



Policy status	Statutory
Responsible	FGB
Policy reviewed/amended	December 2020
Policy review term	Every three years
Policy due for renew	December 2023

Slimbridge Primary School Vulnerable Pupils and Additional Needs Policy

Needs

The Children's and Families Act (2014) reiterated the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of each child, making children the centre of endeavours and stating that all agencies and their staff must work together.

Slimbridge Primary School and Little Otters Playgroup define Vulnerable Pupils as children who may not achieve or maintain achievement because they fall into one or more of the following categories:

1. Looked after children;
2. Children with learning, physical or emotional difficulties;
3. Pupils with unsettled home life (refugees, asylum seekers, immigrant workers, parents in prison);
4. Pupils in danger of exclusion;
5. Pupils with attendance below 85%;
6. Pupils with a referral to a Parent Support Worker;
7. Pupils with a My Plan or My Plan+
8. Pupils with issues with bullying;
9. Pupils who have had concerns logged with the Access Team/Social Care;
10. Pupils recently bereaved or who have long-term sickness of a family member
11. Pupils whose parents have learning difficulties, mental health issues or misuse substances.

This list is not considered complete and any concern will be treated independently.

Action

Once a child has been identified, they are placed on the 'SEND and Additional Needs' register identified as School Concern. This identifies a child as having the potential to be 'Vulnerable' and then one or more of the following actions will be implemented:

The SENCo/Head will discuss the child with teachers and key workers and decide on any further action. These actions could include:

- contact other agencies;
- undertaking a My Profile to capture the pupil voice;
- instigating a My Plan, My assessment and My Plan +;
- meeting with parents;
- discussing strategies with the class teacher;
- getting advice from relevant support groups, Early Help, Families First, ATS etc.

Monitoring

The SENCo/Head will undertake monitoring at termly meetings, and will also liaise with the class teacher every 6 weeks. The Lead Professional will organise TAC/TAF meetings as appropriate

Identification and Tracking

Slimbridge Primary School identifies vulnerable children as a group on SIMs and tracks their progress and achievement. Data analysis identifies the recognised categories (FSM, summer-born and SEND). Individual families present their own responses to their circumstances and children's needs are dependent on their own resilience in these circumstances. The school is committed to supporting children and their families and works actively to engage with 'hard to reach' parents and carers.

Staff meet regularly to discuss the progress of children who are underachieving or have other issues. The school uses this data to identify those who might have other factors affecting their ability to learn. Wherever possible, parents are involved in discussing children identified as a concern, and this can result in discovering factors outside the school that affect children.

Some children are also identified through TAC/TAF meetings or parents sharing information, specifically medical needs.

The school is aware that communications with 'hard to reach' families need to be monitored. Concerns are reported to the Child Protection Lead or deputy and written reports kept securely. These are reviewed regularly. If children are considered to be in a position of 'significant harm', advice is sought from the Social Care team.

Interventions

These are mapped on the provision map and to support children emotionally, socially and academically. Lead workers are logged and specific 'plans' eg. behaviour strategies, are shared on a 'need to know' basis.

See also

Health and Safety policy

Safeguarding policy

SEND policy