Did you know that the SEN Code of Practice has changed?

The Children and Families Bill, Part 3 received Royal Accent on March 13th 2014 and is now an Act of Parliament (Law). From this the Department for Education have published a revised SEN Code of Practice. Changes to the operations of the new SEN framework came into force on the 1st September 2014.

What are the key changes?

- The Bill requires a joint approach across all agencies - Education, Health and Social Care will work together to meet children and young people’s need.
- Statements will be phased out from September 2014 and be replaced by an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP).
- EHCPs will cover an individual from birth to 25 years old.
- The School Action and School Action Plus are replaced by SEN Support.
- Kent has published their Local Offer as a requirement by the government which identifies what all the local agencies are expected to provide. It is about making it easier to find out about services which are available for those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, age 0-25.
- Parents are to be more involved in the identifying of needs, deciding outcomes, planning provision and seeking expertise.
What do the changes mean for my child?

At St Teresa’s we will ensure that your child has the correct SEN support they need. In effect it is not the support that has changed, but rather the background legislation regarding SEN.

Parental involvement is important through all the stages of SEN and therefore communication between home and school will clarify and determine what is best for your child. The new Code of Practice takes into account your child’s education until the age of 25, therefore planning ahead for their future is now possible.

Do you have any questions?

If you would like to discuss any of the information presented, please book a meeting with Mrs Desmet (SENCo).

The website will be updated with new information regularly.