

Our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Information Report

At Nicholas Chamberlaine School we welcome everybody from our local community. We believe that our own school community should provide every child with the opportunity to achieve their full potential. We hope you will enjoy reading about the variety of ways in which Nicholas Chamberlaine School is able to support SEND students to reach their full potential. Nicholas Chamberlaine School is a busy mainstream school. It is however, important for us to recognise that we are limited in terms of resource and expertise in comparison to some specialist settings.

We provide for a wide range of students, including the areas of need listed below:

- Cognition and Learning difficulties
- Communication difficulties
- Autistic spectrum
- Specific Learning Difficulties
- Physical difficulties and medical needs
- Sensory difficulties
- Social, emotional and mental health.

We have high expectations of all students and we are committed to ensuring that all of our students have excellent attendance. We strongly believe that students should make the most of their time at school, not just academically, but also through becoming more aware of the world around them and join in with our extra-curricular programme. In the information below you will find what we are able to offer to students who have special or additional needs.

How does Nicholas Chamberlaine School know if a student needs extra help?

We are committed to early identification of Special Education Needs (SEN).

Students are identified using a range of evidence through:

- School assessment across a range of subjects
- Information from the student's previous school
- Concerns raised by parents
- Concerns raised by school staff
- Concerns raised by students themselves
- Concerns raised by an external agency

How will staff support my child?

All of our staff understand that they are all teachers of Special Educational Needs. Although we do not have any specialist teachers for specific learning difficulties, we do support our students well through a focus on good teaching (see types of support offered). We use data to track student progress. We do this using a variety of methods including skill descriptions, reading, comprehension and spelling ages. Students have a SEN support sheet which includes background information, current concerns and strategies to support your child. All of our students are set challenging targets to inspire them to expected progress and needs support. Information on student progress is regularly shared with parents/carers. We have a training programme throughout the school year to ensure staff are confident and skilled in dealing with a range of student needs.

Do you have an area to support students with SEND?

We have a busy “Hub” where any students that require help can access lots of different activities, but please be aware that students cannot be based in the Hub full time. We offer a breakfast club to help students start the school day and to support students. It also provides a quiet space for students at break and lunch times. We offer a range of support, which is personalised depending on student needs. The support begins in the classroom with good teaching; if the need for support continues we look at time-limited support through departments or Hub based on support, such as literacy or numeracy support. For students who are still not making expected progress and need a more individualised approach intervention is offered through the hub or from external agencies. Alongside this any student who is on our SEN register is also monitored by the Hub team and in particular the SENCO. Our SENCO is an experienced, qualified teacher who has completed the Masters Level National SENCO Accreditation.

How will I know how my child is doing and how will you help me to support my child’s learning?

We believe that your child’s education should be a partnership between parents, teachers and indeed your child. Therefore we actively encourage parents to be involved in their child’s learning. We offer an open door policy where you are welcome to make an appointment to meet with either the SENCO, Head of Year or Hub staff to discuss how your child is progressing. If your child has complex needs, they may have an EHC Plan, which means a formal meeting (Annual Review) will take place to discuss your child’s progress and a report will be written. During the meeting we will also discuss what you can do at home to support your child to improve further.

What type of curriculum will my child be able to access?

Every student at Nicholas Chamberlaine School has the opportunity to study all the subjects we offer. We expect all students, regardless of their ability to undertake a full and broad curriculum. All students receive a full range of information, advice and guidance at key points in their school career, such as Year 8 Options and Post 16 Options. This allows them to have the necessary support to make informed decisions on their future. During career interviews your child will be accompanied by a member of staff and you are welcome to attend this meeting.

How will my child be able to contribute their views?

We believe strongly in listening to the views of our students. There are many ways that we encourage students to share their point of view including:

- We have a School Council that students can volunteer to join.
- We have an annual student questionnaire, in which we seek their view points on a range of issues.
- Around the school we have posters reminding the students who they can go to if they want someone to talk to.
- During annual and termly reviews students complete a ‘My Views’ document where they share information on what is important to them.

What support will there be for my child’s overall well-being?

We believe that children having high self-esteem is crucial to a child’s well-being. We have a highly motivated, enthusiastic team which oversees our pastoral support. The pastoral team (Heads of Year, Form Tutors and Outreach Workers) and the Hub team, work very closely together, including working in partnership with students, external agencies and parents/carers. This means that everyone is aware of the help each student is given to meet their individual needs. Your child’s Form Tutor and Head of Year has overall responsibility for the pastoral, medical and social care of every child in their class, therefore they would be

your first point of contact. If further support is necessary, they liaise with the SENCO for further advice and support. They may also include working with agencies outside of our school. We celebrate our student's achievements both in and out of school in a variety of ways, including assemblies. There are many opportunities for our children to take part in the wider life of Nicholas Chamberlaine through our extensive extra-curricular programme, which has up to 70 different extracurricular experiences throughout the year.

How does the school manage the administration of medicines?

The school has a Medical Policy, which includes information regarding the administration and management of medicines on the school site.

Please contact us if medication is recommended by health professionals to be taken during the school day. All our staff receive regular updates on conditions and medication affecting individual students. We also have a range of staff that are Emergency First Aid in School trained. External agencies assist us to create individual medical plans for students with more serious medical needs.

How will the school prepare and support my child when joining the school and in preparing for adulthood?

At Nicholas Chamberlaine School we work closely with all of our local primary schools to provide a smooth transition into Year 7. The transition programme includes visits by key members of staff and current Year 7 students to answer any questions the Year 6 students may have. Alongside this we speak to class teachers and the school SENCO to gather information on their student's current strengths and what support we need to put into place when they become Nicholas Chamberlaine School students.

For students with SEN, we encourage further visits to familiarise them with the new surroundings. Alongside this, we will be having information afternoon for parents/carers to attend to find out about what we can offer your child and what our approach to SEN is, this will allow you to meet our staff who support SEN children, the school SENCO and the Head of Year.

Our outreach staff will contact you to invite your child along to these visits. We try to attend as many Year 6 annual review meetings as possible, so please contact us if you would like to invite us along. For our older students we provide information, advice and guidance on all future career/ education paths that are available to help them. Each student has a careers interview and support is given to help them with Sixth Form, College and Apprenticeship applications.

How accessible is the school environment?

We have quite a large and extensive site, which is not easily accessible to all in some parts. We would strongly recommend that you have a look around the site on our Open Evening or by appointment before making a decision. In 2018, we start a new build to be open in September 2019. We encourage you to come and have a look at the new plans and consider the impact a new build may have on your child.

What should I do if I think my child may have SEN or I have a concern?

We pride ourselves on building positive relationships with parents and being open and honest. Therefore, if you are concerned, you need to speak to your child's Form Tutor, Head of Year or our school SENCO. If you are concerned about your child please contact one of the staff listed below via our main school office or enquiries email:

- Hannah Roberts – SENCO
- Joanne Turner - Deputy Head: Inclusion and SENCO
- Matt Smith - Assistant Head Student Support
- Any member of the Hub staff
- The Head of Year for your child
- Your child's Form Tutor

What other support do you access?

Nicholas Chamberlaine School works in partnership with many different agencies. This means that a supportive plan can be developed to meet your child's needs both in and out of school. We hold regular meetings to monitor your child's progress. We will also use, when necessary, Early Help (previously called CAF) to access a range of agencies outside of school.

Listed below are some of the outside agencies with whom we work collaboratively:

- Warwickshire Special Educational Needs Team (SENDAR)
- STS (Specialist Teaching Service) which includes Speech and Language, the Autism team, Occupational Therapy and cognition assessments
- SEND Supported (Primarily for Autism Support in our school)
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
- Educational Psychologist (EP)
- School Nurse (COMPASS)
- Social services
- Family Action to Kids (formally SENDIAS)
-

How are the Governors involved and what are their responsibilities?

We report regularly to the Governing Body as part of our progress board so that they are aware of how we are meeting the needs of our students. The Governing Body are informed of any changes of policy which may affect the education of students with additional educational needs, and in what way the school will respond to those changes.

Who should I contact if I am considering whether my child should join the school?

Please refer to our admission arrangements for the year of application. You can also telephone us on 024 76 312308 to arrange a visit to discuss how the school could meet your child's needs.

How can I find out more information?

If you would like to know more about what we offer here at Nicholas Chamberlaine School, you can refer to our SEND policy, contact us on 024 76 312308 or email us at Enquires@nicholaschamberlaine.co.uk or H.Roberts@nicholaschamberlaine.co.uk.

Further information on Warwickshire's Local offer for SEN can be found at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send>.