

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND) POLICY

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The college is committed to ensuring that all its learners and prospective learners receive appropriate and high-quality support in order to remove any potential barriers to learning. This ensures that all learners have the opportunity to not only reach their academic goals but also, to develop their confidence, independence and employability in order to prepare them for progression beyond college.

Learning Support offers responsive cross-college provision to students with additional needs spanning the whole curriculum and catering for a diverse range of difficulties/disabilities. The College will, wherever possible make reasonable adjustments to accommodate the needs of learners with difficulties/disabilities.

The college celebrates and actively promotes a culture of diversity and inclusivity and aims to transform lives as reflected in our mission statement: *“transform lives by offering first class education and training in order to improve employability and generate economic prosperity”*

2. POLICY CONTEXT

The framework for this policy is informed by: The Children and Families Act 2014, Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0-25 years (2014) and Equality Act (2010).

Support is learner focused and is provided across all areas of the College including discreet programmes for learners with LDD. This applies to all learners with difficulties/disabilities but specifically applies to learners who have an Education Health and Care Plan and/or those who are assessed to be high needs. The college works closely with Local Authorities to ensure that resources are available to support learners with high needs.

Support for learners on adult programmes may be subject to funding entitlement. Support for HE programmes is funded through the Disabled Students Allowance (DSA).

3. POLICY OBJECTIVES

- To work within the SEND Code of Practice guidance 2014.
- To proactively identify and put in place appropriate provision of support for young people who have SEND and additional needs.
- To ensure that stakeholders have a clear understanding of the support offer.
- To provide support and advice for all staff working with young people with SEND – teaching and supporting students with SEND is the responsibility of the whole College and requires a collaborative and inclusive approach.

4. ADMISSIONS AND DISCLOSURES

The college promotes inclusivity and aims to accept students with a wide range of special educational needs and disabilities provided they meet college requirements. Every effort is made to meet individual needs and the offer of support for students will be evidence-based.

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Students who disclosed the need for support will be invited in to meet a member of college staff for further discussion regarding support requirements. Students can disclose their support needs at various points including: -

- At the application stage
- During individual interviews
- During enrolment
- At any point during the course through self-referral or teacher referral
- The local authority will inform the College of the potential students who have obtained an EHCP

5. IMPLEMENTATION

Delivery of Learning Support- Once an assessment is carried out support will be confirmed.

Support ranges from adjusted teaching and In-Class Support, to more specialist support (depending on individual needs) including:

- In class support
- Out of class support either in small groups or one to one
- Access arrangements to help in exams (if the learner is eligible for these)
- Use of Assistive Technology and equipment
- Communication Support
- Specialist software
- Personal care
- Access to ALS learning hub at Beaufort Road campus

All support arrangements are determined by discussion and assessment with the individual learner parent/carer and other agencies where appropriate. All discussions about the best type of support are “learner led” as we consider learner voice and independence in decision making to be key to successful outcomes.

The need for Learning Support may arise as a result of one or more of the following:

- The learner has an identified learning difficulty/disability/medical condition (SEND) which has implications for their learning.
- The learner requires support with literacy or numeracy or Language (where this is not their main learning goal)

The Learning Support Team work alongside curriculum teams and in partnership with other agencies to:

- Identify learners with special educational needs and disabilities to ensure that their needs are met
- Develop the whole learner; physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually
- Recognise the importance of each learner’s self-esteem and self-value and enhance this wherever possible
- Provide learners who have SEND with appropriate careers advice and guidance both at the start of their journey with us and in preparing them for progression beyond College
- Ensure that learners with special educational needs and disabilities are able to join in with all the activities of the College or appropriate differentiated activities
- Ensure that all learners make the best possible progress and remove barriers which might prevent them achieving this
- Ensure that parents/carers/guardians are kept informed (where relevant) of their son/daughter’s needs and that there is effective communication between these parties and other relevant agencies
- Ensure effective working partnerships with Local Authorities in relation to learners with Education Health and Care Plans and high needs funding

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- Ensure that all learners are able to express their views and are fully involved in decisions which affect their education
- Promote effective partnerships and involve outside agencies when appropriate
- Maintain effective links with partner schools, local authorities and other agencies in relation to transition from school to college
- Provide equal access to a broad and balanced curriculum, inclusive of all equality groups and regardless of personal circumstance or special educational needs and disabilities

6. LOCATION AND ACCESS TO THE POLICY

The Learning Support and SEND Policy, supporting policies and other documents are available via CollegeiP on the College network.

7. POLICY STATUS

Written by: Assistant Principal, Student Experience
 Approved by: Senior Leadership Team
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