



Overthorpe C of E Academy

SEND Local Offer

Reviewed by: S Wood (SENDCo)

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Reviewed Annually: September 2026

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Our Local Offer is written to reflect our Overthorpe whole school vision:

Overthorpe is more than a school – it is the heart of the community. We nurture the courage and skills to fly higher than the flock, whilst always providing a nest to come home to.

It is also written to reflect the chosen aims and Christian values of our Academy.

- Friendship
- Forgiveness
- Hope
- Trust
- Endurance

As an Academy, we strive to show these values *Every Day in Every Way*.

At Overthorpe we strive to meet the needs of all children and give access to a full and varied curriculum. We aim to help each child reach their full potential.

Contact Information

The School's SENDco (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator) is Mrs Sarah Wood

She can be contacted through the school telephone number which is:

01924 325300

Alternatively you can call and arrange a meeting in school.

The Governors responsible for SEND is Jill Denvers

Overthorpe CofE Academy is a mainstream primary school (age 5-11).

The school is part of The Enhance Academy Trust.

Children who are identified as having Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (see SEND Policy) are integrated into the main school and work within their appropriate age group.

Focus is on good quality first teaching where teachers adapt lessons to meet the needs of all pupils including those with SEND. However some children may need extra support with their education.

Education Support

Once a child at Overthorpe has been identified as having special needs or a disability, the school staff work together to support that child and enable them to reach their full potential.

The type of support given is dependent on the child's needs.

Some children may require extra materials or equipment to aid their learning.

Some children may need work to be explained in a different way or adapted so that it can be accessed.

Some children may benefit from an extra course of work (an intervention), delivered either individually or in a group.

The class teachers and SENDco work closely together to ensure each child receives the correct support, and their needs are met through a Learner Profile, Supporting Me to Learn Plan or a My Support Plan.

In some instances outside agencies may need to be involved in order to support the child and give school staff advice on a particular need.

Parents are always consulted before another professional is approached and any information resulting from an outside-agency involvement is shared with parents.

Outside agencies giving professional advice or working with children regularly include:

- Speech and Language Therapy
- Educational Psychology
- Outreach Teams
- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- CAHMS

If a child is found to have complex needs or a specific learning difficulty which cannot be addressed by this level of support, the SENDCo may work together with the family of the child to make a referral for an Education Health Care Plan.

An Education Health Care Plan describes the child's difficulties and gives a list of requirements for the school to fulfil. Additional funding to aid this level of support is sometimes allocated. The whole process of securing an Education Health Care Plan involves consultation with any agencies involved and makes the family's contribution a priority.

Questions you may want to ask

These are possible questions that you might ask if you were a [pupil](#) wishing to come to Overthorpe C of E Academy.

They have been discussed and agreed upon by the [pupils](#) in Overthorpe's [School Council](#).

Q-How will I know if I need extra help?

A-Your teacher will let you know how you are getting on and will talk to you about what help you need.

Q-What should I do if I think I need extra help?

A-Speak to your teacher or another member of staff, perhaps the ETA in your class or Mrs Wood. If you are worried ask your parent or carer to ask for you.

Q- Who will help me?

A-If you need help a teacher or ETA will support you with the bits you find tricky. Sometimes a friend or partner might help.

Q- What should I do if I am worried about something?

A-Speak to your teacher or another adult in school. Speak to your parent or carer and tell them what you are worried about. Everyone worries at some point in their life and the school staff are here to reassure you.

Q-How will I know if I'm doing okay?

A-Your teacher will let you know what your targets are and how you can achieve them. You will have regular talks with your teacher about your progress. Your work will be marked to show what you need to do next and rewards will be given for making progress and doing well

Q- Will I be able to join clubs and go on school trips?

A-At Overthorpe we try really hard to make sure clubs and trips are accessible to everyone. If there is a problem which might put you at risk, the teachers in school will do everything they can to find a solution.

Q- How will you help me get ready for High School?

A-Overthorpe works closely with all High Schools to make sure you have a good transition. You will be able to visit the High School on several occasions and key members of staff may come and visit you here.

Q- How will you help support me in school if I am new?

A-Your last school will send us lots of information about you so that we can get things right for you. The other children in school will help you to settle in and show you what to do.

Q- How will I know how to improve my work?

A-When you complete a piece of work your teacher will give you clear instructions on what to do to make it better. These are called 'next steps'. You will also have a maths target and a literacy target which you will know about and work towards.

These are questions that you may want to ask if you are a parent of a pupil with special educational needs or disability.

Q- How will you know if my child needs extra help?

A-Children are continually monitored and assessed. If a child falls behind their peers, or struggles to make progress, the class teacher will give support in class or change work they are given.

Q- How will you support my child with SEND?

A-There are different levels and types of support (see above). A discussion between yourself, the class teacher and SENDCo will result in the best kind of support for your individual child.

Q- How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

A-Teachers differentiate the work given to children depending on their needs and abilities. Often the curriculum can be adapted to meet your child's specific needs.

Q- How will you know how my child is doing?

A-Children are continually assessed and monitored so that the class teacher, and other staff working with them know if they are making progress. Each term Children on the SEN register are assessed individually in number, reading and spelling. This information is shared with Senior Management including the Head Teacher and SENDCo so that all staff are aware of each child's needs.

Q- How will you help me support my child?

A-Regular parents' evenings are held in school where staff can give you ideas on how to support your child. Each child also brings home homework appropriate to their ability which you can support with. In addition if you are concerned about any aspect of your child's education you can speak to the class teacher, SENDCo or Head Teacher in school.

Q- What support will there be for my child's overall wellbeing?

A-At Overthorpe we are concerned with the wellbeing of the whole child. Staff are happy to talk to parents and children about non-academic issues. Children have a soft start to the day where they are encouraged to journal their thoughts. Staff are then able to talk about any worries children may have. Children also have a weekly One life session where they learning about living a happy one life by learning about their Physical, social and mental fitness. Stories are used in these sessions and also through collective worship to encourage high aspirations and kindness.

Q- What specialist services and expertise are available in school and what staff training is in place?

A-Many staff in school are trained in positive handling techniques, to ensure the safety of children in school.

Other specialist support we access through Specialist Provision in other local schools and we seek advice and individual training from professionals to work with children with specific needs eg visually impaired.

Q- How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips?

A-Every effort is made to include all children in school trips and out of classroom activities. The child's safety is always paramount, but any potential risks can often be reduced through choice of venue or activity and planning ahead.

Q- How accessible is your environment?

A-The school is built on a slope so it does have several short flights of steps. The school has sought advice from manual handling and mobility experts in the past in order to overcome any accessibility issues. Ramps are provided to give wheelchair access into school and onto the play grounds. Some areas of the outdoor environment such as the kitchen garden, woodland and wildlife garden are not yet suitable for large wheelchair use, but there are long term accessibility plans in place to rectify this in the future. Any written information which is found to be inaccessible can be adapted on request.

Q- How will you support my child's transition to high school?

A-Children with SEND often have several visits to their chosen secondary school. These are organised with the appropriate secondary school. In addition we have a designated ETA who can help with transport and accompanying children on visits. Members of key staff from secondary schools will also visit your child at Overthorpe if needed.

Q- How are parents involved in the school?

A-Parents are welcome to come into school to speak to teachers before and after the school days as well as at the termly parents' evenings. The school has a parents' forum which meet regularly to discuss school issues. Events, meetings and courses for parents of children with SEND run throughout the year from the school's Neighbourhood Nest. The Governing Body of the school has a strong parental representation. A programme of courses is available for parents to take part in.

Q- Who can I contact for further information?

A-If you have any other questions regarding SEND please contact Mrs Wood on the school number-01924 325300