



# Walsall Studio School

## SEND Information report

### 2018/19

## SEND at Walsall Studio School

- ▶ **Walsall Studio School is not a specialist school but we do have experience in working with students within the 4 AREAS OF NEED**
- ▶ **COMMUNICATION & INTERACTION (AS-Autistic Spectrum)**
- ▶ **COGNITION & LEARNING**
- ▶ **SEMH-Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties (Including ADHD-Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder)**
- ▶ **SENSORY & PHYSICAL**

It is the responsibility of the SENDCo to make all staff aware of individual needs and provide information and training on SEND to staff.

# SEND Definitions

- ▶ MLD- Students with MLD have much greater difficulties than their peers in acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills and in understanding concepts. They have attainments well below expected levels in all or most levels of the curriculum, despite appropriate interventions
- ▶ MSI (Multi-Sensory Impairment)- Students who have both a vision and hearing loss. Some of these students also have medical, physical and cognitive disabilities
- ▶ Physical Disability- A physical impairment that has a “substantial” or long term negative effect on their ability to carry out normal daily activities

# SEND Definitions

- ▶ **PMLD (Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties)**  
Students who have more than one disability with the most significant being physical
- ▶ **SEMH** Displaying disturbing, disruptive and challenging behaviours. These behaviours may reflect an underlying mental health difficulty such as anxiety or depression. Other students may have other disorders such as Attachment Disorder or Attention Deficit Disorder

# SEND Definitions

- ▶ **SLCN (Speech Language and Communication Needs)**
- ▶ Difficulty in understanding and/or making others understand
- ▶ **SLD (Severe Learning Difficulties)**
- ▶ (In Special Schools not mainstream)
- ▶ **Specific Learning Difficulty (SPLD)**
- ▶ **Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and Dyspraxia**
- ▶ Dyslexia- Difficulty with the fluent word in reading/writing
- ▶ Dyscalculia-Difficulty in learning or comprehending numbers
- ▶ Dyspraxia- Developmental coordination disorder affecting the fine and/or gross motor coordination

## School Policies for identification of SEND assessment and provision

- ▶ We expect all students to participate in all areas of school life as far as is physically possible. Our Learning Coaches are responsible and accountable for the progress and development of the students in their class. High quality teaching, differentiated for individual students is the first step in responding to students who have or may have SEND
- ▶ Concerns are referred by the Learning Coaches to the SENDCO, information is gathered from within the school and further assessments made. Where required, external assessment by outside professionals will be made. Parents are informed and invited to school at all stages in discussions.
- ▶ *The school currently has an SEND (Special Educational Needs) policy which can be viewed on the school website.*

# Walsall Studio School SEN

- ▶ We contact our feeder schools and interview students and their carers in order to determine any additional learning needs young people may have. Any new students with SEND and their parents/carers will have a meeting with the SENDCo to establish which support is needed.
- ▶ On entry, all students have a baseline test in Literacy and Maths. The lowest attaining students in literacy are offered extra literacy support in small teaching groups.
- ▶ All interventions that are required that are subject based are managed by each individual department
- ▶ Students also have support with their wellbeing through the SENDCo and their Personal Coach



# ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS for EXAMS

All students that may require Access Arrangements for exams are tested well in advance of their first GCSE exam.

The students are tested using the WIAT-T-II a comprehension and reading accuracy test. The Single Word Spelling Test and if appropriate the DASH handwriting test which looks at speed and legibility.

Usually students who are granted access arrangements have a reader, scribe or possibly extra time.

Some students are entitled to use a Laptop in exams using exam guidelines.

Occasionally we apply for specific arrangements such as enlarged papers or a lip speaker.

# Name and contact details of the SENCo

- ▶ **Anna Branton**
- ▶ Bachelor of Education
- ▶ Postgraduate Special and Inclusive Education
- ▶ Postgraduate Certificate, SENDCo National Qualification
- ▶ 12 years working in various schools across the age range (including 2 years in Grand Cayman, The Caribbean) supporting and teaching SEND students, including those with Emotional, Behavioural and Mental Health difficulties
- ▶ Mental Health First Aid Training (2017)
- ▶ Tel: 01922 621951 ext 212
- ▶ Email: [anna.branton@walsallstudioschool.co.uk](mailto:anna.branton@walsallstudioschool.co.uk)



# Arrangements for assessing and reviewing progress and the role played by the parents of SEND students

- ▶ Parents play a huge part in the education of their child. They are able to contact the SENDCo by phone or email very easily who will then respond quickly to their queries. They are included in all stages of assessment of their child's SEND
- ▶ The SEND department will give parents a chance to give feedback through a parent voice questionnaire which allows us to see where our strengths and weaknesses are.
- ▶ Parents of a student with a Statement ( or EHC Plan from 2014) are invited in for their child's Annual review once a year, but are also welcome to come into school and discuss and needs throughout the year.
- ▶ Regular assessments are made at WSS in order to evaluate student's progress. Targets are set for Learning and Behaviour with the young person and are reviewed regularly



# Supporting and Consulting Young People and support in moving on to the next phase

- ▶ We believe in consulting young people and involving them in their education
- ▶ Walsall Studio School has a strong Personal Coaching Team who will guide young people towards their goals and ambitions for further education or employment and support them during their time here with regular 1:1 coaching
- ▶ Our curriculum also encourages individuals to look into independent living and participation in society
- ▶ Our Sixth form tutorial time includes applying through the UCAS system and research into Apprenticeships and Careers



# Our approach to teaching young people with SEN

- ▶ At Walsall Studio School there are **five core principles** that underpin our SEND policy:
  1. Equality and respect for all
  2. Diversity and recognition of individual differences
  3. Development through appropriately tailored learning opportunities
  4. Commitment to improvement in teaching and learning practice
  5. Commitment to the spirit of the statutory requirements in legislation for learners with Special educational needs and disabilities



# How adaptations are made to the curriculum and learning environment of young people with SEND

- ▶ Whenever possible, students with Special Needs will be part of the regular groupings in the school, recognising that appropriate support, advice and resources may be necessary
- ▶ The use of individual and group profiles will be used by all learning coaches in the planning of lessons and wider projects to bring focus to the consideration of differentiation. This will include signposting of and response to SEND “Pen Portraits”
- ▶ We will ensure that there is always a range of flexible responses to meet their needs, accommodate their diversity and overcome the barriers to inclusion.
- ▶ Where needed, support and advice will be provided by the SENDCo to support individual young people.

# How equipment and facilities to support SEN will be secured



- ▶ In order to meet the specific needs of students, Walsall Studio School was built in 2013 so that it is accessible for wheelchair users and those with complex physical needs. The school is also working towards ensuring that the school is easily accessible for students with visual needs e.g large door numbers, use of technology and high visibility edging strips on steps and stairs
- ▶ If Walsall Studio School requires specialist equipment the school will request support from outside agencies e.g LEA, Government Grants, in order to meet the needs of the student and allow them greater independence.

# Expertise and Training of Staff to support Young People with SEND

- ▶ In addition to the training and qualifications of the SENDCo we will provide all staff with support, advice and resources needed to ensure that SEND students are properly supported
- ▶ The SENDCo will cascade new SEND information to staff and recommend, where needed, individual strategies for Young People.
- ▶ If further specialist training is needed, professionals from external agencies will be asked to provide training

# Arrangements for complaints from parents of SEND students about provision at the school

- ▶ Parents should initially contact the SENDCo with their complaint .
- ▶ If parents are unhappy about the resolution of their complaint, they should request the complaints procedure and submit their complaint in writing. The complaints procedure can be found on the school website.

# How we solve disputes and problems

- ▶ SEN Mediation and dispute resolution Walsall

At times you may disagree with advice or guidance given to you by your local authority. SEN Mediation is a service to support parents or young people to resolve disagreements with the local authority. Mediation can be used before deciding whether to appeal to the SEND Tribunal about decisions of an assessment or an EHC plan. The contact details for Walsall's mediation service are;

KIDS West Midlands:

- ▶ 249 Birmingham Road,
- ▶ Wylde Green,
- ▶ Sutton Coldfield,
- ▶ West Midlands B72 1EA
  
- ▶ t.0121 355 2707
  
- ▶ w. <http://www.kids.org.uk/Event/sen-mediation-service-walsall>

# Evaluating the effectiveness of the provision of SEN

- ▶ Parent/student questionnaires will always take account the opinions of SEND students in evaluating provision
- ▶ The school has regular inspections from the Dfe and is subject to Ofsted Inspections to measure the effectiveness of SEND at WSS. Our most recent Ofsted Inspection can be viewed on the website
- ▶ The SENDCo will liaise with The SEND Governor as well as Walsall LEA and attend The local SENDCo Forum

# Support for Improving Social, Emotional & Mental Health

- ▶ Walsall Studio School prides itself on the quality of its Personal Coaching and Pastoral Care. Each student is assigned a Personal Coach and for SEND students the SENDCo will also support the Young Person. The Personal Coaches use the CREATE framework which covers all aspects of Social & Emotional Development
- ▶ We also have a Tutorial System and each young person has a tutor who they see every morning and during tutorial which is planned by the SENDCo to the SMSC(Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural) Framework and addresses British Values, Current Affairs and Personal, Social and Health Education.
- ▶ We also have a selected body of Student Coaches and a Student Council. Some of our Sixth Form Students are Peer mentors to the younger students
- ▶ Walsall Studio School has a “family” atmosphere due to its size and it is our aim to make all students feel safe and supported. Safeguarding is Outstanding at our School (Ofsted 2015) The SENDCo is on the Safeguarding Team

# Details of support services for parents of SEND pupils

- ▶ We utilise the following external services for students:
- ▶ Walsall Social Services
- ▶ Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust (School Nurse & Young Person Health Advisor)
- ▶ MASH (Child Protection)
- ▶ CAMHs/ Forward Thinking
- ▶ Virtual School
- ▶ Speech & Language Therapy
- ▶ WPH Counselling
- ▶ CASH Nurse support (Sexual Health and Relationships)
- ▶ IBSS (Behaviour Support)
- ▶ The Beacon
- ▶ The GAP Counselling

# Current numbers on the SEND Register

- ▶ We have 2 students in Yr 10 with EHC Plans
- ▶ 1 student in Yr 11, 2 in Yr 12 and 2 in Yr 13
- ▶ % of students with SEND Support

<b>Y10</b>	<b>28.81%</b>
<b>Y11</b>	<b>42.30%</b>
<b>KS3/4</b>	<b>33.13%</b>
<b>Y12</b>	<b>13.40%</b>
<b>Y13</b>	<b>16.43%</b>
<b>KS5</b>	<b>22.50%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>22.77%</b>

The national Average is % 12.7 (2017)

# Walsall LEA Local offer



- ▶ The Walsall SEND local offer provides information in a single place for children and young people with special educational needs (SEND) and their parents/carers.
- ▶ You can find information on what services children, young people and their families can expect from:
  - ▶ special educational provision;
  - ▶ health provision;
  - ▶ social care provision;
  - ▶ Post 16 and training provision;
- ▶ Use the link below:
- ▶ <http://www.mywalsall.org/walsall-send-local-offer/education> (Currently being updated)