SEND Information Report

This report has been written to comply with Regulation 51 of the SEND Regulations 2014.

- The Local Offer was first introduced in the Green Paper (March 2011); it is a description of all services available to support children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND), and their families, within a local authority.
- The Medway Local Offer aims to provide parents/carers with information about how to access services in their area, and what they can expect from those services. With regard to Education, it will let parents/ carers and young people know how academies/schools and colleges will support them, and what they can expect across the local settings.
- Schools are expected to publish an SEND Information Report, answering a number of questions, to help parents, carers and young people understand how the school will support students' needs.

INSPIRE ACADEMY
'MOTIVATION, COLLABORATION, COMMUNICATION'

- Inspire Academy strives to give every student the opportunity to develop his/her potential to the full.
- We recognise that all students have their own particular needs and seek to ensure that each student is able to learn, experience success and feel valued in an environment free from barriers and prejudice.
- We are committed to ensuring all students receive their full entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum.

1. How does the setting/academy/school/college know if young people need extra Help and what should I do if I am concerned about my child's SEND?

- All students at INSPIRE ACADEMY have a Statement of SEN or an EHCP (Education and Health Care Plan) which details their learning difficulties and associated complex needs.
- When students are referred by their local authority (eg. Medway of Kent) to INSPIRE ACADEMY, we talk with their previous school, their parents or carers and any professionals that are involved with the young person to make sure we know their full needs and can plan for their arrival.

- Observations and / or assessments will be carried out when the young person arrives at the school to find out more about their learning needs so that we can plan the exact help and support that they need.
- If parents or carers are in any way concerned about their child's needs, or want to know more about the assessments used, they should contact the SENCo at INSPIRE ACADEMY.

2. How will the school support my child?

- Staff at INSPIRE ACADEMY will strive to plan and deliver high quality teaching designed to meet the needs of *all* pupils; this is monitored by senior leaders as part of the regular review and observation cycle.
- Some students may need additional support from within the school because of their SEND and the nature of this support will depend upon the needs of the student.
- We currently offer bespoke support for our students from our Speech and Language Therapy Assistant (SALTA) for those pupils with speech, language and communication needs. This support can include:
  1) 1:1 speech and language support
  2) 1:1 vocabulary development
  3) 1:1 emotional literacy development
  4) 1:1 numeracy tuition
  5) In class support
  6) Social skills group work
- We also ensure that those students that require extra literacy support from our specialist literacy teaching assistant receive:
  1) 1:1 literacy support that includes development of reading, handwriting, spelling, comprehension, speaking and listening and extended writing skills.
  2) Extra in class support to promote literacy skills.
  3) Group work to develop speaking and listening skills.
- Individual assessments are carried out in order to ensure that all pupils' strengths and areas for development are identified and built upon.
- All students undertake a literacy, numeracy and social communication programme with their form tutors.
- Occasionally, a student may need more expert support form an outside agency such as the Children's Therapy Team, Paediatrician, and Educational Psychologist etc. Referral forms are then completed in conjunction with parents/carers and forwarded to the most appropriate agency. After a series of assessments, a programme of support is usually provided to the school and parents/carers.
- Where students require specific, specialist support we also refer pupils to outside agencies to undertake interventions such as dog mentoring, counselling, anger management and music/drama/art therapy.

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

- Students are taught in small class groups by a minimum of one teacher and one teaching assistant.
- Subject teachers will ensure that lessons across the curriculum are delivered using lots of different approaches and that the work for each student takes account of their individual needs.
- Accredited courses are carefully considered in relation to content and how they are assessed; they are matched to the learning needs, personal interests and aspirations of each individual student.

- In Year 10, students are assessed to see if they need support during exams (access arrangements) and strategies are put in place before the exams to make sure students know how to make the best use of the support available to them.
- Work experience placements in Years 12-14 are sourced with students needs in mind, carers will be approached before a placement is confirmed.

4. How will I know how my child is doing and how will the school help me to support my child's learning?

    - We will keep you informed through parents' evening and reports. You are also encouraged to make direct contact with their tutors and subject teachers.
    - All students will have a tutor who should be your first point of contact. This can be done by email or by a phone call to reception.
    - Parents/Carers have regular opportunities to discuss progress with their teachers at scheduled events or informally by appointment, telephone or e- mail to individual teachers.

5. What support will there be for my child's overall well-being?

    - We believe that student wellbeing is the responsibility of all staff at INSPIRE ACADEMY; the most consistent contact for each student will be with their Form Tutor and Teaching Assistant, who act as mentors for the students in their form group.
    - On-call staff are available to support students who need 'time out' of class in order to take part in lessons positively.
    - Regular meetings are held with students to discuss what is going well, what support is helping them and how things could be improved.
    - INSPIRE ACADEMY attend all multi-disciplinary meetings regarding the welfare of students
    - Welfare meetings are held weekly to ensure that all staff are up to date with what is happening for each individual student.

6. What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the school?

    - Therapy and Parent & Carer Partnership Team
    - Referrals to Health Services (including Mental Health and SALT)
    - Medway Youth Trust (both intensive PA and careers guidance)
    - Educational Psychologist
    - Sensory (hearing and visual) Impaired Team
    - Children's Services for Social Care
    - Medway Youth Services
    - Outreach support (Bradfield's and Marlborough Centre)

7. What training have the staff supporting the students at the school had?

    - Staff attend training weekly as well as the five INSET each school year.
    - Training looks at the needs of students with different types of SEND, how this impacts on their learning and the best ways to support their progress.
    - Training is delivered by the Senior Leadership Team at the school and external SEND specialists to make sure current and relevant information and practice is provided for staff.
    - Teaching staff meet every week to share their own experiences of what works for individual students, making sure that everyone can be consistent.

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

- We actively seek to ensure that ALL students are included in all activities, including trips.
- Activities outside the classroom are individually risk assessed and where necessary resourced and supported to maximise the engagement in and the impact of the activity on all the young people who are participating.
- Trips are regularly used as rewards, to enhance social skills or subject knowledge and are seen as a valuable element of the curriculum.
- Pupils in KS4 and KS5 study for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.

9. How accessible is the school environment?

- INSPIRE ACADEMY ensures full access to all students and visitors in respect of their presenting needs and disabilities. However, individual needs would be assessed on referral. We are currently undergoing a new build and this will be fully accessible.

10. How will the school prepare and support my child to join the school, transfer to a new school or to the next stage of education and life?

- A transition plan is put in place for all students referred to INSPIRE ACADEMY; this involves a series of starter sessions (visit, half days and full days) to help students to become familiar with the school and the staff.
- Additional plans will be made for those students who need extra support when joining the school; this may include a longer transition or temporary 1:1 support.
- A transition plan is put in place for all students leaving for college and/or work placements.
- When students transition to a different school, we strive to provide a detailed summary of their educational needs and progress are shared with the parents or carers consent to make sure transition in as smooth as possible.

11. How are the school's resources allocated and matched to my child's SEND and how is the decision made about how much support my child receives?

- Students' progress across the curriculum is looked at six times over a school year and other assessments once or twice each year; those young people making less progress than we expect will receive additional support from within the school.
- We decide how much support each student receives based on their individual level of need and what we need to do to support them.
- When we review each student's progress and future provision at the Annual Review (of their Statement of SEN or EHCP), it will be decided whether the funding for the student is right for meeting their needs.
- We regularly review and update the school, groups and individual provision maps which are costed and evaluated for impact and to ensure value for money and the efficient deployment of resources. We implement the referring Local Authority's Banding System (e.g. Medway's banding system for 'E','F' and 'G' students).
- On an annual basis we review each student's progress and future provision needs to determine whether or not the referring Local Authority needs to increase their funding to support the student's subsequent year at INSPIRE ACADEMY.

12. How are parents and carers involved in the school? How can I be involved and where can I find out more?

- We aim to develop close and mutual supportive relationships with parent/carers from the point of transition and on an annual basis at the students' Annual Review (of their SEN Statement or EHCP).
- Parents and carers are invited to come to an Assembly of Achievement three times a year.
- Parents and carers are invited to events throughout the school year, including informal coffee mornings, fetes, Christmas fairs.
- There are Parent/Carer representatives on the Governing Body.

13. How will my child be consulted and involved in making decisions about their education?

    - Students meet fortnightly with their Form Tutor to talk review individual targets and assess progress
    - Students are always encouraged to go to their Annual Review (of their Statement of SEN or EHCP) and are asked for their views before the meeting takes place.
    - INSPIRE ACADEMY Student Council gives every student the opportunity to share their views on school issues.
    - Students are chosen to be involved in staff interviews to help inform recruitment decisions

14. Who can I contact for more information about support services for parents?

    Please contact reception via the website or telephone

15. Where can I find the Local Offer?

    - Medway http://www.medway.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/medwayslocaloffer.aspx
    - Kent http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs/about-the-local-offer