

The County High School Leftwich: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities School Information Report 2019-2020.

The following information Report, contains our contribution to Cheshire West and Chester's Local Offer. The full Local Offer of services for those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities can be www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

How do we know if our young people need extra help and what should I do if I think my child/young person may have special educational needs?

- Once your child has been allocated a place at The County High School, Leftwich our Transition Co-ordinator will visit all of the associated Primary schools and the SENDCo will work closely with her to identify students who may need additional support, based upon the learning and progress information shared by the primary school teachers. The SENDCo will visit schools if necessary and may also communicate with parents.

During our main transition event in early July, all students will undergo a standardised reading test to enable us to plan for Year 7 reading intervention programmes. Additionally, later in the summer term, the SENDCo will analyse Key Stage 2 results in order to ascertain whether additional support may be required in Numeracy and Literacy.

Vulnerable SEN students will be invited to attend additional transition sessions in order for them to familiarise themselves with the school and for our Learning Support department to get to know your child. Furthermore, for those students with an EHCP, the SENDCo will endeavour to attend the Annual Review and Action for Inclusion meetings, held at the primary school.

- When your child is on roll, student achievement and progress is closely monitored by Subject Teachers, Form Tutors and Year Leaders. The SENDCo works within the 'Student Support and Progress' team in order to identify any potential issues that a student may have. Learning Support Assistants in classrooms will also monitor student participation and share any concerns with the SENDCo.

Once areas of concern are identified, parents will be contacted in the first instance and further assessments and testing may be carried out by our Learning Support team.

- If you have any concerns regarding your child's needs, do contact the SENDCo directly.

How will school support my child/young person?

- All staff will be fully informed about your child's needs and will adapt their lessons appropriately.
- If your child/young person has an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), the SENDCo will follow the objectives outlined within it, in order to create a detailed provision map which will identify the interventions that they will receive along with the desired outcome. The SENDCo will invite parents in to discuss the plan which will be regularly evaluated.
- In the absence of an EHCP, the SENDCo will seek guidance from other professionals who have worked/are working with your child/young person, along with consulting yourselves, before provisions are put in place.
- Most Learning Support Assistants work in subject areas and as such are highly skilled at supporting your child/young person with their learning in individual subjects.
- Learning Support assistants may be present in classrooms to further support the work of the classroom teacher, either 1-1 or in small groups.

- If specific literacy and/or numeracy issues are identified, students may be invited to attend additional intervention sessions during registration, at lunch times or after-school.
- Students with EHCPs will be supported in mainstream classrooms by Learning Support Assistants.
- A smaller number of Learning Support assistants will work in our Learning Inclusion room (LINC). Here, we deliver bespoke interventions to our students which could include handwriting practice, touch typing, specialist dyslexia support, over-learning of previously taught subject material. Where appropriate, additional bespoke Dyslexia support is delivered in the LINC.
- Learning Support operate a Homework club, Monday-Thursday, 3.20-4.30 and Friday 3.20-4.00. Here students can complete work and receive help from Learning Support assistants. This is open to ALL students and does not need to be pre-arranged.
- Students experiencing emotional issues which are preventing their full engagement with learning may complete a package of work with our Emotional Learning Support Assistant (ELSA) or one of our Education Support Workers (ESW) in our Student Support Centre (SSC).
- We work closely with parents. Concerns and successes are shared regularly, both by telephone and by email. Parents are encouraged to contact school with any issues.
- School will also work closely with partner agencies in health to support students with diagnosed conditions.

How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

- We aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all of our students. For students whose special educational need necessitates, we deliver a bespoke curriculum that allows them to develop the essential core skills whilst still maintaining appropriate variety and challenge. Once your child approaches Key Stage 4, the SENDCo will investigate the need for additional access arrangements in examinations.

How will both the school and I know how my child/young person is doing and how will you help me to support their learning?

- All students in Years 7-10 are formally assessed and this is reported on twice per year. Students' tracking reports will be emailed home and/or sent with the child/young person. For students in Year 11, this process is carried out three times in the year. The SENDCo will receive copies of student tracking reports and will be analysed to determine whether appropriate progress is being made. In the event of concerns being raised, in conjunction with the child/young person's Form Tutor or Year Leader, the SENDCo may invite parents/carers into school to discuss ways in which we can all support the student.
- Students on the Special Educational Needs register will be regularly monitored by the Learning Support team and parents/carers contacted if and when appropriate.
- Subject teachers, Form tutors and Year Leaders may contact home at any point to share success and concerns.
- Parents and carers are encouraged to contact school to discuss areas of concern. If these concerns specifically relate to perceived issues with your child/young person's ability to learn, then the SENDCo should be contacted gashford@leftwichhigh.com. In the event of concerns regarding behaviour and other matters, emails should be directed to admin@leftwichhigh.com with the child/young person's name and form tutor clearly identified.

What support will there be for my child/young person's overall well-being?

- The County High School has excellent pastoral care. Under normal circumstances, students will be placed in a tutor group with a Form Tutor and this will remain in place for their whole 5 years in school. Additionally, the Year Leader will lead and support your child throughout their learning journey. This gives us and yourselves the opportunity to build excellent working relationships to support your child/young person.
- Children and Young People study a variety of issues around their own social, emotional and mental wellbeing in Education for Life lessons, which are led by Form Tutors. Here we encourage our students to be supportive of each other and contribute their own viewpoints on a variety of issues around wellbeing.
- The County High School, Leftwich has both Year Councils and a School Council group which meet regularly with senior staff in order that the student voice is heard and acted upon, where appropriate.
- The school employs a Councillor and three Education Support Workers who work closely with identified students to ensure appropriate emotional support is provided when necessary.
- In school, we have a Student Support Centre and an Internal Exclusion room (IER) where, depending upon circumstances, students are given an opportunity to work through issues which are preventing their access to lessons.
- We also have two Emotional Learning Support Assistants who provide medium term interventions to support our students to access their lessons.
- The County High School, Leftwich also works closely with outside agencies including Education Access team, Young Persons services, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, Visyon and Social Care.

What SEND specific training and experience do classroom teachers and the Learning Support team have?

- The County High School operates an ongoing cycle of professional development which includes packages on how to support students with SEND.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- How to support students with hearing impairments.
- Supporting young people with Autism
- Whole school approaches to teaching students with ADHD, Autism and Dyslexia.
- The SENDCo holds the National Award for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordination. Our 2nd in Learning Support is a qualified teacher of Dyslexic students.

How will my child/young person be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips?

- We will endeavour to plan extra-curricular activities which are accessible to all. Reasonable adjustments will be made and Learning Support assistants will be made available to support your child/young person if necessary, whether the activity is on or off site and during the working day. For residential trips, each case will be considered on an individual basis, with every effort being made to allow your child/young person to access the activity.

How accessible is the school?

- The school is accessible by wheelchair however, classrooms are distributed over 3 floors and the ground floor has several sets of steps in its layout.
- We have an easily accessible, disabled toilet and changing facilities.

- There are designated quiet rooms at lunchtimes along with the LINC, where students may sit, if they need to access a quiet space.
- In the event of the SENDCo and yourselves deciding that your child/Young Person should type their work instead of handwriting it, laptops are readily available for both class work and exams.

How will my child/young person be prepared and supported in their transfer to college and work?

- All students will participate in taught lessons specifically related to transition to further education and employment, during their Education for Life lessons.
- All students in Years 9, 10 and 11 will be invited to attend our annual Careers Fair where they can meet with local colleges, employers and other Post-16 Providers.
- All Year 10 students will have an opportunity to prepare for and participate in, a formal interview. Identified students may be supported by our Learning Support team through this process.
- In Years 10 and 11, all students will have access to our Careers Advisor who will arrange to meet each student individually.
- When appropriate and necessary, students with special educational needs, may meet with a representative from Young Persons Services (YPS) to create a bespoke action plan regarding next steps beyond The County High School, Leftwich.
- When appropriate and necessary, we will support young people and yourself with tours and taster sessions at chosen colleges.
- The SENDCo will work closely with her counterpart in our local colleges to ensure that all information is shared in order that your child/young person receives the appropriate level of support in their new setting.