



How this school can help you when you find some things in school difficult to learn.

Lots of children will have some things that they find hard to learn. It's not just you. Sometimes this is just for one lesson. Sometimes it happens in lots of lessons. In fact, this is true for one in five children. So, you are never the only one in your class feeling learning can be hard.

For many children, learning is difficult just for a year or so. For others, they will always have to work harder than their friends to keep up.

The government has made a law to make sure all teachers help children who find some learning hard. This law is explained in a book called the "Code of Practice". These are the rules all schools have to follow. This is so that children who have difficulties in school get the same chance at making friends, feeling part of the school and learning what they need to get a job that they feel proud of in the future. All schools are given money from the government to help them stick to the rules in the "Code of Practice"

Schools also have to tell you and parents what they do to help you and others like you. They have to involve you in deciding what kind of help is right. They also have to make sure you get the same chance to join in clubs and extra activities. If you have a disability like being deaf or are autistic, it is against the law for the adults to be unfair because of your disability. The adults have to make changes to make sure you can join in everything others join in with. If you think an adult is being unfair please tell your teacher, Mr Henery or Mrs Gentle

The first thing Acle Primary does to help children who find learning difficult, is to make its teachers the best they can be. Some teachers find this easy. Others need more help in understanding the problems some children have. Mr Henery expects everyone to keep learning and getting better, including **all** the teachers. He organises extra lessons for teachers, in how to help **all** children in school, not just the ones who find school easy.

But also, you need to help the teacher too. You know exactly what you find easy in school and what is not so easy. You know when the teachers do something good that helps make learning seem fun and not so hard. Tell your teachers what works for you and get your parents to tell the teachers too.

Sometimes the teachers are not sure what the best way is to help all the children in their class. Then they go and ask for help from Mrs Gentle. She has a special name for her job. It is called Special Educational Needs Coordinator or SENCo for short.

If the advice Mrs Gentle gives does not seem to help you, then sometimes the school will ask for experts to come in and meet you. They then write down new ideas that teachers will use.

For some children they need some quiet learning time away from the rest of the class. This sometimes happens every day or sometimes once or twice a week. We call these “interventions” or “Support for learning packages”. These lessons could help you with reading, writing, maths or keeping calm, making friends or whatever is important for you to learn next. Whoever teaches you will tell you what the lessons are for. They also must find out how good you are when you start the intervention and how much better you are at the end. Each lesson they must tell you what they expect you to know at the end of the lesson.

For a very few children in school they have a statement or Education, Health and Care Plan. It is like a special written promise. If people don’t stick to it they are in trouble!

The Statement or Education, Health and Care Plan explains the things you are good at as well as the things you find difficult. It includes what you think about school and learning as well as what your parents think. And the really important thing is, it has what everyone has promised to do to help. The idea is that you and your parents realise that lots of people care for you and want you to be able to do your best in school.

You and your parents are invited to a meeting called an annual review. This happens every year. It is your chance to make changes to what is written in your Statement or Education, Health and Care Plan. You can say if you are happy or not happy with the help you are getting. You also get to eat biscuits and have a drink!

So all this is very long and quite complicated. If you want any of it explained you can ask your teacher or Mrs Gentle.

The simplest way of writing it is:

At Acle Primary.....

- **We want everyone to be the best they can (and that includes teachers).**
- **We want to help everyone who is finding things difficult (and that includes teachers).**
- **We will get help from people outside of our school if we need to.**
- **We want you and you parents to be an important part of the planning for your future.**

And the reason for this:

We want all children who go to Acle Primary to grow up to be confident people supported by family and friends and with an important part to play in their community.