

**Tunbury Primary School**

**Job title: Special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO)**

**Salary:** MPS

**Hours:** Full-Time

**Contract type:** Permanent

# **Main purpose**

The SENCO, under the direction of the Headteacher, will:

* Determine the strategic development of special educational needs (SEN) policy and provision in the school
* Be responsible for day-to-day operation of the SEN policy and co-ordination of specific provision to support individual pupils with SEN or a disability
* Provide professional guidance to colleagues, working closely with staff, parents and other agencies
* Hold the position of Lead DSL for the school

The SENCO will also be expected to fulfil the professional responsibilities of a teacher, as set out in the School Teachers’ Pay and Conditions Document.

# **Duties and responsibilities**

Strategic development of SEN policy and provision

* Have a strategic overview of provision for pupils with SEN or a disability across the school, monitoring and reviewing the quality of provision
* Contribute to school self-evaluation, particularly with respect to provision for pupils with SEN or a disability
* Ensure the SEN policy is put into practice, and that the objectives of this policy are reflected in the school improvement plan
* Maintain an up-to-date knowledge of national and local initiatives which may affect the school’s policy and practice
* Evaluate whether funding is being used effectively, and propose changes to make use of funding more effective
* Be responsible for all Looked After Children (LAC)

Operation of the SEN policy and co-ordination of provision

* Maintain an accurate SEND register and provision map
* Provide guidance to colleagues on teaching pupils with SEN or a disability, and advise on the graduated approach to SEN support
* Advise on the use of the school’s budget and other resources to meet pupils’ needs effectively, including staff deployment
* Be aware of the provision in the local offer
* Work with early years providers, other schools, educational psychologists, health and social care professionals, and other external agencies
* Be a key point of contact for external agencies, especially the local authority
* Analyse assessment data for pupils with SEN or a disability
* Implement and lead intervention groups for pupils with SEN, and evaluate their effectiveness

Support for pupils with SEN or a disability

* Identify a pupil’s SEN
* Co-ordinate provision that meets the pupil’s needs, and monitor its effectiveness
* Secure relevant services for the pupil
* Ensure records are maintained and kept up to date
* Review the education, health and care plan with parents or carers and the pupil
* Communicate regularly with parents or carers
* Ensure that if the pupil transfers to another school, all relevant information is conveyed to it, and support a smooth transition for the pupil
* Promote the pupil’s inclusion in the school community and access to the curriculum, facilities and extra-curricular activities

Lead DSL

* To manage all concerns and refer cases to the LA, Social Services, Police and all other relevant bodies.
* Keep detailed, accurate and secure written records of concerns and referrals
* Provide safeguarding reports to the leadership team
* Act as a source of support, advice and expertise for staff
* To ensure the school remains complaint with regards to all safeguard training & policies
* Attend and contribute to Child Protection case conferences, effectively and when require to do so
* Model best practice and uphold the principles of confidentiality and GDPR

Leadership and management

* Work with the Headteacher / Leadership team and Governing Body to ensure the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 in terms of reasonable adjustments and access arrangements
* Prepare and review information the Governing body is required to publish
* Contribute to the school improvement plan and whole-school policy
* Identify training needs for staff and how to meet these needs
* Lead INSET for staff at least 3 times a year
* Share procedural information, such as the school’s SEN policy
* Promote an ethos and culture that supports the school’s SEN policy and promotes good outcomes for pupils with SEN or a disability
* Lead and manage teaching assistants working with pupils with SEN or a disability
* Lead staff appraisals and produce appraisal reports
* Review staff performance on an ongoing basis
* The DSL will take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection across the school

Additional duties

* Teaching across the school as and when required

The SENCO will be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, and follow school policies and the staff code of conduct.

Please note that this is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that the SENCO will carry out. The post holder may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role, as directed by the Headteacher / Leadership Team.

# Person specification

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| criteria | qualities |
| **Qualifications  and training** | * Qualified teacher status * National Award for SEN Co-ordination * Degree * DSL |
| **Experience** | * Teaching experience across the primary phase * Experience of working at a whole-school level * Involvement in self-evaluation and development planning * Experience of conducting training/leading INSET * Experience of being the DSL |
| **Skills and knowledge** | * Sound knowledge of the SEND Code of Practice * Understanding of what makes ‘quality first’ teaching, and of effective intervention strategies * Ability to plan and evaluate interventions * Data analysis skills, and the ability to use data to inform provision planning * Effective communication and interpersonal skills * Ability to build effective working relationships * Ability to influence and negotiate * Good record-keeping skills |
| **Personal qualities** | * Commitment to getting the best outcomes for pupils and promoting the ethos and values of the school * Commitment to equal opportunities and securing good outcomes for pupils with SEN or a disability * Ability to work under pressure and prioritise effectively * Commitment to maintaining confidentiality at all times * Commitment to safeguarding and equality |

This job description may be amended at any time in consultation with the postholder.