shield-shaped emblem. At the top, the words "Sacred Heart" are written in white serif font on a red background. Below this, a white heart is centered, with a black cross inside it. Two white hands are shown holding the heart from the sides. Below the heart, the words "Catholic Voluntary Academy" are written in black serif font. The entire shield is set against a red background that has a wavy, brush-stroke-like bottom edge.

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Relevant Documentation



You may also be interested in...

- School SEND Policy
- Safeguarding policy
- Behaviour policy
- If any of the above are not accessible via our website then please do not hesitate to request a paper copy.

