

Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy

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...”

At The English Martyrs School and Sixth Form College, we recognise that many pupils will have ‘special needs’ at some time during their school life. Whilst many factors contribute to the range of difficulties experienced by some children, we believe that much can be done to overcome them by parents, teachers and pupils working together.

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 the English Martyrs School and Sixth Form College we are working towards ensuring equality for all students in their access to education and to this end the school site is under constant review and development with the addition of ramps, lifts and disabled toilets being added to all buildings. Where a room is not accessible then timetables can be adjusted to facilitate an equal experience for all students.

Teaching SEND pupils is a whole-school responsibility. The core of the teachers' work involves a continuous cycle of planning, teaching, and assessing, taking into account the differences in pupils' abilities, aptitudes, and interests (Quality Teaching First). Some pupils may need increased levels of provision and support. The school also has a continued commitment to a comprehensive CPD programme which enables staff to: develop new strategies and be fully aware of changing requirements and legislation.

On entry to the school each child's attainment will be assessed in order to ensure continuity of learning from Primary school, or transference from another Secondary school. For pupils with identified SEND the SENDCO and colleagues will:

- Use information from the Primary school to shape the pupil's curriculum and pastoral provision.
- Ensure on-going observations/assessments provide regular feedback on achievements/ experiences, in order to plan next steps in learning.
- Ensure pupils have opportunities to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in subjects and in the pastoral programme.
- Involve parents in a joint home-school learning approach.
- Create a pupil passport identifying the pupils strengths, needs and areas of difficulties with helpful strategies of support



The main methods of provision are:



- Full-time education in classes, with additional help and support by class /subject teachers through a differentiated curriculum. (Quality Teaching First).
- In-class support with Learning Support Assistants.
- Periods of withdrawal to work with a Learning Support Assistant.

Graduated Response

Where teachers decide that a SEND identified student is not making the expected progress, the SENDCO and Pastoral Manager will be consulted to develop a scheme of support with the classroom teacher to address any issues. The SENDCO, Pastoral Manager and teacher will review the approaches adopted on a regular basis. If, after further consideration, a more sustained level of support is needed, it would be provided through *SEND support*. Where concerns remain despite sustained intervention, the school will consider requesting a *Statutory Assessment*. Parents will be fully consulted at each stage. For additional Information on SEND and for admissions please see The English Martyrs and Sixth Form College website.