



## SEN Information Report

### (The Westwood Academy Local Offer)

#### **General statement**

We are a fully inclusive mainstream school and we strive to ensure that all pupils achieve their potential personally, socially, emotionally and academically in all areas of the curriculum (regardless of their gender, ethnicity, social background, religion, sexual identity, physical ability or educational needs). This document is intended to give you information regarding the ways in which we ensure we support all of our pupils, including those with SEN, in order that they can realise their full potential. It may not list every skill, resource and technique we employ in order to achieve this as these are continually developed and used to modify our provision to meet the changing requirements for individual pupils.

#### Does the Westwood Academy accept children with special educational needs?

We are a mainstream school and most of our pupils are expected to reach the education standards for their age. A number of our pupils do have special educational needs which include: communication and interaction needs, cognition and learning needs, or sensory and physical needs. We have a specialist Speech and Language Unit on site but this provision is only available for pupils with such provision named in their statement/EHC plan.

#### How will The Westwood Academy know if a pupil has SEN? How are parents, carers and other professionals informed and involved in the process?

Some pupils will transfer from primary school with an Education Health and Social Care plan, (EHC) or will be on the SEN register. Other pupils may be identified as having SEN while at The Westwood Academy.

A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them. A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they:

- (a) Have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age; or
- (b) Have a disability 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.

We identify pupils as having SEN when they have an EHC plan, their academic attainment falls below the 8<sup>th</sup> percentile for their age group, they have a diagnosed and recognised difficulty which affects their learning, or they have consistently failed to make progress and this cannot be attributed to external factors. Our teachers closely monitor the progress made by all pupils and ask advice from the SENCo as soon as they have concerns about any pupil. The SENCo may offer advice to an individual teacher or seek the views of other teachers who work with that pupil, in order to see if a more widespread response is needed.

If a difficulty persists then there may be a within school assessment in order to determine a specific course of action. As a result of this assessment the pupil may be defined as having a special educational need or referred for other intervention.

If a pupil is identified as having SEN we will contact parents, carers and other relevant parties and invite them to come into school to discuss how we can all ensure that progress is being made. An Individual Education Plan (IEP) will then be developed, and shared with all those adults working with the pupil. The plan will be regularly reviewed with the pupil, and all those involved.

Is there any extra support available to help pupils with SEN with their learning?

Any support provided will always be considered in the light of the type of need, the purpose of the support and expected outcomes.

Pupils with SEN might be supported in any of the following ways:

- Individual or small group withdrawal.
- A specialist class or group.
- In class support for a limited period.
- Technological support.
- Special arrangements for examinations.
- Intervention from external agencies.

How do you make sure that the SEN support is helping pupils make good progress?

The general progress of pupils on the SEN register is monitored termly through teacher assessment and grades. Progress towards individual SEN targets will also be assessed regularly. This may be weekly, termly or annually as appropriate. Progress will be discussed at regular reviews.

What arrangements are there for supporting pupils who are moving between different phases of education?

All pupils with an Education, Health and Social Care plan will have support from the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership from Year 8 onwards.

What support is available for improving the social and emotional development of your pupils?

We have a Social Inclusion and Safeguarding co-ordinator in place. There is an extensive pastoral and mentoring program in place with support College Directors who are available to focus on the needs of their pupils. We run social skills groups for children diagnosed with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

How do your teachers help pupils with learning difficulties or disabilities to learn, including what they learn? How can I find out more about what my son or daughter is learning at the moment?

The teacher will have the highest possible expectations for all pupils in his or her class. All teaching is based on building upon what the pupil already knows, can do and can understand. The teacher/s will put in place different ways of teaching so that the pupil is fully involved in learning in class. This may involve things like using more practical learning or providing different resources, including ICT. The teacher will also put in place specific strategies (which may be suggested by the SENCo or specialists from outside agencies) to enable your son or daughter to access the learning tasks. All pupils in school receive this.

There is more information about the school curriculum on our website at;

<http://www.thewestwoodacademy.co.uk/curriculum.html>

How have you made the school buildings and site safe and welcoming for pupils with SEN or disabilities?

Both buildings have a lift so that pupils can access all classrooms. There are two disabled toilets in the main block and one in the other block. There is a hygiene suite in the main building. The school has ramps so that all areas outside the school buildings can be reached. Pupils who need it will have a personal evacuation plan to be used in case of an emergency.

What social, before and after school and other activities are available for pupils with SEN?

Social activities and clubs are open to all of our pupils.

Do any of your staff have specialist training?

In addition to being a teacher with a Masters' Degree in SEN and Inclusion, our SENCo is a qualified psychologist. Our high level teaching assistant has a degree in Child Development and a specialist qualification in working with children with a diagnosis of Autism. Some teaching assistants are trained in manual handling techniques while others have completed qualifications which include ASD and dyslexia.

Which outside agencies would be available to support if needed?

<http://www.coventry.gov.uk/sendlocaloffer>

Who should I contact if I'm not happy with my son or daughter's learning and / or progress and they have Special Educational Needs?

In the first instance you should contact your child's College Director. If you are still not satisfied then you should contact the Director of Inclusion: [lkendall@thewestwoodacademy.co.uk](mailto:lkendall@thewestwoodacademy.co.uk)

The Head Teacher or governor with responsibility for SEN will deal with complaints. The Head Teacher and SEN Governor can be contacted at; [admin@thewestwoodacademy.co.uk](mailto:admin@thewestwoodacademy.co.uk)

Where can I find the school SEN Policy?

Our policies on SEN and access will give you the information you need about how we make provision for all pupils with SEN. These can be found on The Westwood Academy Website in the policy section.

If you would like to discuss our SEN provision or find out more, please contact our Director of Inclusion, Lyn Kendall, at [lkendall@thewestwoodacademy.co.uk](mailto:lkendall@thewestwoodacademy.co.uk)

Who should I contact to find out about external support for parents/carers and families of pupils with SEN or disabilities?

<http://www.coventry.gov.uk/sendlocaloffer>