LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY
SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS FRAMEWORK

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This document outlines the framework for the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy to meet its duties and obligations to provide a high-quality education to all its pupils/students, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy therefore intends to work with Birmingham Local Authority and within the following principles, which underpin this policy:

- The involvement of children, parents and young people in decision making.
- The identification of children and young people's needs.
- Collaboration between education, health and social care services to provide support.
- High quality provision to meet the needs of children and young people with SEN.
- Greater choice and control for young people and parents over their support.
- Successful preparation for adulthood, including independent living and employment.

1. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy will have due regard to legislation, including, but not limited to:

- Children and Families Act 2014 (and related regulations)
- Health and Social Care Act 2012
- Equality Act 2010
- The Public Sector Equality Duty
- The Governance Handbook
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Lumen Christ Catholic Multi Academy Articles of Association
- Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Funding Agreement

It will also take into account statutory and non-statutory related guidance, including, but not limited to:

- SEN Code of Practice 0-25
- Supporting Children with Medical Conditions
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Working Together to Safeguard Children
- The School Admissions Code

2. DEFINITIONS

The law states that a child has a special educational need if he / she has a:

- Significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age.
- Disability or health condition which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions.

3. AREAS OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEED

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy will make provision for pupils/students with the following four kinds of need:

- Communication and interaction: Pupils with needs in this area have difficulty communicating with others. They may have difficulty understanding what is being said to them, have trouble expressing themselves, or do not understand or use the social rules of communication.
    - Pupils who are on the autism spectrum often have needs that fall in this category. for example, autistic spectrum disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, speech and language difficulties

- Cognition and learning: Pupils with learning difficulties usually learn at a slower pace than their peers. A wide range of needs are grouped in this area, including:
  - Specific learning difficulties, which impact 1 or more specific aspects of learning, such as: dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia.
  - Moderate learning difficulties
  - Severe learning difficulties
  - Profound and multiple learning difficulties, which is where pupils are likely to have severe and complex learning difficulties as well as a physical disability or sensory impairment.

- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties These needs may reflect a wide range of underlying difficulties or disorders. Pupils may have:
  - Mental health difficulties such as anxiety, depression or an eating disorder
  - Attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactive disorder or attachment disorder.
  - Suffered adverse childhood experiences.

  These needs can manifest in many ways, for example as challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour, or by the pupil becoming withdrawn or isolated.,

- Sensory and/or physical needs: Pupils with these needs have a disability that hinders them from accessing the educational facilities generally provided. Pupils may have:
  - A sensory impairment such as vision impairment, hearing impairment or multi-sensory impairment
  - A physical impairment

  These pupils may need ongoing additional support and equipment to access all the opportunities available to their peers.

4. ADMISSIONS

4.1. The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy will ensure it meets its duties under the Schools Admissions Code of Practice by:

4.1.1. Not refusing admission for a child that has named the school in their EHC plan.

4.1.2. Adopting fair practices and arrangements in accordance with the Schools Admission Code for the admission of children without an EHC plan.

4.1.3. Considering applications from parents of children who have SEN but do not have an EHC plan.

4.1.4. Not refusing admission for a child who has SEN but does not have an EHC plan because the school does not feel able to cater for those needs.

4.1.5. Not refusing admission for a child on the grounds that they do not have an EHC plan.

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. The Board of Directors has a responsibility to:

5.1.1. Ensure Lumen Christi schools and their School Standards Committees fully engage parents and / or young people with SEN when drawing up policies that affect them.

5.1.2. Ensure Lumen Christi schools identify, assess and make SEN provision for all children and young people with SEN, whether or not they have an EHC plan.

5.1.3. Ensure Lumen Christi schools use their best endeavours to secure the special educational provision called for by a child or young person's SEN.

5.2. The School Standards Committees (SSCs) have the responsibility to:

5.2.1. Designate an appropriate member of staff (the SEN co-ordinator or SENCO) as having responsibility for co-ordinating provision for pupils/students with SEN.

5.2.2. Appoint a designated teacher for 'looked after and previously looked after' children where appropriate.

5.2.3. Make reasonable adjustments for pupils/students with disabilities to help alleviate any substantial disadvantage they experience because of their disability.

5.2.4. Take necessary steps to ensure that pupils/students with disabilities are not discriminated against, harassed or victimised.

5.2.5. Publish annual information on the school's SEN Policy, setting out the measures and facilities to assist access for pupils/students with disabilities.

5.2.6. Publish annual information about the arrangements for the admission of pupils/students with disabilities, the steps taken to prevent children from being treated less favourably than others, the facilities provided to assist pupils/students with disabilities, and the school's accessibility plan.

5.2.7. Publish accessibility plans setting how they plan to increase access for pupils/students with disabilities to the curriculum, the physical environment and to information, reviewable every 3 years.

5.2.8. Develop complaints procedures which, along with details about appealing to the SEND Tribunal, will be made known to parents and pupils/students through a single point of access.

5.3. The Principals have a responsibility to:

5.3.1. Ensure that those teaching or working with the pupil are aware of their needs and have arrangements in place to meet them.

5.3.2. Ensure that teachers monitor and review the pupil's progress during the course of the academic year.

5.3.3. Cooperate with local authorities during annual EHC plan reviews.

5.3.4. Ensure that the SENCO has sufficient time and resources to carry out their functions.

5.3.5. Provide the SENCO with sufficient administrative support and time away from teaching to enable them to fulfil their responsibilities in a similar way to other important strategic roles within the school.

5.3.6. Regularly and carefully review the quality of teaching for pupils/students at risk of underachievement, as a core part of the school's performance management arrangements.

5.3.7. Ensure that teachers understand the strategies to identify and support vulnerable pupils/students and possess knowledge of the SEN most frequently encountered.

5.4. The SEN Coordinators (SENCO) must:

5.4.1. Be a qualified teacher.

5.4.2. Attain the National Award in Special Educational Needs Coordination within three years of appointment.

5.4.3. Collaborate with the School Standards Committee and Principal, as part of the school leadership team, to determine the strategic development of SEN policy and provision in the school.

5.4.4. Work with the SSC Representatives and the Principal to ensure that the school meets its responsibilities under the Equality Act (2010) with regard to reasonable adjustments and access arrangements.

5.4.5. Undertake day-to-day responsibility for the operation of SEN policy.

5.4.6. Coordinate the specific provision made to support individual children with SEN, including those who have EHC plans.
5.4.7. Liaise with the relevant designated teacher where a looked after pupil has SEN.
5.4.8. Advise on a graduated approach to providing SEN support.
5.4.9. Advise on the deployment of the school's delegated budget and other resources to meet pupils/students' needs effectively.
5.4.10. Liaise with the parents of pupils/students with SEN.
5.4.11. Liaise with early years providers, other schools, educational psychologists, health and social care professionals, and independent or voluntary bodies.
5.4.12. Be a key point of contact with external agencies, especially the LA and LA support services.
5.4.13. Liaise with the potential future providers of education to ensure that the pupil and their parents are informed about options and a smooth transition is planned.
5.4.14. Draw up a 1-page profile of the child or young person with SEN.
5.4.15. Provide professional guidance to colleagues and work closely with staff members, parents, carers, and other agencies, including SEN charities.
5.4.16. Be familiar with the provision in the Local Offer and be able to work with professionals providing a support role to the family.
5.4.17. Ensure, as far as possible, that pupils/students with SEN take part in activities of the school together with those who do not have SEN, including on fora.
5.4.18. Ensure that the school keeps the records of all pupils/students with SEN up-to-date.
5.4.19. Inform the child's parents that SEN provision is being made, where the child does not have an EHC plan.

5.5. Class/subject teachers must:
5.5.1. Plan and review support for their pupils/students with SEN, on a graduated basis, in collaboration with parents, the SENCO and, where appropriate, the pupil themselves.
5.5.2. Set high expectations for every pupil/student and aim to teach them the full curriculum, whatever their prior attainment.
5.5.3. Use appropriate assessment to set targets which are deliberately ambitious.
5.5.4. Plan lessons to address potential areas of difficulty and to ensure that there are no barriers to every pupil achieving.

6. INVOLVING PUPILS/STUDENTS AND PARENTS IN DECISION MAKING

6.1. Effective planning should help parents, children and young people with SEN express their needs, wishes and goals, and should:
6.1.1. Focus on the child or young person as an individual, not their SEN label.
6.1.2. Be easy for children, young people and their parents to understand and use clear ordinary language and images, rather than professional jargon.
6.1.3. Highlight the child or young person's strengths and capacities.
6.1.4. Enable the child or young person, and those who know them best, to say what they have done, what they are interested in and what outcomes they are seeking in future.
6.1.5. Tailor support to the needs of the individual.
6.1.6. Organise assessments to minimise demands on families.
6.1.7. Bring together relevant professionals to discuss and agree together the overall approach.

7. JOINT COMMISSIONING, PLANNING, AND DELIVERY

7.1. The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will collaborate with the local authority in the exercise of its duty to work together with health and social care providers by:

7.1.1. Identifying improved system outcomes in consultation with pupils/students and their parents, taking into account:

- Prevention.
- Early identification / recognition.
- How pupils/students and their families will be able to access services.
- How transitions between life stages and settings will be managed, including from early years to primary education, primary to secondary, and secondary to further education (FE).
- How provision and support services will enable pupils/students to prepare for their future adult life.

7.1.2. Draw on the wide range of local data-sets about the likely education needs of children and young people with SEN to forecast future need, including:

- Population and demographic data.
- Prevalence data for different kinds of SEN and disabilities among children and young people at national level.
- Numbers of local children with EHC plans and their main needs.
- The numbers and types of settings locally that work with or educate children with SEN and disability.
- An analysis of local challenges / sources of health inequalities.

7.1.3. Plan, deliver and monitor services against how well outcomes have been met, including, but not limited to:

- Improved educational progress and outcomes for children and young people with SEN.
- Increasing the proportion of children with SEN whose needs are identified before school entry.

8. FUNDING

8.1. The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will allocate the appropriate amount of core per-pupil funding and notional SEN budget outlined in the Local Offer for the SEN provision of its pupils/students.

8.2. Personal budgets are allocated from the local authority's high needs funding block and Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will continue to make SEN provision from its own budgets, even if a pupil has an EHC plan.

9. LOCAL OFFER

9.1. Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will cooperate generally with the local authority and local partners in the development and review of the Local Offer.

10.IDENTIFICATION

10.1. To identify pupils/students with SEN, Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will:
- 10.1.1. Assess each pupil's current skills and levels of attainment on entry.
- 10.1.2. Make regular assessments of all pupils/students to ensure that the intervention:
  - Ensures that the child's progress is similar to that of their peers starting from the same baseline.
  - Matches or betters the child's previous rate of progress.
  - Closes the attainment gap between the child and their peers.
  - Prevents the attainment gap growing wider.

10.2. Schools will provide extra support to pupils/students falling behind or making inadequate progress given their age and starting point.

10.3. Assess whether a pupil has a significant learning difficulty where pupils/students continue to make inadequate progress, despite high-quality teaching targeted at their areas of weakness.

11.GRADUATED APPROACH

11.1. Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will, once a potential SEN has been identified, employ the graduated approach to meeting the pupil's needs, including:
- 11.1.1. Establishing a clear **assessment** of the pupil's needs.
- 11.1.2. **Planning** with the pupil's parents, the interventions and support to be put in place, as well as the expected impact on progress, development and behaviour, along with a clear date for review.
- 11.1.3. **Implementing** the interventions, with support of the SENCO.
- 11.1.4. **Reviewing** the effectiveness of the interventions and making any necessary revisions.

11.2. The interventions can be implemented through graded response where a pupil:
- 11.2.1. Makes little or no progress when teaching approaches are targeted specifically at a child's identified areas of weakness.
- 11.2.2. Shows signs of difficulty in developing literacy or mathematical skills which result in poor attainment in some curriculum areas.
- 11.2.3. Presents persistent emotional or behavioural difficulties which are not ameliorated by the positive behaviour management techniques employed by the school.
- 11.2.4. Has sensory or physical problems and continues to make little or no progress despite the provision of specialist equipment.
- 11.2.5. Has communication and / or interaction difficulties, and continues to make little or no progress, despite the provision of a differentiated curriculum.

12.SEN SUPPORT

12.1. The relevant teacher or SENCO, in consultation with parents, will talk with the parents about seeking advice from external support services, if a pupil:
- 12.1.1. Continues to make little or no progress in specific areas over a long period.
- 12.1.2. Continues working at National Curriculum levels substantially below that expected of children of a similar age.
- 12.1.3. Continues to have difficulty in developing literacy and mathematical skills.
- 12.1.4. Has emotional or behavioural difficulties which substantially and regularly interfere with the child's own learning or that of the class group, despite having an individualised behaviour management programme.
- 12.1.5. Has sensory or physical needs, and requires specialist equipment or regular advice or visits by a specialist service.

12.1.6. Has an ongoing communication or interaction difficulty that impedes the development of social relationships and causes substantial barriers to learning.

13. ASSESSMENT

13.1. Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will, in consultation with the pupil's parents, request a statutory assessment of SEN where the pupil's needs cannot be met through the resources normally available within the school.

13.2. The school will meet its duty to respond to any request for information relating to a statutory assessment, to the local authority, within 6 weeks of receipt.

13.3. If the decision is taken not to issue an EHC plan, the school will consider and implement the recommendations of feedback from the local authority, regarding how the pupil's outcomes can be met through the schools existing provision.

14. EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE (EHC) PLANS

14.1. Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will meet their duty to respond to the local authority within 15 days, if it is named on a pupil's EHC plan.

14.2. The school will admit any child that names the school in an EHC plan.

14.3. The school will ensure that all those teaching or working with a child named in an EHC plan, are aware of the pupil's needs and that arrangements are in place in to meet them.

14.4. The school will request a re-assessment of an EHC plan at least 6 months following an initial assessment, if a pupil's need significantly change.

15. REVIEWING AN EHC PLAN

15.1. Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will:

15.1.1. Cooperate to ensure an annual review meeting takes place, including convening the meeting on behalf of the local authority if requested.

15.1.2. Ensure that sufficient arrangements are put in place at the school to host the annual review meeting.

15.1.3. Seek advice and information about the pupil prior to the annual review meeting from all parties invited.

15.1.4. Send any advice and information gathered to all those invited at least two weeks prior to the annual review meeting.

15.1.5. Cooperate with the local authority during annual reviews.

15.1.6. Prepare and send a report of the meeting to everyone invited within 2 weeks of the meeting.

15.1.7. Ensure that a review of a pupil's EHC plan is undertaken at least 7 months before transfer to another phase of education.

16. SEN AND DISABILITY TRIBUNAL

16.1. Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will meet any request to attend a SEND Tribunal and explain any departure from its duties and obligations under the SEN Code of Practice.

17. PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD

17.1. Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy will ensure that it meets its duty to secure independent, impartial careers guidance for pupils/students aged 8-13, including:

17.1.1. Preparation for adulthood in the planning meetings with pupils/students and parents from year 9.

17.1.2. Helping pupils/students and their families prepare for the change in legal status once a young person is over compulsory school age.

17.1.3. Ensuring that careers advice and information provides high aspirations and a wide range of options for pupils/students with SEN.
17.1.4. Helping pupils/students and parents understand and explore how the support they will receive in school will change as they move into different settings, and what support they are likely to need to achieve their ambitions.
17.1.5. Securing access to independent face-to-face support for pupils/students with SEN or disabilities to make successful transitions.

18.DATA AND RECORD KEEPING

18.1. Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will:
18.1.1. Include details of SEN, outcomes, teaching strategies and the involvement of specialists, as part of its standard system to monitor the progress, behaviour and development of all pupils/students.
18.1.2. Maintain an accurate and up-to-date register of the provision made for pupils/students with SEN.
18.1.3. Record details or additional or different SEN provision on a provision map.

19.CONFIDENTIALITY

19.1. Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy schools will not disclose any EHC plan without the consent of the pupil's parents with the exception of disclosure:
19.1.1. To the SEN and Disability Tribunal when parents appeal and to the Secretary of State if complaint is made under the Education Act 1996.
19.1.2. On the order of any court for the purpose of any criminal proceedings.
19.1.3. For the purposes of investigations of maladministration under the Local Government Act 1974.
19.1.4. To enable any authority to perform duties arising from the Disabled Persons (Services, Consultation and Representation) Act 1986 or from the Children Act relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
19.1.5. To Ofsted inspection teams as part of their inspections of schools and local authorities.
19.1.6. To any person in connection with the pupil's application for disabled students' allowance in advance of taking up a place in higher education.
19.1.7. To the principal (or equivalent position) of the institution at which the pupil is intending to start higher education.

Date Approved/Approving Body:	28.2.2024
Signed:	Matt Hill, Chair of Curriculum & Standards Committee
Minuted:	Hollie Parrish, 28.2.24
Date of Next Review:	Spring 2025