

SEND INFORMATION REPORT 2025-26

At Leigh Academy Dartford, a mainstream primary academy, we value the abilities of all our students and strive to provide the best education to all our students so they can make good progress and achieve ambitious and appropriate goals.

We strongly believe that it is our duty, as a mainstream provision, to provide equal opportunities for every child/young person in our care, and also provide a safe and fully equipped learning environment, which caters to the needs of every pupil/student as an individual. We are committed to providing excellent provision for all students with SEND by providing an ambitious and inclusive Academy curriculum offer, delivered by skilled teachers, and a rich co-curriculum. We aim for all pupils/students to be included in all aspects of Academy life and work proactively to eradicate any barriers to inclusion.

The governing bodies of maintained schools and maintained nursery schools, and the proprietors of academy schools must publish information on their websites about the implementation of the governing body's or the proprietor's policy for pupils with SEND. The information published should be updated annually and any changes to the information occurring during the year must be updated as soon as possible. The information required is set out in the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 and must include the following:

1) The kinds of SEND that are provided for at Leigh Academy Dartford:

At Leigh Academy Dartford we provide for the following main categories of Special Educational Needs:

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Mental and Emotional Health Difficulties
- Sensory and/or Physical Needs

The range of special needs currently being met within our Academy include: ADHD, anxiety, auditory processing disorder, autism, dyslexia, emotional dysregulation, fine and gross motor skill difficulties, mental health needs, moderate learning difficulties, sensory processing disorder, speech and language needs, social skills difficulties and visual impairment.

2) Policies for identifying students with SEND and assessing their needs:

Leigh Academy Dartford follows the guidance: The [Code of Practice 2014](#). This recommends a single assessment for students under the description of Additional Needs based on one or more of the four main areas of need as outlined in the Code of Practice 2014.

The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014, which set out schools' responsibilities for education, health and care (EHC) plans, SEN Coordinators (SENDCOs) and the SEN Information Report.

And, part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014 which sets out schools' responsibilities for pupils with SEN and disabilities [Children and Families Act 2014 - Part 3 - Children and Young People with special educational needs and disabilities](#)

Identifying pupils with SEN, assessing need, and involving pupils and parents.

See the roles and responsibilities of people who support students in our SEND Policy: [here](#)

Identification of students with special educational needs will be determined in the following ways:

- a) Recommendation from primary and/or previous nursery attended before joining Leigh Academy Dartford
- b) Academic assessment data and results
- c) Baseline data from SEN assessments
- d) Teacher/parental/carers referral
- e) Reports and recommendations from professional agencies
- f) Regular assessment of progress by subject leaders, year leaders and inclusion staff
- g) Use of the 'Graduated Approach' as stated in the SEN Code of Practice (2014)
- h) Where appropriate, Leigh Academy Dartford will make applications for High Needs Funding and/or EHCPs to support students with SEND.

Please note some students may have needs but not need to be on the SEND Register as they are able to have their needs met through an appropriate, adapted curriculum and Quality First Teaching.

Teachers can raise concerns once they have included intervention/additional provision within their lessons via the Early Identification of Need form and/or attending a SEN Surgery with the inclusion team.

- 2a) The name and contact details of the SENDCO:

Mr Declan Filsell - SENDCo

Telephone: 01322 223751

Email: inclusion.dpa@dartford.latrust.org - We aim to answer all emails within 72 hours.

The name and details of the Family Liaison Officer:

Mrs Anna Reid - FLO

Telephone: 013222 223751

Email: inclusion.dpa@dartford.latrust.org - We aim to answer all emails within 72 hours.

3) Arrangements for consulting parents and carers of children with SEND and involving them in their child's education:

Leigh Academy Dartford will make regular reviews of students' progress both academically, emotionally and socially. This will take place through:

- Academy reporting systems
- Parents'/Carers' Evenings twice per year
- SEND coffee mornings, once per module
- Students with an Educational Health and Care Plan, as per the statutory requirements in the SEND Code of Practice 2014 will have an Annual Review every 12 months;
- SEND Parents'/Carers' review meetings.

4) Arrangements for consulting students with SEN and involving them in their education:

Leigh Academy Dartford will follow the guidelines contained in the Code of Practice 2014 regarding the assessment and review procedures of students with special educational needs and disabilities.

Students will be assessed and reviewed in the following ways:

- a) We will follow the graduated approach and the four-part cycle of assess, plan, do, review.
- b) All students identified as having special educational needs will have a personalised plan that clearly outlines their area of need, suggested strategies to address these needs and clear targets and objectives. Students will be part of creating this plan and it will be available to staff, parents/carers and students.
- c) Students identified as having special educational needs will have regular reviews of their

individual learning profile at least twice per year.

d) Students with an Educational Health and Care Plan will have an annual review as per the statutory requirement contained in the SEND Code of Practice 2014.

e) Regular reviews of intervention and overlearning programmes will be carried out to monitor the progress of students against their starting points. The impact of the intervention programmes will be assessed, enabling interventions to be adapted, where appropriate.

f) All staff will have access to personalised plans via the academy online systems, in order to inform planning, monitor progress and ensure the appropriate adaptation and scaffolding of work for students with special educational needs has been made.

g) Staff will have access to inclusion websites providing strategies and information on meeting the needs of students with additional needs.

h) Staff will have access to: CPD, specific insets, SEND toolkits, regular SEND specific updates and access to research and evidence based SEND articles.

5) Arrangements for assessing and reviewing student's progress towards outcomes:

Leigh Academy Dartford will follow the guidelines contained in the Code of Practice 2014 regarding the assessment and review procedures of students with special educational needs and disabilities.

Students will be assessed and reviewed in the following ways:

a) All students identified as having special educational needs will be tested at the beginning and end of each academic year using tests that provide standardised scores for reading. This will enable Leigh Academy Dartford to establish areas of need and provide the necessary intervention programmes, and enable staff to monitor progress.

b) Students and parents/carers will receive regular feedback on progress through assessment reports, formative and summative marking, parents'/carers' evenings and annual reviews of Educational Health and Care Plans.

c) Specific assessments will be requested via the Specialist Teaching and Learning Service.

6) Arrangements for supporting students in moving between phases of education and in preparing for adulthood:

In accordance with the SEND Code of Practice 2014, Leigh Academy Dartford has clear

procedures to ensure the smooth transition of students between Key Stages.

Nursery to Reception

- a) A member of the Inclusion team will endeavour to attend the STLS EYFS SEND transition day to discuss students with special educational needs;
- b) The SENCo or EYFS Lead where appropriate, will endeavour to make additional visits to nursery settings for identified students and visits from the primary school will be arranged;
- c) The Kent Equality and Inclusion team may be contacted for further support.

Key Stage 1 to 2

- a) Teachers will attend transition meetings during the final term of the year;
- b) The SENCo may arrange parent meetings with new teachers where appropriate;
- c) The SENCo will arrange additional meetings with class teachers for identified students.

Key Stage 2 to 3

- a) Secondary school SENCos will be invited to Year 6 annual reviews for students with an Educational Health and Care Plan;
- b) A member of the Inclusion team will endeavour to attend the STLS KS2-KS3 SEND transition day to discuss students with special educational needs;
- c) The academy will endeavour to facilitate additional visits from secondary SENCos for identified students and will support visits to the secondary school;
- d) Meetings with parents/carers as requested will take place with the SENCo;

Change of School Procedures

- a) Parents/carers contact the office at Leigh Academy Dartford;
- b) Information is forwarded to the new school;

c) The SENCo meets with parents/carers and appropriate staff from the new school as requested.

7) The approach to teaching students with SEND:

Leigh Academy Dartford is an inclusive establishment that offers a broad and balanced curriculum which is specific to the needs and future opportunities of all students. It ensures this by:

- a) Quality first teaching will be delivered in all areas of the curriculum. Staff are expected to be aware of the needs of all students in their classes, and scaffold work accordingly through adaptive teaching, to meet these needs. *QFT means that some students with needs may not require 'additional to and different from' provision.* This will be monitored via regular lesson reviews, learning walks and pupil work reviews by the SENDCo, Academy Leadership Team and Directors of Learning.
- b) Offering a range of intervention programmes designed to improve the outcomes of students with special educational needs, ensuring they can fully access all areas of the curriculum. These may happen during lessons across two modules.
- c) Providing a range of co-curricular and extended learning activities that offers enrichment opportunities for all students, including those with special educational needs.
- d) Providing a clear reporting system three times a year that outlines targets and current achievements.
- e) Carrying out regular lesson reviews to ensure that all students, including those with special educational needs, are receiving high quality teaching and learning experiences in all areas of the curriculum.
- f) Adapting the curriculum to meet the needs of individual students if necessary. However, it is important to note that the curriculum is not narrowed for SEND students
- g) Ensuring that identified students receive the necessary in class support and exam dispensation.
- h) Ensuring that all staff receive regular training on all areas of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.
- i) Providing a range of numeracy, literacy, social, emotional and mental health interventions will be offered to all students who have been identified as having special educational needs in the relevant areas. These will be reviewed regularly.
- j) Providing regular and timely communication with parents/carers via assessment reports, annual reviews, parents'/carers' events, telephone and emails.
- k) Supporting with access to outside agencies via the local authority, health authority and Leigh Academies Trust.
- l) Informing parents/carers of any additional provision that their child is receiving via the SENDCo.
- m) Ensuring that the local authority local offer and academy offer will be available on Leigh Academy Dartford website so that parents/carers, students, staff and the wider community

can access its contents.

8) How adaptations are made to the curriculum and the learning environment of students with SEND: e.g. :

- Teaching Assistants will be available to provide in class support on an individual or small group basis in order to support the learning of identified students.
- Teaching Assistants will develop, deliver and monitor literacy, numeracy, social, emotional and mental health intervention programmes in order to address the special educational needs of identified students. This will be delivered on an individual, or small group basis
- Teaching Assistants will administer and mark tests that indicate students' skills in spelling, reading and comprehension in order to establish areas of need, and monitor attendance on intervention programmes
- Teaching Assistants will maintain records and monitor progress of students on intervention programmes, and liaise with parents/carers regularly
- Teaching Assistants will support the transition of identified students
- Teaching Assistants will accompany identified students on trips etc where necessary.

9) The expertise and training of staff to support students with SEND, including how specialist expertise will be secured:

Leigh Academy Dartford is committed to the professional development of its staff in all areas including Special Educational Needs and Disability. The following provision is in place to ensure that all staff are aware of and can meet the needs of students with special educational needs:

- a) The SENDCo delivers continuous professional development sessions to all staff on identified areas of Special Educational Needs and Disability
- b) Staff attend training on identified areas of Special Educational Needs and Disability organised by the Local Authority and Leigh Academies Trust
- c) Staff have access to inclusion websites providing links and information on Special Educational Needs and Disability, and inclusive teaching and learning strategies
- d) Through commissioning, experts (EP, CAMHs, SaLT etc) are invited to Leigh Academy Dartford to deliver training sessions on identified areas of Special Educational Needs and Disability to all staff.

10) Evaluating the effectiveness of the provision made for students with SEND:

Leigh Academy Dartford is dedicated to ensuring the highest level of provision to students and parents/carers. It is constantly striving to improve this provision including the SEND practices within the Academy. In order to ensure the best possible provision, the following

evaluation processes are implemented:

- a) Regular meetings with the SEND Link Governor and SENDCo where reviews of practice and policies are discussed and fed back to the Governors as a body
- b) Regular meetings with the Principal to discuss and review SEND practices and policies
- c) Parents/carers/student/staff questionnaires on SEND practices within the Academy
- d) Completion of self evaluation to inform SEND action plans, following regular meetings with the Principal
- d) Attendance of SENDCo at Cluster meetings (Leigh Academies Trust TLC), Leigh Academies Trust SENDCo Forum, Leigh Academies Trust Inclusion Drive Team meetings, and local authority SENDCo meetings to share best practice and discuss current innovations
- e) Regular and robust reviews of intervention programmes
- f) Data analysis, including comparisons to national benchmark data and student progress.

11) How students with SEND are enabled to engage in activities available with students in Leigh Academy Dartford who do not have SEND:

Leigh Academy Dartford offers a wide range of co-curricular and enrichment activities for all students, including those students with special educational needs. It achieves this by:

- a) Ensuring that all staff involved in co-curricular and enrichment activities are fully trained in relevant areas of Special Educational Needs and Disability
- b) Offering a range of activities to accommodate all interests, abilities and physical needs.

12) Support for improving emotional and social development:

- a) A range of social, emotional and mental health interventions will be offered to all students who have been identified as having special educational needs in these areas. These will be reviewed regularly
- b) Access to outside agencies via the Local Authority, Leigh Academies Trust and other agencies (CAMHs Tier 2 and support with referral to Tier 3, SaLT, EPs, School Nurse, FaSS)
- c) The SENDCo will liaise with Health and Social Care teams as dictated by the Code of Practice and Education and Health Care Plans
- d) Teaching Assistants will develop, deliver and monitor social, emotional and mental health intervention programmes in order to address the special educational needs of identified students. This will be delivered on an individual, or small group basis
- e) Identified students will have access to counselling and mentoring including a trained ELSA
- f) Student Leadership and Student Voice opportunities
- g) Supervised and planned breakfast, break and lunch.

13) How Leigh Academy Dartford involves other bodies, including health and social care bodies, local authority support services and voluntary sector organisations, in meeting student's SEND and supporting their families:

According to the Code of Practice 2014, the following must be adhered to:

Children and young people with SEND may need integrated support from education, health and/or social care to help them achieve their ambitions. Working together, these agencies can achieve far more for these children and young people than they can separately, more efficiently and often at a reduced cost. The local offer must set out the range of services available locally to children with SEND and the support that children, young people and families may access outside the local area.

The Academy Board and Leigh Academy Dartford will liaise and consult with the above mentioned agencies to create an effective local and academy offer that jointly commissions all agencies. It will then adhere to the local and academy offer to ensure that parents/carers and students receive a cohesive, supportive and transparent service. It currently is able to provide services through the Local Authority, Health Authorities and Leigh Academies Trust through the specified referral routes.

The local offer can be found [here](#):

[KCC Local Offer](#)

14) Arrangements for handling complaints from parents of children with SEND about the provision made at the Academy:

Should you have a complaint, please contact the Principal, Miss Rebecca Roberts in the first instance via the academy office. If you deem your complaint to still be unresolved after the academy has responded, please submit a formal complaint to the Trust's Academies Director.

The LATComplaints policy can be found :[here](#)

National Websites:

Contact a Family <https://contact.org.uk/>

National Network of Parent Carer Forums
<https://nnpcf.org.uk/>

ACE Centre Advisory Trust - (for communication difficulties)

<https://acecentre.org.uk/>

Free Advice Line: 0800 080 3115

British Dyslexia Association

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/>

Helpline: 0333 405 4567

Council for Disabled Children

[Council for Disabled Children](#)

Cystic Fibrosis Trust <https://www.cysticfibrosis.org.uk/>

[Cystic Fibrosis Trust](#)

Our **confidential Helpline** offers a listening ear and information and support on all aspects of cystic fibrosis, including financial support such as benefits and our welfare grants.

Call 0300 373 1000 or 020 3795 2184, Monday–Friday 10am–4pm

Disability Rights UK : [Disability Rights UK](#)

Disabled Living Foundation

[Disabled Living Foundation \(DLF\) - Information Now](#)

Helpline: 0300 999 0004

Down's Syndrome Association (DSA)

[Downs Syndrome Association](#)

Helpline: 0333 1212300 (10am-4pm)

Parents for Inclusion

[Parents for Inclusive Education NI](#)

Tel: 0800 652 3145

The National Autistic Society

[National Autistic Society](#)