

SEND Policy

Role Responsible:	Assistant Principal (Transition & Engagement)
Written by:	Assistant Principal (Students)
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Itchen College is an inclusive college, which seeks to serve the needs of its community. It welcomes students with disabilities and special educational needs. It is a Centre of Excellence for visual impairment. It prides itself in providing students with a high standard of personalized support, to enable them to succeed.

The College enables access to learning, and all other aspects of college life, for students with special educational needs and disabilities, subject to interview, assessment, and availability of resources, to meet the identified, expressed needs.

1. Special Educational Needs and Disabilities:

All young people may experience learning difficulties at some time during their educational career. These needs encompass a wide range from the transitory to the long term and thus the provision for supporting learning should vary according to the needs of the individual student. The SEND Code of Practice (2014) states that: "A young person has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them".

"A young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they:

- have significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream post-16 institutions."

The 2014 Code of Practice does not assume that there are hard and fast categories of LDD but recognizes that the needs of the young person fall into four broad areas:

- Communication and interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, mental and emotional health

- Sensory and/or physical needs

The Equalities Act (2010) defines disability and learning difficulty as a “physical or mental impairment” which has “substantial and long term adverse effects on normal day-to-day activities.” Here, “substantial” means “more than minor or trivial” and “long-term” means that the impairment has existed for at least 12 months, or is likely to do so.

2. Itchen College’s SEND aims:

- To ensure that all students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum, and high quality teaching that is fully inclusive
- To provide a differentiated curriculum and /or reasonable adjustments to it, as appropriate to the individual’s needs
- To ensure the identification of all students requiring additional support as early as possible in their college career
- To ensure effective assessment, monitoring and review of students’ special educational needs and disabilities within college procedures
- To provide support for students with special educational needs and disabilities, which takes into account the young person’s views about the support they would like, and the outcomes that are recorded in the student’s Education, Health and Care plan, if they have one
- To ensure that students with special educational needs and disabilities play as full a part as possible in all college activities
- To ensure that parents/carers of students with SEND are kept fully informed of their child’s progress and achievements
- To seek external specialist advice and guidance for all students with special educational needs and disabilities, as and when they may need it
- To support the progression onto their chosen destination for all students with special educational needs and disabilities, taking into account the Preparation for Adulthood key outcomes

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3. Policy Objectives:

- Identify students with possible learning needs prior to entry
- Meet the individual needs in the most appropriate way
- Match the programme of study to the specific learning needs of students
- Promote independent learning for all students with special educational needs and disabilities, within the context of their particular needs
- Review the progress and changing support needs of individual students and make adjustments, if appropriate

- Co-ordinate the efficient use of resources to meet the needs of students with special educational needs and disabilities
- Liaise closely with subject staff with regard to meeting individual SEN students' needs
- Monitor the quality of the support provided by the department through annual selfassessment reports
- Seek the views of students and staff involved within the learning support process, in order to evaluate the provision
- Liaise with external agencies, including Local Authorities, to ensure that the needs of students are met, through accessing all sources of information, advice and specialist resources.
- Comply with the relevant statutory requirements for annual reviews for students with Education, Health and Care plans that are person-centered.

Equality impact and monitoring the policy and procedure

In monitoring the impact of this policy and procedure, the College will have due regard to its Equality and Diversity Policy and its single Equality Duty. It will consider any concerns raised or complaints received, based on student and staff data, feedback, surveys and/or professional judgement. If you have a question or a suggestion to improve the policy, please contact the Assistant Principal.

For details of procedures, please see Itchen College's Local Offer, on the college's website.