In Touch

Keeping parents informed

SEND edition

Overview from Senior Leader

We recognise that Secondary school can sometimes feel overwhelming for children with SEND needs and that the uncertainty and constant change of COVID may have compounded this for many. I hope the information here answers some questions around the SEND process and support on offer. Miss Bourne

What do I do if I think my child has SEND needs?

Speak to your child's tutor initially, as they will know your child best. Your child's tutor is then able to make a referral to the SEND team, where your concerns and the interventions tried will be reviewed and next steps agreed.

ASD and ADHD: You should see your GP to discuss a referral. More information on this is found in the links box.

Dyslexia: The first step is to speak to your child's tutor to discuss your concerns and any classroom interventions that have been tried already. Support for Dyslexia is centred around the classroom and the strategies used by teachers rather than TA support.

What is the process at TGAK?

We currently have 259 pupils with SEND needs at the Academy. We offer a fully inclusive approach to ensuring all pupils have access to the same broad and ambitious curriculum.

Our priority is to ensure that our Quality First Teaching enables our SEND students to achieve in the classroom. All SEND pupils have a bespoke One Page Profile that outlines key strategies for the teachers to use to support each child. These profiles are created in collaboration with the pupils and parents.

We have a significant cohort of ASD pupils in the Academy and hold regular whole staff training that is delivered by the Solihull Autism team on how best to support pupils with these specific needs.

Where can I find more information?

How to get diagnosed with autism - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

Dyslexia - Diagnosis - NHS (www.nhs.uk) Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) Explained | solihull.gov.uk Education, Health and Care Plan | Local Offer Birmingham`

Who are the team in school to support you?

K code pupils: For any enquiries about your child's SEND needs, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance. The College team will be able to liaise closely with the SEND team and pass on your enquiry as appropriate.

EHCP pupils: Please contact your child's Advocate for any enquiries and they will liaise with the College team and/or SENCO and respond to you directly.

TGAK currently have the Trust Executive SENCO supporting the school and there is a team of Teaching Assistants that offer daily support for all of our SEND students.

What is The Willows?

The Willows is the building that houses our SEND department. It is the intervention centre where all of our ASD, SEMH and other SEND interventions take place, and where our Sensory Room is located to help regulate our ASD pupils.

Where can I find the policies?

All of our SEND policies are available on the TGAK website.

