

How we support children with special educational needs or disabilities in computing

Our vision for computing

Inclusion lies at the heart of the school's values. In computing, teachers recognise the need to give children essential skills and knowledge as all children, whatever their individual needs and abilities, will undoubtedly live much of their lives using, and relying on, computers and the internet.

How we adapt our teaching in computing for children with special educational needs

Children with special educational needs or disabilities are generally taught alongside other children but lessons are adapted so that all children in the class can learn and make progress. We do this in a range of ways, however the school's approach is that, where appropriate, all children within a class are on the same journey, with some needing additional challenge whilst others may require additional support.

At Highgate Primary school, we recognise that the concepts taught through our e-safety framework are extremely important to all children, but arguably more so to SEN students who may require robust strategies to ensure they remain safe and secure when online.

In computing, every class teacher plans, monitors and provides support for pupils within their class including children with special educational needs. Unless a child is working on a different curriculum, all children share the same learning objective. However for some children this will only be achievable with additional support. Examples of approaches that may be adopted in computing include:

- Providing word banks with subject vocabulary to support children's understanding of the task.
- Ensuring that support staff assigned to SEN children are familiar with hardware and software that will be used by the child to achieve an outcome.
- Using visuals to assist pupils' understanding of concepts, for example 'Widget'.
- Using specialist resources e.g. simplified interfaces and iPad colour schemes that reduce visual load.
- Giving a child additional time, with movement breaks if necessary.
- Sharing exemplars of the expected outcomes.
- Providing children with key subject specific vocabulary before the start of a topic.
- Pre-teaching a concept designed to build confidence and support engagement within a lesson.
- Creating workstations within the classroom or in quieter spaces within the school.
- Using appropriate pairings or grouping, allowing children to be supported by their peers.
- Recording work in different ways, for example as a verbal explanation rather than a written one or through photographs taken on a tablet.
- Differentiated questioning with well-pitched questions to match a child's level of development or understanding.
- The use of specialist programmes on a laptop or computer for example Clicker 6.
- One-to-one or group support by the class teacher, a member of the education support team or a classroom volunteer.
- Providing all adults with a class profile to ensure the additional needs of all children are known and understood.

To support this approach, all class teachers are able to access provision from more-experienced teachers or the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) to help them provide support for children with special educational needs.

How we include children/young people in activities and school trips

Any trips, outings or school visits (by an external professional) are planned to enrich learning in Computing. They always include children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Reasonable adjustment is always made in order to include children with special educational needs. We use part of the school's budget to ensure appropriate support is provided.