

Special Educational Needs Information for Saxon Wood School

Full Name of Education Setting :

Saxon Wood School

Address:

1st Line Address	Rooksdown
2nd Line Address	Barron Place
Town	Basingstoke
Postcode	RG24 9NH

District	Basingstoke and Deane
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Telephone Number	01256 356635
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Email address	adminoffice@saxonwood.hants.sch.uk
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Website address	http://www.saxonwood.hants.sch.uk/
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Overview of your Education Setting

Saxon Wood is a special primary school and nursery for children with physical and associated learning difficulties.

How does your education setting know if children/young people need extra help and what should I do if I think my child may have special educational needs?

If your child comes to Saxon Wood they will already have been identified as having Special Educational Needs. They will already be known to health professionals, portage or the Local Authority because of their special needs and medical conditions or receiving support from any of these professionals they may recommend us to you.

The children who come to Saxon Wood have a range of physical difficulties and we have children who have additional needs such as a visual impairment and the majority have communication difficulties. We have considerable expertise in meeting these needs.

All referrals and admissions are dealt with by the Local Authority special needs team.
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If your child comes to us in the nursery we will assess their physical and academic needs and request a statutory assessment. If your child is coming from another setting they will already have a statement for special educational needs (soon to be replaced with an Education Health Plan).
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How will the education setting staff support my child / young person?

At Saxon Wood we follow the same curriculum as mainstream schools across the country. We offer the National Curriculum but break it down to meet the needs of your child.

If your child comes to Saxon Wood they will benefit from a highly experienced staff team and dedicated teachers. Our staff ratios are high and your child will be in a class with a teacher, senior assistant and two support assistants. Class sizes vary but we aim to have a maximum of eight children per class. All academic work is broken down into achievable but challenging tasks and the curriculum is designed to provide different levels of challenge and learning which is tailored to your child through an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

At Saxon Wood your child will also benefit from a multi professional approach to meet their needs. We have a NHS physiotherapist and occupational therapist in school three days a week. We also have a Speech and Language Therapist who visits on a needs basis.

These professionals devise therapy programmes which our experienced class staff deliver. We also have a full time NHS Associate Practitioner to meet any of the medical needs your child may have.

If your child has an additional need such as a hearing or visual impairment we will arrange the Hampshire teacher advisers to visit, assess their needs and provide advice to the school.

If your child has a communication difficulty their needs will be met by the schools communication support team. This consists of a part time communication teacher and a full time communication assistant. Another senior assistant also runs speech and language programmes in the afternoons.

Your child will be assessed for a range of high and low tech approaches to support their communication including Eye Gaze and symbol based communication systems. We also use Makaton and PECS to support learning.

How will the curriculum at your education setting be matched to my child / young person's needs?

We are a fully inclusive school and offer a wide and varied curriculum which will be tailored to your child's needs through Individual Education Plan (IEP) targets.

Class teaching, small group teaching and individual work ensures a flexible approach in meeting your child's needs.

If your child needs additional support they can be withdrawn for concentrated communication or speech and language work. These sessions are used to teach new skills which are then practised in the classroom. Whenever possible all therapies and communication work is carried out in class and if you visit you may see children being taught whilst in standing frames or using other equipment.

Staff are experienced in working with children who have a range of physical and learning needs.

We use ICT equipment such as touch screen computers and Eye Gaze equipment in each class to support learning. We will match the approach and equipment to meet your child's learning

needs.

We believe in praise and building self-esteem by celebrating achievement. Your child's learning will be monitored by the class teacher and staff, their progress celebrated within class through praise and in school assemblies in which we present achievement certificates and stickers.

How will both you and I know how my child / young person is doing and how will you help me to support my child / young person's learning?

We encourage regular contact with parents and recognise the expertise they have with regard to their children. We use a daily contact book and phone calls to ensure parents are aware of their child's day to day progress. You are welcome to contact the class teacher to discuss your child's progress.

In addition to monitoring your child's progress we will write individual education plans and share them with you. We have regular multi professional team meetings and our end of year school reports, Parents Evening will tell you about your child's academic, physical and independence skills progress. In addition your child's progress will be discussed in their Annual Review of the statement.

What support will there be for my child / young person's overall wellbeing?

We pride ourselves on being a caring and friendly school. Children at Saxon Wood are happy and they feel safe. We are a small school and staff know and enjoy being with the children.

This good rapport with children creates a nurturing environment which is positive and fun. As a school we will encourage your child to develop their self-help skills and independence.

We have a high adult to child ratio and so there is always a friendly ear or observant member of staff to address any of your child's concerns.

We have a school council which gives children a say in the activities we do. They meet regularly and are made up of voted members from each class.

Many of our children have intimate care needs and we ensure that these are met sensitively in toilets that provide privacy and the equipment necessary to ensure children are safe. We have an intimate care policy. We understand that toileting is an important part of school life and ensure the children's dignity is maintained at all times.

Class staff take pastoral responsibility for your child along with the school's Associate Practitioner. Staff will always contact you if there are any concerns. The school has a designated Child Protection Liaison Officer to ensure any welfare concerns are monitored and appropriate action taken.

How does your education setting know if children/young people need extra help and what should I do if I think my child may have special educational needs?

All the children at Saxon Wood have physical, learning and communication needs. Your child's needs should have already been identified. Other professionals and the Local Authority will help advise you on what school will best meet your child's needs. They may recommend that you visit us to find out more about the school.

The size of the school and the ratio of staff to children ensure that all children are monitored closely. When any issues or concerns are identified they are dealt with quickly. Parents are informed and involved in any concerns.

What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by your education setting?

We have a number of professionals working at the school to support school staff and your child.

The medical needs of children are met by our full time NHS Associate Practitioner and we have regular orthotic, dietician clinics run at the school. If your child has a visual or hearing impairment they will be visited by the appropriate Special Teacher Advisor to ensure that the school has in place what your child needs.

The NHS Physiotherapist and Occupational Therapist are in school three days a week. We have a NHS therapy assistant in for four days a week to meet children's therapy needs.

The communication team is made up of a part time teacher, a full time senior support assistant and a senior support assistant on a part time table to support speech programmes. This team assesses and provides additional SLT, AAC and communication support to classes as well as carrying out individual sessions with your child if they require it.

We have a NHS and Hampshire County Council Speech and Language Therapist (SLT). They cover aspects such as feeding and dysphagia along with speech development work. They visit on a review and appointment basis as need requires and will assess your child's SLT needs.

The Educational Psychologist (EP) carries out assessments for the statementing process.

What training are the staff supporting children and young people with SEN and Disabilities had or are having?

All the staff at Saxon Wood are experienced in working with children who have special needs and physical difficulties. Regular training is carried out and additional training is provided if a need is identified e.g. recent RNIB visual Impairment and sensory needs training.

All staff receive core training in child protection, moving and handling, Team Teach (strategies for managing behaviour), emergency medication and therapy programmes. We provide on-going training in communication and staff are involved in curriculum development and school improvement priorities.

How will my child / young person be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips?

We have two adapted minibuses and the staff who drive them are trained under a Hampshire approved driving scheme. We include all children on school and class trips. The activities we plan will take into consideration your child's learning and physical difficulties.

Although we pride ourselves on being inclusive outside providers may not have the equipment or expertise needed and we tailor some activities to the children. In such cases we look closely at what alternative can be provided for your child to ensure they have an enriched curriculum.

Key Stage 2 children (7-11 year olds) access a local swimming pool however for some of our children the temperature of the water and their physical needs may require them to attend hydro sessions. We do not have an onsite hydro pool but if your child requires hydro we will try to arrange sessions dependent upon the availability of a local hydro pool.

Some of our children access horse riding through the Riding for the Disabled Association.

How accessible is the education setting?

If your child uses a wheel chair, manual or powered or a walker they will find the school building fully accessible.

If your child requires positional changes and opportunities to get out of their wheel chair this will be facilitated by trained staff and classes, the sensory room and other areas of the school have either overhead hoists or the use of a mobile hoist.

Each classroom has access to adapted toilets with overhead hoists and changing beds. Additional equipment will be provided if these facilities need adapting for your child's needs e.g. a toilet support frame for weight bearing children.

The grounds are fully accessible for children in wheel chairs and for those using walkers. We are currently installing steps in the grounds to enable ambulant pupils to practise stairs in a meaningful way.

How will the education setting prepare and support my child / young person to join the education setting, transfer to a new education setting or the next education stage and life?

If you are looking for a nursery place we would ask you to attend our pre nursery sessions with your child. This provides an invaluable opportunity for you to meet us and for us to find out all the information we need to make the placement a success.

If your child is in the nursery we will involve you in applying for a statement of special educational needs. Once this has been completed your child may stay on with us in Year R and continue through the school unless a different setting is agreed. By this time the school will be well known to you.

If your child leaves to go to a mainstream provision we will put a transition programme in place. This is negotiated with the host school and we will provide interim classroom assistant support. The Teacher Adviser for physical difficulties (PD) will also be involved in ensuring a mainstream

provision, if not resourced, has suitable access.

If your child stays with us we will arrange a transition programmes at the end of Year 6 for their senior school placement. We will support you and your child through the process of transitioning to another school.

How are the education settings resources allocated and matched to children and young people's Special Educational Needs and disabilities?

Our most valuable resource is our skilled staff and we maintain a high staff ratio to ensure all children make the best possible progress in a happy, safe and positive environment.

Your child will benefit from small class sizes and resources such as our soft play room, sensory room and sensory garden. We also have a therapy room and two small rooms which are used for communication support. The school has a range of communication equipment which can be used with your child.

We are equipment rich and regularly review the therapy equipment we have in school to ensure it meets individual need. If your child requires equipment our Occupational Therapist will assess their needs and look to how this will be funded. We have regular orthotic clinics and Whizz Kids visit annually to run wheelchair skills sessions for children.

Through regular internal class reviews and progress meetings with therapists, the Associate Practitioner class and communication team we will monitor your child's communication and physical targets. Where targets are not being met or we have concerns we will revise their individual education plan and re assess their needs.

We welcome an open dialogue with parents and will meet or contact you if we need further information. We also appreciate parents keeping in touch with us to ensure a dialogue is on-going regarding meeting needs.

How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child / young person will receive?

These decisions are based on continuous monitoring and assessment. Regular meetings ensure unmet needs are identified and we then take steps to address these needs. If you have concerns regarding your child we would encourage you to contact us at the earliest possible time to ensure we address them.

Our approach to support is based on small classes and high staff ratios. On entry occupational therapy and physiotherapy needs are assessed and equipment and support arranged as required. The majority of therapy input happens in class and is managed by the class teams. This means children continue to be involved in class activities and enjoy joint therapy sessions with their friends.

In addition for pupils who require additional communication we run individual sessions and speech and language groups.

How are parents currently involved in your education setting? How can I be involved?

You will be involved through the Annual Review process, and daily contact through the school home book. Your child’s teacher will contact you if there are any aspects of the child’s day they need to discuss. We will also encourage you to contact us with your concerns and to pass on any information that the class may need.

You will be welcome to come to our school plays, sports days, Harvest Festival and the occasional tea party or school picnic.

We have a Saxon Wood Association which fund raises for us and you will be welcome to join this. We also have a governing body that sometimes has vacancies for parent governors.

We send home a half termly newsletter with information and photographs of class and school events and activities.

Who can I contact for further information?

You are welcome to visit the school. Visits can be arranged via the school office.

Our website contains further information <http://www.saxonwood.hants.sch.uk/>

You can contact the school office via email or telephone. The office will put you in touch with the most relevant member of staff depending upon your inquiry.

Part 3: In order to make searching for your Education Setting more accessible to users, Please tick any that apply from the lists below

Do you need to have any of the following in place to attend your education setting?			
Education Health and Care Plan	Yes	Statement of Special Educational needs	Yes
S139A/Learning Difficulties Assessment			

Which of the following best describes your education setting (tick all that apply)?			
Mainstream		Special	Yes
Mainstream with resourced provision		Academy	
Community		Foundation	
Free School		Education Centre	
Residential (48/52 weeks)		Hospital School	
Faith School		Independent	
Pre-school		SEN Hub (Early Years)	
Early Years SEN provision	Yes	Opportunity Group	
Nursery	Yes	Childminder (Early Years Education EYE)	

Type of Education Setting?			
Preschool aged 0-2		Preschool aged 3-5	Yes
Infant school		Junior School	
Primary School	Yes	Middle School	
Secondary School		Post 16 provision	
Other		Please specify:	

What communication Methods are you experienced with?			
Makaton	Yes	AAC (e.g. PECS, speech aids)	Yes
British Sign Language		Braille	

What facilities does your education setting have?			
Hydrotherapy Pool		Sensory room or area	Yes
Wheelchair Access	Yes	Accessible Changing Area	Yes
Accessible Toilets	Yes	Low Stimulus Environment	
Secure Environment	Yes	Soft Play Facility	Yes
Physical adaptations (such as hand rails)	Yes	Disabled Parking	

Does your education setting provide any of the following?			
Needs Led School Nurse (Associate Practitioner)	Yes	Needs led Speech and Language (SALT)	Yes
Needs led Occupational Therapy (O/T)	Yes	Needs led Physiotherapy	Yes
Personal Care			

Do you have experience of, or specialise in any of the following?			
Speech and Language Needs	Yes	Moderate Learning Difficulties	Yes
Severe Learning Difficulties	Yes	Autistic Spectrum Conditions	
Social Communication Disorder		Social, Mental and Emotional Health	
Hearing Impairment	Yes	Visual Impairment	Yes
Physical Disability	Yes	Specific Learning Difficulties	Yes
Complex Health Needs	Yes	PMLD	