



SEND Information Report 2018

School Mission Statement

The English Martyrs School and Sixth form College is

Founded On Truth

To learn and live the Gospel values on which our faith is rooted

Built on Justice

Whereby we judge with integrity and wisdom and act with mercy and compassion.

Animated by Love

Living in community with each other in fairness and with equality as Jesus teaches us.

“A child has special educational needs if he or she has learning difficulties that call for special educational provision to be made...”

Introduction

Welcome to our SEND information report which is part of the Hartlepool local offer for learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Hartlepool local offer can be found on Hartlepool Council website: https://hartlepool.fsd.org.uk/kb5/hartlepool/fsd/local_offer.page

For ease of use we have broken down the local offer into questions in separate parts in this document. The answers to these questions should allow parents and carers the opportunity to find the best possible education for their children.

English Martyrs is an inclusive school where every child is valued and respected. We are committed to offering a school experience which ensures the best possible progress for all of our students, whatever their needs or abilities. The school aspires to be sensitive to the needs of every child, reducing barriers to learning and making the curriculum accessible to every student. Reasonable adjustments to physical and other arrangements of the school are considered where necessary, taking into account the nature of any impairment, pupil and parent views and advice from teachers and other professionals. Prospective parents are asked to inform the school of any disabilities or additional needs their children may have when registering. Continuing communication between parents and staff is vital to ensure that reasonable adjustments can be considered where necessary, whether impairments were apparent when the student entered the school or developed at a later stage.

At English Martyrs we strive to ensure that all children reach their full potential and we take many steps to ensure this. High quality teaching is vital but in some cases additional steps are taken. The following document outlines how this is done.

Additional information about how we support students with SEND can be found in the SEND Policy document.



Q1. The kinds of special educational needs for which provision is made at English Martyrs

At English Martyrs we acknowledge that all teachers are teachers of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We recognise that it is the teacher's responsibility to meet the needs of all students in their class. Teaching staff achieve this through Quality First Teaching which comprise of classroom organisation, materials used, teaching style, differentiation and in partnership with input and support from specialist staff and from the SENDCO.

When necessary, we seek appropriate advice and support from external agencies. As a school we use our best endeavours to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any student who has special educational needs. (Code of Practice, July 2014)

Q2. How does English Martyrs know if students need extra help and what should I do if I think my child may have SEND?

During transition we gain information provided by parents/carers and liaise closely with the student's previous school. We also use information from outside agencies, if and when they have been involved in supporting the student or their family. We use assessment data and screening carried out by the SEND team and other professionals and individual assessments carried out by the Educational Psychologist. Staff observations and feedback from teaching and support staff are also used along with referrals by agencies and parents.

We have monitoring in place that tracks the progress our learners make in all areas of the curriculum and clearly identifies the next steps. Our staff are vigilant at supporting and raising any concerns.

We carry out assessments at the end of term. This, combined with information about their current data and target grades, are used by teachers to plan appropriately differentiated lessons.

Information about students' individual needs and disabilities is made available to all of our teachers and support staff who use it for their planning, through our SEND register and pupil passports for SEND students. These are updated regularly.

Staff will also raise concerns to the SENDCO about any student who is experiencing difficulties accessing learning. The needs of the student are investigated through one or more of the following routes:

- further testing
- discussions with the student, parents, subject teachers, support staff or
- advice taken from outside agencies to make arrangements for an appropriate form of intervention.

Progress will be monitored and a review will take place after a predetermined period of time that is specific to the student and intervention.



Most importantly, you need to talk to us about how you feel – you know your child best. When parents raise concerns about their child’s educational needs, the relevant member of staff will gather all the appropriate data and information from your child’s teachers. If necessary, a meeting will be arranged, to discuss our findings before support strategies, referrals or interventions are put in place.

If you have concerns or feel that your child is not receiving suitable support we encourage you to contact the SENDCO at the earliest possible opportunity so we are able to discuss and investigate the matter.

Q3. How will English Martyrs support my child’s learning?

Children’s needs are best met through Quality First Teaching by subject specialist teachers, who take account of the needs of each child. Teachers are aware of a range of educational needs and different strategies to implement to support students’ learning. Appropriate resources are also provided plus a range of teaching styles are used to meet the needs of individual learners.

Where necessary, an individual programme of support and intervention for your child will be drawn up by the school. It is important that you and your child take part in this process, so that you can contribute your opinions and concerns. The plan may include school provision and may also include input from external agencies and services. Students who have an EHCP will have an Annual Review as well as at other intervals throughout the year. To ensure that the teacher, parent and the student know what outcomes are being aimed for and the best way of achieving these.

Q4. How will the curriculum be matched to my child’s needs?

Students are placed in appropriate sets based on their ability.

Our curriculum allows for flexibility to move students between sets to allow for progress or additional support for those who may experience difficulties with their learning.

At Key Stage 4, students are advised to follow a pathway of choices that match their ability, allowing every student to have the best possible opportunity for examination success. When Year 9 students are going through the process of making their choices, you are invited to an options evening, which enables you and your child to speak to relevant staff about each of the courses on offer.

Q5. How will both you and I know how my child is doing?

All your child’s information can be accessed via our school app. We encourage all parents to use this and further information can be found on the school website. You will receive a data report which shows your child’s progress in each subject area three times a year. There is also one Parents’ Evening during the year for each year group, which offers an opportunity for you to discuss progress with the subject teachers.



Students with Special Educational Needs and/ or Disability are closely monitored. All students with EHCPs have an Annual Review. There will be additional opportunities for parents/carers of students with SEND to meet with the SENDCO or by appointment when the need arises.

Q6. What support will be at English Martyrs for my child's overall well-being?

Students are supported by a pastoral team comprising of a form tutor, head of house and a pastoral manager, with the pastoral manager being the first point of contact.

Emotional and social development support is also provided by the SENCO and the team of Learning Support Officers and Assistants.

We are also able to refer students to the NHS school nurse if we feel their support will benefit the situation or difficulty.

English Martyrs Welfare team monitors all students for factors such as attendance and punctuality and provides support and liaises with the SENDCO to implement interventions to assist individual students.

Occasionally it might be necessary to organise meetings between families and external agencies to offer additional support for any student.

We have dedicated members of staff in school to assist with medication and there are always trained first aiders available in school and for educational visits.

Q7. What specialist services and expertise are available at, or accessed by, English Martyrs?

Annual meetings are held between the SENDCO, Speech & Language Therapist and Educational Psychologist and throughout the school year it is possible to make referrals for assessments. In addition we are able to make referrals to the NHS school nurse, CAMHS, plus a range of other agencies when the need arises.

Q8. What training do staff who support my child have?

The SENCO has completed the National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination.

Staff training is continually ongoing and addresses differentiation, assessment for learning and whole school literacy development. The annual cycle of INSET ensures that staff are confident in supporting students with SEND. The Learning Support Officers & Assistants have regular training as a whole group. Individual members of the Learning Support Department have had training in ways to support specific



areas of need. There is a programme of training opportunities available to all staff to allow for individual interests and skills to develop.

Q9. How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips?

We strive to ensure that all students, regardless of their individual needs, have access to the whole range of educational opportunities and activities. Support staff can be allocated, when required, to accompany students on school trips and full risk assessments will be made to ensure all aspects of health and safety have been considered before embarking on the trip. We comply with all legislation in respect of accessibility and make reasonable adjustment where necessary. This is across all aspects of school life, including school trips and experiences where reasonable adjustment might need to be made. As a parent we encourage you to discuss your concerns with us so that we can plan for full inclusion.

Q10. How accessible is the school environment?

The school is fully accessible by a number of lifts and there is provision for disabled parking. There are disabled toilets around the school site and shower facilities in the PE block.

We deploy Learning Support Assistants to facilitate mobility and access across the site where needed. These are personalised to meet the needs of the individual student concerned. Evacuation plans are designed to meet the needs and ensure the safety of individuals who require an alternative plan.

Q11. How will English Martyrs support my child to join the school or transfer to the next stage of education and life?

For students' transition from Year 6 into 7 we gather information about your child's needs from their primary school. All local schools are visited by a member of our transition team and the SENDCO. These visits can be personalised for the student depending on need and can be made available from Year 5. Parents and their children are encouraged to visit the school during the Year 6 Open Evening to allow for initial contact between the child and the SENDCO. Individual appointments for parents and students can be made with the SENDCO if required. Extended transition visits are arranged for SEND students to help with anxieties. During the regular 5 day, Year 6 transition visit the students are supported by the Learning Support team that will be working with them in September. The SENDCO will be involved in or attend the annual review meeting for children with EHC plans from Year 5 onwards if the child's parents have indicated that they would like their child to attend English Martyrs.

In preparation for the transition between Key Stage 3 & 4 students are helped with the selection of their option choices. Parents are encouraged to talk to the SENDCO to voice any concerns and we will provide the most suitable methods of support to meet the needs of the students as they embark on studying their chosen options.

Students are given the opportunity to discuss their moving on choices with a careers adviser from Year 10 onwards. The local colleges liaise with school to gather information to allow for continued support



with the students' chosen courses. The local authority SEND careers adviser will work with and support students with an EHC Plan during the Year 11 transition.

Q12. How are English Martyr's resources allocated and matched to my child's special educational need? How will the school decide about what type and how much support my child will receive?

Decisions concerning support for individual students are made according to need. This includes both statutory and non-statutory provision. Resources are allocated as appropriate depending on the individual student's SEND and monitored. The level and type of support is reviewed regularly and adjusted or altered to the student's need at the time of the review.

Further information about our graduated response to support can be found in the SEND Policy.

Q13. How are parents involved at English Martyrs?

Parents and carers are welcome to discuss their child's progress with the SENDCO or other key staff at any time during the school year. Subject teachers can be contacted preferably in the first instance by email. The school will routinely contact parents or carers to discuss interventions, progress and concerns. Parents or carers will be invited to school if initial assessments are requested and undertaken with external agencies.

Q14. How are students involved at English Martyrs?

Students are welcome to attend annual review meetings and they contribute comments on their support in school. We respect the views of the students and will actively seek their comments when planning and reviewing interventions. The student comments are recorded annually on their pupil passport.

We have student voice groups and a school council in which our students are able to raise concerns that they may have. We have a cross-section of students involved in these including those with SEND and in receipt of the Pupil Premium (PP) grant. Students who are not in a Student Voice group or on the School Council are encouraged to raise concerns or opinions on matters through their form Tutor, Class Teacher or Learning Support Assistant.

Q15. Who can I contact for further information?

If your child has a Special Educational Need and /or Disability and you wish to become more involved in his or her learning with us, do not hesitate to contact the SENDCO. Similarly, if you still have a question, want to look round or perhaps you feel that your child's needs are hard to meet and you want to discuss the matter in more depth, please contact the SENDCO or relevant Pastoral Manager.



Key Staff

Assistant Head Teacher responsible for inclusion and SEND – Mrs. P Clark pclark@ems.hartlepool.sch.uk

SENDCO - Mrs. S. Irvine sirvine@ems.hartlepool.sch.uk

Pastoral Manager Year 6 & 7 – Mrs. J. Johnston jujohnson@ems.hartlepool.sch.uk

Pastoral Manager Year 8 – Mrs. T. Williamson twilliamson@ems.hartlepool.sch.uk

Pastoral Manager Year 9 – Mrs. R. Wilson rwilson@ems.hartlepool.sch.uk

Pastoral Manager Year 10 – Mr. F. Hall fhall@ems.hartlepool.sch.uk

Pastoral Manager Year 11 – Mr. M Blackwood mblackwood@ems.hartlepool.sch.uk

Director of Sixth form – Mrs. C Hogarth chogarth@ems.hartlepool.sch.uk

Q16. Who do I contact should I wish to make a complaint?

Parents and carers of students with SEND should discuss their concerns with Mrs. S Irvine, SENDCO or Mrs. P Clark Assistant Head Teacher responsible for inclusion and SEND in the first instance.

The Headteacher, Mr. S Hammond, can be contacted via email shammond@ems.hartlepool.sch.uk or by phone 01429 273790

The formal complaints policy can be found on the website but it is hoped that difficulties can be resolved before this stage.

Q17. Where is information on the Local Offer published?

The Hartlepool Local Offer can be found using the link:
https://hartlepool.fsd.org.uk/kb5/hartlepool/fsd/local_offer.page