



# Grace Academy

'A great place to work, to learn and to achieve'.

## *SEND Local Offer 2024-2025*

At Grace Academy, we strive to provide the best possible support for pupils with Special Educational Needs, disabilities and other additional or medical needs. The SEND team are highly trained in a range of special educational needs and disabilities. We pride ourselves on developing strong relationships with parents and carers, and hope that you will find this information helpful.



### Meet Our Team

Mrs. L Cavell: SENCO

Mr. S Coley: Lead SEN coordinator (Teaching and Learning)

Miss T Lunn: Assistant SENCO (EHCP keyworker)

Mrs. S Bhachu: HLTA (Screener coordinator/year 11/16 keyworker)

Mrs. J Howell: HLTA (Intervention lead/EHCP keyworker)

Mr. P Godridge: HLTA (Year 11 keyworker/Maths intervention)

Miss C Sparkes LSA (Year 8 keyworker)

Miss C Bradshaw (Year 9 Keyworker)

Miss A Clarke (Year 10 Keyworker)

Mr. C East (Hub Lead/year 7 keyworker)

Miss J Patel ( LSA/post 16 keyworker)

Mrs. N Mullender (LSA/year 7 keyworker)

Mrs. N Kumar (SEN administration)

## **How do we classify pupils with special educational and additional needs?**

### **SEND Support**

At SEND Support, pupils feature on the Academy's SEND list. This means that they need some external or additional support, on top of the quality teaching that they receive, in order to make expected progress.

If we feel that a child would benefit from SEN Support, we will invite you and your child to complete an ISP (Individual Support Plan) or pupil passport with us. This document is then shared with teaching staff through Provision Map. It details how teaching staff may adapt their teaching methods to meet your child's needs, and informs staff of additional support your child is in receipt of.

We will liaise with external agencies as detailed in the Information Report on our website, in order to facilitate the best quality intervention to help your child progress. This is detailed through regular analysis of your child's progress both socially and academically.

If your child is at SEN Support you can expect their plan to be reviewed at least 3 times in the academic year. Once in person and then twice digitally. You will also be able to discuss any issues with the team at your child's designated parents evening.

If SEN Support is not helping your child to progress, in partnership with you, we may decide to apply for an Education Health Care Plan in order to access further funding and support for your child.



## **EHCP provision**

Pupils in receipt of an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan) are entitled to additional, bespoke support in school.

The level of support is determined by a thorough assessment conducted by the SEND team at Walsall Education Authority, accompanied by advice from other professional agencies.

The plan will then be reviewed annually in a meeting between parents/carers, the child, school, invited professionals and in some cases a representative from the local authority.

### **What is an EHCP?**

An education, care and health plan (EHCP) is a legal document which describes a young person's special educational needs or disabilities.

An EHCP is issued by the local authority to ensure that children and young people all have access to the same learning opportunities regardless of their individual needs.

An EHCP replaced a Statement of Special Educational Need when the revised code of practice was introduced in 2014.

An EHCP is for a child or young person with complex or significant additional needs and is granted only when a school's normal support mechanisms or resources fail to meet the needs of a given individual.

More information and advice on SEN support and EHCP's can be found at

[Walsallsendiass@family-action.org.uk](mailto:Walsallsendiass@family-action.org.uk)

[sen@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:sen@walsall.gov.uk)

<https://www.gov.uk/children-with-special-educational-needs/extra-SEN-help>

# Nurture

## Transition

- \* A bespoke programme designed to support year 6 children during the transition to secondary school.
- \* Incorporates a variety of workshops and visits, held both at Grace Academy and at your child's school.
- \* Opportunities are provided to share information between key staff in order to pre-plan for your child's transition.

## The Hub

- \* Additional supervised provision during the school day.
- \* An opportunity to promote socialisation across academy year groups in a nurturing environment.
- \* **Before school:** Ensuring that students start the day prepared and ready to learn.
- \* **Break time:** An opportunity to socialise across academy year groups.
- \* **Lunch time:** An opportunity to socialise and engage in a variety of activities.
- \* **During lesson time:** Supported learning opportunities managed by Hub Lead

## Sensory provision

- \* **Sensory room:** Fully equipped space to support students with sensory overload and self-regulation of emotions.
- \* **Active room:** Fully equipped space to support students with self-regulation of emotions and to alleviate risk of becoming potentially volatile.
- \* **Focus aids:** Access to a variety of specialist focus aids to support focus and concentration

# Enrichment

## Homework Club

- \* After school enrichment that provides students with the support and materials they may require to complete essential homework tasks/activities.
- \* Support staff are on hand to advise and support students
- \* Monday—Thursday (3.00—4.00)

## Our after school clubs also include:

- \* **Craft Club** - Make and take a project made by you
- \* **Lego Club** - Encourage your creativity and enhance social skills through the art of Lego
- \* **Sports Club** - Small group activities (table cricket, Boccia)



# Additional Intervention

- \* The academy is equipped to provide additional specialist support in the following areas usually as a form time intervention or if required through lesson extraction
- \* Ruth Miskin
- \* First news reading
- \* SNIP - Spelling programme
- \* Basic Maths Skills
- \* Speech and language
- \* Additional English and Maths tutoring
- \* Motor skills
- \* Life skills
- \* Safety workshops
- \* social skills
- \* Anger management
- \* ELSA
- \* Revision support for year 11

# Exams

## Exam dispensation

- \* Students with additional learning needs may require support during tests and examinations. An application can be made to exam boards at the start of year 10, in consultation with parents /carers and students, to access this support.
- \* In some cases a specialised assessment is necessary, and these are conducted by our Educational Psychologist.
- \* The exam board will make the decision as to whether dispensation is appropriate. Their decision is usually based upon tests and recommendations made by a specialist assessor in school.
- \* Support available may include extra time; help with reading and writing; the permitted use of a laptop (with certain functions disabled) and modified papers for students with a visual impairment or dyslexia.

# Dyslexia

## Dyslexia

- \* The SEND team are trained to run screening for pupils who may have dyslexia. On the basis of this they can make recommendations to teachers and parents regarding support for the child.
- \* Additional resources are provided in every classroom, such as coloured overlays, buff coloured exercise books, post it notes and highlighters to support dyslexic pupils on a day to day basis.
- \* Members of the SEND team have undertaken training in order to understand dyslexia, and to support dyslexic pupils as they progress through the curriculum.

# Dyscalculia

## Dyscalculia

- \* The SEND team are trained to run screening for pupils who may have dyscalculia. On the basis of this they can make recommendations to teachers and parents regarding support for the child.
- \* Additional resources are provided for students with dyscalculia in order to support them in accessing the curriculum fully.



# Curriculum

## 1-1 Support

- \* This may sometimes be necessary to support learning taking place in the classroom.
- \* 1-1 support provides an opportunity to 'overlearn', 'pre-teach' or to develop basic skills. 1-1 support can also be provided to help older students organise and develop coursework.

## Adapted Curriculum

- \* Cross curricular differentiation to support the needs of small groups and individual students (Specialist resources, individualised learning programmes)
- \* Supporting individual learning styles
- \* Adapted and specific homework opportunities to assess levels of learning
- \* Alternative learning spaces to support individual needs as required.
- \* Reasonable Adaptations made developed with advice from outside agencies (Educational Psychology, Speech and Language, Occupational Health, CAMHS)

## Small group teaching

- \* HLTAs may, at times, extract small groups from classes in order to provide more intensive, specialist teaching of the subject.

## Specialist resources

The SEND department offer a range of specialist equipment to support pupils' access to the curriculum for example:

- Refocus aids / chew bangles
- Reading pens
- Laptop provision
- Specialist pens and pencils
- Specialist dictionaries (ACE dyslexia dictionaries)
- Writing slopes
- Stress aids

# EAL

## English as an additional language

- \* The Academy employs an EAL Co-ordinator, Mrs I Roelake, who plans interventions and support to maximise the progress of pupils who have English as an Additional Language. She works closely with the SEND team to ensure that pupils' needs are addressed and supported.

# Review Cycle

- SEN review meetings are scheduled for students with an EHCP or on the list at SEN K.
- Assessment data is analysed at every data point for all students (At least 3 times per year).
- Reviews of support are undertaken after each data analysis point in close liaison with the Head of Year/ Head of Key Stage.
- Interventions are negotiated through regular reviews and collaboration with teachers.

## What other information is available?

- Visit the Academy's website to read the full SEND information report.
- E mail the SENCO - [laurencavell@darlaston.graceacademy.org.uk](mailto:laurencavell@darlaston.graceacademy.org.uk)

