

ADD COVER

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At Middlestone Moor Primary Academy, we are committed to the equal inclusion of all pupils in all areas of school life. We recognise the diverse and individual needs of all of our pupils and take into account the additional support required by those children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We work closely with our families and value the contribution to our understanding of equality and diversity.

Catering for different kinds of SEND

At Middlestone Moor Primary Academy we ensure that all pupils, regardless of their specific needs make the best possible progress. Throughout our school, we aim to provide an accessible and secure environment in which all of our children can thrive and in which all contributions are considered and valued.

Cognition and learning-This can include children with Specific Learning Difficulties, Moderate Learning Difficulties, Severe Learning Difficulties and Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties.

Communication and interaction- This area of need can include children with Autism and those who have Speech, Language and Communication Difficulties.

Social, emotional and mental health- This can include children who have an emotional, social and mental health need that impact on their ability to learn.

Sensory and/or physical needs- This area includes children with visual, hearing or multi-sensory impairments and physical difficulties.

Key staff and expertise

Name of staff member	Area of expertise	Level of qualification (e.g. BA (Hons), MA)
Miss Gemma Richardson	Head Teacher, Safe Guarding Lead	

Mrs Joanne Soulsby	SENCO, Senior Mental Health Lead.	

The SENCO

Name of SENCO	Email address	Phone number
Joanne Soulsby	j.soulsby@middlestonemoorprimary.org .uk	01388 816351

Equipment and facilities

At Middlestone Moor Primary Academy, we recognise that children sometimes require additional resources and methods to help them learn. We take recommendations of resources and advice from Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists and advisory professionals about the best ways to support our children.

Identifying and assessing pupils with SEND

At Middlestone Moor Primary Academy, we aim to identify and assess those children who are thought to have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, as early as possible. This is done through age appropriate assessments throughout their time with us, getting to know each child as an individual and through partnership with parents and carers. This knowledge helps us to understand what your child's needs may be and what further action needs to be taken to provide appropriate support and intervention. Advice from the Local Authority or other external agencies may be requested to ensure the school can meet any needs appropriately.

To view the SEND policy please select this link- [Middlestone Moor Primary Academy Policies](#).

Consulting with pupils and parents

Parents

Partnerships with parents and carers are vital in ensuring that children with SEN can achieve their full potential. Parents/carers are invited in to discuss their child's additional needs, any support which is to be given and are informed and involved in each stage of any process. Parents/carers can also arrange meetings with the class teacher or SENCO throughout the year as and when they are needed.

Involving key stakeholders

We work with outside agencies and professionals to provide the highest levels of support for children with SEN. The school may work with the following teams/agencies:

- SEND and Inclusion Service (including the sensory support team)
- SEND Information Advice and Support Services (SENDIASS)
- Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
- Educational Psychology Service
- School Nurse
- Resilience and Emotional Health Team
- Speech and Language Therapist
- Occupational Therapist

- **Social Care**
- **National Health Services**

Before we seek advice and support from any other professional, parents/carers are always involved in a discussion with the class teacher in the first instance.

Progressing towards outcomes

At Middlestone Moor Primary Academy we are committed to ensuring that all pupils reach their full potential, including those with SEN. Teachers have opportunities throughout the year to meet with parents/carers to discuss children's progress. Children who are on SEN support plans also have termly meeting with the class teacher to review plans and have a voice in setting new targets.

Transition support

At Middlestone Moor Primary we aim to make transition periods as smooth as possible. Children entering Reception in September, start their transition from Nursery in June with visits with parents at first. Children then have staggered starts in September. For those children with SEN, staff will meet with parents and children in their nursery setting and they may have additional transition if needed.

Transition between classes takes place towards the end of the summer term where children get to spend a day in their new class. Transition meetings take place between teachers to ensure all SEN information and support plans are passed on.

In Year 5, transition begins to secondary schools with taster days and visits. In Year 6, children with SEN may have individual transition plans to their new school.

Teaching approach

At Middlestone Moor Primary, all children are worthy of reaching their full potential, regardless of academic ability. All of our teachers are trained to recognise and provide for children with SEND.

Teachers meet the needs of our pupils through adaptive teaching and they take into account that not all children have the same learning style. Interventions are carefully planned for small groups and individuals and are delivered by highly trained TA's and HLTA's.

Adaptations to the curriculum and learning environment

Children at our school are taught in classrooms which are designed to be calm and neuro-diverse friendly. Resources and learning aids are accessible for all and a consistent approach to behaviour and expectations, help all children to thrive and reach their full potential.

Inclusivity in activities

Middlestone Moor Primary Academy is an inclusive school and ensures all children with SEND can participate in after school clubs, trips off-site and enrichment activities.

Supporting emotional and social development

At our school, we recognise that children with additional social and emotional needs, may present with anxiety, behavioural difficulties and communication difficulties. Children may be supported and nurtured through:

- Small group or 1:1 social skills intervention
- Restorative approach
- Zones of Regulation
- Support from Emotional Resilience Team
- Lego therapy
- Drawing Talking Therapy
- Mental Health Support in conjunction with CAMHS

Handling complaints

Complaints can be passed on directly to staff or the SENCO and we aim to deal with them as quickly and efficiently as we can. For formal complaints, please refer to the complaints procedure- Middlestone Moor Primary Academy Policies

Spending the budget

All schools receive funding from the Local Authority called SEN Notational Funding, and is used to support students who have SEND. At Middlestone Moor, we use our professional judgement to ensure that the funding is distributed to where the greatest needs are. Children who have an EHCP may receive additional funding and provision is carefully costed.

Local Offer

All local SEND services, for you, your child and for your family are detailed at www.durham.gov.uk/localoffer

Named contacts

Name of individual	Email address	Phone number
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Joanne Soulsby (SENCO)	j.soulsby@middlestonemoorprimary.org.uk	01388 816351
Gemma Richardson (DSL)	contact@middlestonemoorprimary.org.uk	01388 816351
Durham Mediation Service	Sendinclusion@durham.gov.uk	03000 267800

Additional support

Medical Support- Parents/carers need to declare at the start of each year, if their child has a medical need which requires support or monitoring in school. Any change to medical needs during the academic year should be reported to the school office or to the class teacher. If a care plan is needed, this is developed with the support of health care professionals and home.