

The Care of Students Who Experience Learning Difficulties

The aims of this school include the recognition of the need to maximise the potential of all students. It is our belief that to achieve this we must identify the educational needs of students who have learning difficulties or those who need extra support so that we are able to provide adequate provision and resources to support them. These students become disillusioned and worried if they feel that they are unable to cope with the educational demands placed upon them. Our policy for students who have learning difficulties aims to prevent this from happening.

Identifying the students with Learning Problems

These students are identified by a variety of methods. Much valuable information is obtained from our feeder schools during the consultation process prior to a student's admission. Also, teachers observe and identify any individual who has difficulty in coping with the demands of their subject. The Student Support Centre collates all this information and ensures that suitable provision is organised.

The Provision

Every curriculum area has a senior member of its staff designated to be responsible for students with special educational needs. Each area has its own policy for assisting such students.

The methods employed include:

- ◆ Monitoring the progress of identified students from day one of their transfer.
- ◆ Diagnostic testing enables The Student Support Centre to identify specific learning problems.
- ◆ Subject teachers are given relevant information about individuals, to help the teacher's understanding of the nature of the student's difficulties.
- ◆ Individuals with complex difficulties are withdrawn from some lessons.
- ◆ Individual work programmes are detailed for students to improve their literacy and numeracy.
- ◆ In addition to withdrawal, students are supported in normal lessons. Here Student Support staff work with students in their regular classes.
- ◆ The Student Support Centre and subject teachers work together to produce suitable materials and resources to help students with their studies.
- ◆ There is a "Homework Club" available for ALL students where Student Support staff will help before, during, and after school.

CONTACT IN SCHOOL

Student Support

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