



SEND Information Report

Clifton Community School

DATE: January 2026

OWNED BY: Director of SEND

APPROVED BY: Education Subcommittee

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1. Introduction

Clifton Community School is a mainstream 11-16 school which is part of the Wickersley Partnership Trust.

- Headteacher: Marie Smith msmith@cliftonschool.org
- SENCO:
 - **KS3** Jacqueline Perceval jperceval@cliftonschool.org.
 - **KS4** Nikki Turner nturner@cliftonschool.org
- Non-Teaching SENCO:
 - **KS3** Chris Wilson cwilson@cliftonschool.org.
 - **KS4** Emily Kinsell ekinsell@cliftonschool.org

2. Headline Figures (October 2025)

Total (1149 students on roll)	Total	% of cohort
Number of students on SEN Register	322	28.02%
National Picture 2024/2025		18.40%
Rotherham picture 2024		22.20%
Number of Students with EHCPs	43	3.74%
National Picture		4.8%
Rotherham Picture		5.5%

EHCP breakdown	
Cognition and Learning (CL)	7
Social, Emotional Mental Health	6
Communication & Interaction	15
Physical	4
Autism (ASD)	7

General Primary areas of need	Total
Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)	87
Cognition and Learning (CL)	108
Social Emotional Mental Health (SEMH)	76
Physical (Phys)	16
Autism (ASD)	33

Year group break down	Total	K	E
Year 7	241	68	12
Year 8	225	48	5
Year 9	243	58	8
Year 10	222	56	6
Year 11	218	49	12
TOTAL	1149	279	43

Clifton Community School is dedicated to four core elements:

Intention 1: The removal of barriers

Four common barriers, if left unchallenged, will limit the progress, engagement and development of students who access our curriculum. They are, literacy, numeracy, oracy and vocabulary

Intention 2: Developing skills for learning

We strive, at all times, for personal excellence by developing the 5 key skills for success: Recall, interpretation, creativity, analysis, evaluation and divergent thinking.

Intention 3: Fostering personal attributes

Our curriculum promotes the skills and attributes our children need in order to develop the independence, responsibility, accountability and resilience they need to have a happy and successful life. We refer to this crucial aspect of our curriculum intent as The Ways and it is embedded in everything we do.

Intention 4: Enriching student experiences and broadening horizons

We aim to ensure there are many opportunities to enrich their cultural capital in order for them to become well-rounded human beings ready for the next stage.

3. How does the School know if Students need Extra Help with Learning?

Most children and young people at Clifton Community School will have their needs met through good classroom practice. However, where concerns are raised Clifton Community School has a rigorous plan, do, review cycle. Early identification is key and we aim to identify children who have any difficulties as soon as possible so that appropriate support can be given.

The SEN Code of Practice states: "Class and subject teachers, supported by the senior leadership team, should make regular assessments of progress for all pupils. These should seek to identify pupils making less than expected progress given their age and individual circumstances. This can be characterised by progress which:

- is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline;
- fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress;
- fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers; widens the attainment gap." (6.17)

"It can include progress in areas other than attainment – for instance where a pupil needs to make additional progress with wider development or social needs in order to make a successful transition to adult life." (6.18)

There are four types of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), decided by the Department for Education:

1. Social, Communication and interaction
2. Cognition and learning
3. Social, emotional and mental health
4. Sensory or physical

If a student has SEND, then their needs will fit into one or more of these categories. A school's provision for SEND is defined as support which is additional to or different from that which is available to all students.

At Clifton Community School, we recognise that students make progress at different rates and not always in a steady linear pattern. Therefore, students are identified as having SEND in a variety of ways, including the following:

- Liaison with primary school/previous school
- The student performing significantly below expected levels
- Concerns raised by parent/carer
- Concerns raised by teacher
- Liaison with external agencies
- Consultations between class teachers and members of the leadership team where progress data is discussed
- Health diagnosis through a paediatrician / consultant
- Diagnosis of a neurodevelopmental disorder through CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) If a student is identified as having SEND then their name will be added to the SEND register, but we recognise that students' needs may change over time and provision must reflect this. The aim of any additional provision

is for the student to achieve age related expectations, so once they reach this threshold they may be removed from the school SEND register. If they fall behind again at any point, then they may be added to the register again.

4. What should I do if I think my Child has Special Educational Needs?

Contact either your child's form tutor to discuss concerns, your child's non-teaching head of year or the SENCO team: senco-team@cliftonschool.org.

5. Quality First Teaching: What are the School's Approaches to Adaptation and how will that help my Child?

Quality First Teaching is at the heart of Clifton Community School. We are committed to ensuring that all students have the best educational experience possible. We want all the students to grow into confident, caring and well-educated adults. We aim to send all young people into an ever-changing world able and qualified to play their full part in it.

The foundations for this lie in the classroom. Quality first teaching is adapted and responsive teaching that will meet the individual needs of the majority of children in the classroom. It includes good planning of well-sequenced and manageable lessons and class work, coupled with effective pedagogical choices, and robust assessment for learning which was used to inform the next steps in the teaching sequence for children. Quality First Teaching aims to engage and support the learning of all children and places a strong focus on pupil participation in learning.

- Pedagogical content knowledge – how well teachers know the subjects they teach and how well they understand how pupils learn
- Quality of instruction – practices such as effective questioning and use of assessment, reviewing previous learning, and providing model responses
- Classroom climate – the quality of interactions between teachers and pupils, and teacher expectations

All teachers have a quality first teaching toolkit of strategies, adjustments and approaches to help remove barriers that, if left unchallenged, will limit the progress, engagement and development of students who access our curriculum. The toolkit also supports our students as they strive, at all times, for personal excellence by developing the 5 key skills for success: recall, interpretation, creativity, analysis, evaluation and divergent thinking.

Three strategies within the 'instruction' element of Quality First Teaching are:

- Modelling, in which a teacher thinks aloud to help pupils to understand underlying structures, processes and conventions
- Explaining, which helps pupils to understand abstract concepts and events that are outside their own experiences
- Questioning, which can help promote higher-order thinking skills and structure the development of pupil knowledge and understanding.

6. What SEND Training have the Staff had or are currently having?

All teaching staff receive regular training on meeting the needs of SEND students from school-based specialist staff, supported by the Executive Lead for SEND for Wickersley Partnership Trust. New teachers to school receive training to ensure they are meeting the needs of all students. When necessary, meetings with individual teachers are held to give information on meeting the needs of specific students and individuals.

7. How is the Decision made about what type and how much Support my Child will Receive?

As part of a national effort to improve inclusivity in all educational settings, the 'Three Waves of Intervention' model was introduced. This three-tiered model provides a framework for teachers to follow in order to make their teaching more accessible and inclusive whilst reducing underachievement. Clifton's graduated response details how additional support for children with special educational needs is expected to be delivered through three successive levels or 'waves'.

These can be viewed at Appendix A.

Wave 1: Universal

This first step is simply Quality First Teaching. Wave 1 encourages teachers to thoroughly plan each lesson so that there are clear learning objectives alongside worksheets, exercises and other pedagogical choices to help them meet the learning outcomes.

Wave 2: Targeted - Additional Interventions

Wave 2 interventions are designed to support pupils who are nearly working at age related expectations but need some additional focused teaching to get there. Wave 2 interventions tend to be small group, time limited interventions. They are designed for pupils with the potential to 'catch up' and reach age related expectations by the end of the programme delivery. Class teachers need a full understanding of the intervention and how to integrate learning into the classroom. It should not be considered a stepping stone to Wave 3.

Wave 3: Personalised and bespoke interventions

Wave 3 interventions are highly individualised and based on detailed assessments. It is additional support for those with SEND who may have longer term needs and require individualised intervention. Wave 3 also covers students requiring a high level or exceptional support and highly personalised provision through an EHC Plan.

A cyclical approach of plan, do, review is applied by the SENCO and team to monitor student progress and implement further support through wave 2 and wave 3 interventions when appropriate. The SENCO team would consult with subject teachers, Heads of Faculty and Heads of Year, as well as with support staff, to discuss the student's needs and what support would be appropriate. There are always on-going discussions with parents/carers for any student who requires additional support for their learning.

8. How do we know if it has had an impact?

The school regularly reviews the progress of students' academic and social/emotional development. Evidence of an impact includes:

- We see evidence that the student is making progress academically against national/age expected levels and that the gap is narrowing – they are catching up to their peers or expected age levels
- Evidence that students are making progress socially and emotionally
- The student is achieving or exceeding their expected levels of progress
- Verbal feedback from the teacher, parent and student
- Formal or informal observations of the student at school
- Students may move off the SEND register when they have 'caught up' or made sufficient progress.

9. How will I know how my child is doing and how will you help me to support my child's learning? What opportunities will there be for me to discuss my child's progress?

Communication with home is very important to the school and we try to promote good communication between all members of staff and parents/carers. Parents/carers can contact staff members directly by email or phone to discuss the progress of their students. Planned arrangements for communicating between school and home include:

Each year group has at least one parents' evening each year, when all subject teachers are available to meet with parents/carers and discuss progress and learning.

As Parents/Carers we also welcome you to attend termly coffee mornings where you can discuss your child's progress with members of the SEND team.

Each year group has a report programme, which includes at least three progress checks for key stage three (current levels of attainment) and four progress checks for key stage four (predicted GCSE attainment). Each student receives one full report including a tutor report and head teacher report (alongside current levels of attainment). These are sent home to parents/carers and provide a basis for discussion about progress in different subject areas.

If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) then there are legal requirements for at least one formal meeting each year (the Annual Review) organised by the SENCO team and attended by parents/carers, teachers and outside agencies involved in the student's education where appropriate.

Students receiving SEND support and parents/carers will be involved in a review of their progress and SEND provision three times a year with the SENCO team or an identified key worker.

10. How does the School know how well my Child is doing?

At Key Stage three, data captures occur three times a year. At Key stage four data captures occur four times a year. Effort grades and current attainment grades are reported to parents/carers. The SENCO team meets to discuss the progress of students and implement any necessary interventions. The impacts of intervention programmes are reviewed on a regular basis and in cases where students are not making the expected progress the intervention is appraised and adapted. The SENCO team monitors the Cause for Concern (CFCs) and Cause for Praise (CFP) and addresses any concerns that arise, liaising with the Head of Year and other departments in school to do so.

11. What Specialist Services and Expertise are available at or accessed by the School?

We have excellent links with all support services provided within our Local Authority and their support is called upon when needed. All services involved with the school are regarded as being part of a working partnership whose aim is to provide high quality, holistic support which focuses on the needs of the child. The following services/agencies are available to school:

- Educational Psychology Service
- Hearing Impaired Service
- Visually Impaired Service
- Education Welfare Services

- Social Services/ Early Help / Barnardos / DIVERT / Junction
- Health Services
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Social Inclusion Team
- Others as deemed appropriate

12. How are the School's Resources Allocated and Matched to Children's Needs?

It is the responsibility of the faculties within school to delegate sufficient resources to special needs within their own subject areas. Funding by the local authority for SEND is based on a formula which takes into account the number of students on roll and the prior attainment of pupils at the school. This funding is used to support all pupils with SEND whether or not they have an EHCP. The needs of individual students are assessed within the school's monitoring systems and resources are deployed according to need. Needs may be met by in class support or by intervention programmes delivered individually or to small groups on a withdrawal basis. A very small number of pupils who are identified as having significant needs are allocated special funding by the Local Authority (Element 3 Funding).

The school is responsible for ensuring that this funding is used to the benefit of the individual concerned. The funding of all interventions is tracked through the student Provision Map.

13. How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips?

All students are entitled to be included in all parts of the school curriculum and we aim for all students to be included on school trips through making reasonable adjustments. We will provide the necessary support to ensure that this is successful. A risk assessment is carried out prior to any off site activity to ensure everyone's health and safety will not be compromised. In the unlikely event that it is considered unsafe for a student to take part in an activity, then alternative activities which will cover the same curriculum areas will be provided in school.

14. How Accessible is the School Environment?

The school has access to disabled toilets and changing facilities including a changing bed and staff are trained in moving and handling procedures where appropriate. Lifts and ramps are available and lessons are timetabled on the ground floor where appropriate.

15. What support will there be for my child's overall well-being? What is the pastoral, medical and social support available in the school?

The SEND team is responsible for drawing up Student Support Plans for students at risk of exclusion from school. On a day to day basis pastoral staff support students and deal with issues relating to a wide range of issues. Pastoral and medical staff work collaboratively with external agencies to ensure students can access education. The Safeguarding Officer and Deputy Safeguarding Officer deal with issues linked to students' welfare and safety. They ensure that the school's Child Protection policy is followed and are the point of contact for any member of staff who has a concern about a child's safety or welfare.

Counselling and Therapeutic services can be accessed on an individual needs basis and this referral is held by the Safeguarding Team.

Medical Support

The school has a number of staff trained in First Aid who are available on site. Student Medical Care plans are shared with appropriate staff and the school participates in any review of these plans. Students who have long term illnesses that impact on their education are supported through the SEND Team on an individualised basis, therefore parents are encouraged to contact the school to discuss any concerns they have. Overhead hoists, ramps, lifts to access upper floors are available in some blocks.

16. How does the School Manage the Administration of Medicines?

A school First Aid Officer is responsible for the safe management of all medication that is received by the school. A First Aid Officer will record all medication that is to be stored in the school First Aid Officer's room and ensure that it is stored appropriately. A First Aid Officer will keep a record of all administered medication and will assign each student a school medication form which will be completed and signed every time the student has their medication. If medication is required on trips/visits it must be signed out and back in. It is the parents/carers responsibility to ensure that school staff are informed of any changes to medication.

17. How will the School Prepare and Support my Child when joining the School and Transferring to a New School?

The SENCO team works collaboratively with our primary feeder schools on enhanced transition packages. We collate comprehensive objective and subjective information on all vulnerable students and those with SEND and this informs our provision for their education at Clifton. Parents of Year 6 students are invited to a transition parents evening and are given the opportunity to discuss any concerns and meet with members of the support team. Identified pupils are also offered extra transition support in the form of visits to the school and transition activities. We hold Y9 Transition Planning Reviews for identified students in which the Careers officer is involved. All Y11 pupils receive information and guidance about Post16 options and support to access these options where necessary. Students that require additional advice are supported to identify early their career aspirations and support them to achieve these.

18. How are the School Governors involved and what are their Responsibilities?

The Governing body reviews the progress of SEND students as part of the whole school data review that takes place on an annual basis. This allows the Governing body to assess the success and impact of the school on SEND students. Furthermore, the Governor's Policy and Safeguarding committee meet once a term to review the school's policies and ensure they are fit for purpose.

19. What is the Role of the Local Authority? The SEND Local Offer

A local offer gives children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their family information to help them find the right help and support in their area.

It has two main purposes:

- To provide clear, comprehensive and accessible information about the support and opportunities that are available.
- To make provision more responsive to local needs.

The Local Offer brings together information about education, health and care services, voluntary agencies, leisure activities and support groups in one place. It includes:

- Education – support in early years, schools and college, including transport
- Health – specialist clinics, support and advice for children and young people with medical needs.
- Social care – support for personal care and practical assistance, short breaks and personal budgets.
- Transitions – moving between phases of education and preparing for adulthood.
- Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) – the statutory documentation, including applying for a plan, transfers and reviews.
- Information, advice and support – where to get impartial and confidential information, advice and support.

It also allows children and young people with SEND, their families and service providers to get involved in reviewing and developing services and support in order to make the offer more responsive to local needs and aspirations.

Rotherham's local offer can be found here: <http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org.uk/>

20. What Steps are Taken to Prevent any Pupils being Treated Less Favourably than Other Pupils?

We aim to:

- promote good inclusive practice and we ensure that all of our pupils are treated fairly and equally.
- make reasonable adjustments to ensure that disabled persons are not at a disadvantage. ensure that there are plans in place to enable full access to the site and to the curriculum for all pupils.

We will continue to work to:

- eliminate discrimination that is unlawful under the Disability Discrimination Act. eliminate harassment of those with a disability
- promote a positive attitude towards disabled persons
- encourage participation by disabled individuals
- take steps to take account of disabilities even if this involves on occasions treating disabled persons more favourably

21. How our School Promotes Inclusion

- We work in partnership with families and outside agencies to maximise our pupils' educational opportunities.
- Effective links and practice with Healthcare professionals for support for pupils with identified medical needs.
- A team of support staff to support access to the curriculum for pupils with identified special needs.
- We ensure that classroom and extra-curricular activities encourage the participation of all pupils, including those categorised as having Special Educational Needs. Staff organise human and physical resources within the school to increase access to learning and participation by all pupils.

Our aim is for all learners to access a broad and balanced curriculum in a safe learning environment and there will be clarity of provision for them.

Our school aims to treat all its students fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all students without discrimination of any kind.

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

- Increase the extent to which disabled students can participate in the curriculum
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable disabled students to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
- Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled students

22. What should Parents of Students with SEND do if they wish to make a Complaint?

Talk to the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator's (SENCO) Nikki Turner (KS4) or Jackie Perceval (KS3). Follow the school's complaints procedure which is found on the school website.

Who can I contact for further information? Deputy Headteacher Jamie Skirrow jskirrow@cliftonschool.org

23. Who should I contact if I am Considering whether my Child should join the School?

All admissions to school are handled by the Local Authorities Rotherham Admissions team.
<http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/schools>

24. Linked Policies

The following linked policy documents can be found on the policies page of our school website:
<https://cliftonschool.org/our-school/policies/>

- SEND Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Admission Policy
- Equality Policy

25. WPT Graduated Response and Provision Mapping

Clifton Community School uses a graduated response to need that details the support and interventions for each wave of support



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