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Dear Parents/Carers



Important information about Special Educational Needs Provision

Today, many local schools attended a Special Educational Needs briefing on the implications of the new SEN Code of Practice that comes into force in September. We felt it was important to share this information with all our parents in a consistent way and so we have jointly produced this statement outlining the most important information that is available at this time.

- From September 1st 2014, the arrangements for the provision and outcomes of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities are changing due to a change in the law
- A new statutory Code of Practice will come into force with a new focus on a coordinated response that is shared between Education, Health and Social Care
- The changes are due to begin from September 2014 and be fully in place by 2018. During this time, there will be a gradual transition that will result in the current “Statements” becoming Education, Health and Care Plans (“EHCs”). More information from the Local Authority regarding the timescale for this transition will follow at a later stage
- The arrangements for identifying pupils with special educational needs and disabilities will not change significantly but there will be a new process and timescale in place of 20 weeks (currently 26 weeks) once there is an agreement to assess a pupil for an EHC
- The categories “School Action” and “School Action Plus” will also be redefined and schools will continue to support these children under the new heading of “SEN Support”. Regular meetings with parents to monitor progress will continue in the same way as has previously been the case
- The Local Authority is required by law to publish its “Local Offer”. This simply aims to pull information about available services into one place to make it clear and accessible to all children and their families. This “Offer” will be available on the Derbyshire County Council website from 1st September 2014
- Schools are also required to publish information about the “School Offer”. This will comprise contact information, links to the Local Offer, the school’s own Special Educational Needs Policy and any other relevant information
- We will be reviewing our Special Educational Needs Policy in the light of the new Code of Practice and new information about the Local Offer in cooperation with other local schools in the Autumn Term 2014





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- The “School Offer” is now available on our school website.
- The “Local Offer” has now been published by Derbyshire County Council and is available on this website: <http://www.derbyshiresendlocaloffer.org/>

This statement will also be published on the school website. We hope you have found this information helpful.

Thank you

Mrs Catherine Robinson and Mrs Rachel Russell

