



BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Summary of Provision at Bishop Challoner Catholic College

Staffing of the SEND Team

We are a small, highly committed, team comprising of:

- the SENCO who works Mon - Thurs with a shortened day on Thurs
- three Assistant SENCOs who have the equivalent of one day a week allocated to working in the SEND Team, spread across their timetables
- please note that the Assistant SENCOs and myself also have teaching responsibilities
- four Teaching Assistants - two full time, one who works four days 10am-3pm, and one who works four days a week
- A SEND Assistant/Administrator who also provides some in class support
- we work closely alongside the safeguarding team, pastoral team and well-being team, and meet with them on a weekly basis

We have 18 students with EHCPs. Three students are currently being assessed for an EHCP. Four students have SEND Support Provision Plans. We have approximately 190 students on the SEND Register in need of our support. This means that, although we are a highly skilled, experienced and dedicated team, it is a challenge to support such a high number of students.

Many of our students with EHCPs are taught in our W2 band of classes, which are smaller than average (between 13 and 19 students). In W2 classes, visual aids are used more, there are increased opportunities to revisit prior learning, tasks are broken down in smaller steps etc. Where possible, Teaching Assistant Support is allocated to W2 classes. A large number of W2 lessons cannot be supported due to our limited capacity. It is not appropriate for some students with EHCPs to be placed in W2; outside of W2, class sizes range from 19 to 34 students. There is no Teaching Assistant Support outside of W2. In year 7 students are taught in mixed ability groups.

Our students with EHCPs are, first and foremost, supported through high quality teaching.

In addition, each student with an EHCP:

- has additional transition support as appropriate, from primary school (for example, a student - potentially with their parent/ Carer - may have an additional visit arranged in July, so he/she can meet the SEND Team, take photos of them and areas of the school to make a booklet etc). A member of the SEND Team will meet with the Primary SENCO so all information is passed between schools

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- is allocated a key member of staff (who makes a fortnightly 'check in' phone call home)
- has an annual 'Person Centred Conversation' with their key member of staff (more frequent as necessary)
- has a Pupil Passport, which outlines strengths and difficulties, and advises staff on strategies to use to support their learning and emotional well being (we are working towards every student with an EHCP having a detailed Learning Plan in addition to this)
- has an annual EHCP review
- has access to Claro Read (computer reader, with a speech to text function, mind mapping tool and many other assistive technology features)
- is invited to daily Breakfast Club (8am - 8.30am), Break Time and Lunch Time Club, Homework Help After School Club Mon - Thurs, and weekly Touch-Typing Club
- some students are also invited to our weekly 'Movement Group' if they have difficulties with their fine and/or gross motor skills
- some students are identified as needing to attend our weekly after school literacy intervention
- has access to the relevant external agencies (Pupil and School Support Service/ Communication and Autism Team/ Speech and Language Therapist/ Education Psychologist/ Physical Disabilities Support Service). Please be aware that we have limited access to these services as we are only able to 'buy in' limited hours of support. For example, we only have 3 hours of support and advice from our Speech and Language Therapist every half term
- has Exam Access Arrangements (depending on an individual's needs) put in place from year 7 onwards (for example, 25% extra time for all assessments)
- may (if appropriate) receive additional support from a student social worker on placement with us (we always have a student social worker allocated specifically to the SEND Team)
- The building

Please also be aware that we do not have a lift, many of our classrooms are smaller than average in size, and our corridors are narrow. Although there is an allocated Learning Support area, it can be quite busy and there is not always a member of staff available. This means that there is an expectation on students to remain in their lessons at all times. It is not regarded as best practice, to create a space in schools that students can go to at any time as it does not nurture resilience and independence. On the small number of occasions that a student needs 'time out' of a lesson, the class teacher will make this decision and arrange with the head of year/ a member of our team/ a member of the mental health team to meet with the student.

If you have any further questions, please contact the SENCO, Rachel Wheeler; r.wheeler@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

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