

Astrea Academy Trust: SEND Link Member

Overview and Purpose

The link member is the committee's champion for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their inclusion in all aspects of school life. He or she will support and challenge the school to ensure that no child is treated less favourably, denied opportunity or left behind because they have additional needs.

Astrea's SEND link members help to ensure our schools fulfil their aim of providing for children with SEND and comply with all statutory requirements. They will raise awareness of SEND and inclusion matters at local committee meetings and give information on practices within the school.

The chair of the committee should take responsibility for ensuring that a link member is appointed each academic year.

Local Committee's Responsibilities

- To check that the school is complying with its legal responsibilities; namely to hold school leaders to account for meeting their obligations in accordance with the SEND Code of Practice (2015) – specifically chapter 6.
- To champion vulnerable children and their needs, ensuring that all leaders are ambitious for pupils with SEND and that SEND remains high on the school's agenda.
- To ensure that leaders effectively identify, assess and meet the needs of pupils with SEND.
- To ensure that leaders develop and adapt the curriculum so that it is coherently sequenced to all pupils' needs.
- To receive an annual report on the school's provision for children with SEND

Link Member's Responsibilities

- To act as the champion for children with SEND and inclusion needs and to ensure that the school is fulfilling its duties to children with SEND
- To undertake required training, including school-specific induction with the SENCo
- To meet the SENCo in the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms as a minimum
- To support the school in ensuring pupils with SEND have full access to the curriculum, classroom and their peers throughout the school day
- To ensure that the school's SEND provision is regularly discussed and scrutinised at committee meetings
- Work with the SENCo to produce a SEND Annual Report to the Local Committee
- To monitor the SEND notional budget here and what impact that spending has had on learner progress and attainment