

ASHLEY HIGH SCHOOL

SEND

Policy

This policy was adopted / updated: November 2022, November 2023

This policy will be reviewed: November 2024

SEND Team: LMT

**SEND Policy and Information**

Ashley High School is a day special school for students with autistic spectrum condition (ASC) and/or social communication difficulties. Many of our students have other additional needs including ADHD, SpLD, high levels of anxiety and SEMH. We currently have 114 students on roll including a new off-site provision for one class. All our students have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). As a maintained school, all our places are allocated via the Local Authority (Halton).

All students are taught with their chronological year group and follow the National Curriculum and a programme of accredited functional qualifications in core subjects at Key Stage 4 and 5. It is our aim that all students are given the opportunity to achieve their full potential both academically and personally. Small class sizes allow for differentiated work, small group or paired work and additional adult support when necessary. Each class has one teacher and, where necessary, at least one member of support staff.

All staff at Ashley High School are expected to meet the needs of every student, both academically and pastorally. However, it is acknowledged that some of our students may require additional support and a more personalised approach in order to meet their more complex needs.

This is provided through a range of approaches which may include:



 **Curriculum Pastoral**

Personalised Transition planning

Pastoral Support Plans

Emotion Coach support

Anger Management

Use of time out areas/quiet room

Emotional check-ins

School Counsellor support

Speech and Language support

Social Stories

Animal Assisted Therapy

Peer Mentoring

Individual Risk Assessments

Personal Handling Plans

Art Therapy

Individualised programme of support

In reach (Literacy/Numeracy)

Targeted curriculum support

Withdrawal support/teaching sessions

SpLD support

Accelerated Reading Programme

Individualised online learning platforms (eg Study Ladder)

Homework Club

Outreach from LA SEND team

**Staff have expertise in the following areas:**

Autism

Asperger’s Syndrome

Social Communication difficulties

Attachment Disorder

Transition

Dyslexia

Phonics

Positive Handling/De-escalation techniques (Team Teach)

**Staff Deployment at the school**

Class sizes are small and where necessary there is at least one member of support staff in every lesson working alongside the teacher. The strength of our support staff was acknowledged in our most recent Ofsted report (Nov 2019):

*‘This is an exceptional school where every pupil is supported to achieve their full potential. Pupils speak with enthusiasm about their school. They enjoy their learning and are proud of their many achievements.’*

**Other key staff deployment**

Emotion Coach (5 days per week)

Emotion Support Coach/TA (5 days per week)

School Counsellor (1 day per week)

Speech and Language Therapist (4 days per week)

Occupational Therapist (1 day per week)

HLTA: Autism & Speech and Language/Social Stories (5 days per week)

Careers Leader (5 days per week)

Annual Review Lead (5 days per week)

**External Partnerships and Transition**

We work closely with the local authority SEND team and the Educational Psychology service in order to fully support all our students from their first transition to our setting and throughout their time at Ashley.

When appropriate, personalised transition plans are put in place following consultation with parents. These are reviewed regularly with the aim of fully integrating students into school as smoothly as possible and with minimum anxiety.

Other services with which we liaise include CAMHS, School Nurse, Health Team, Addaction, Bridge Building Team and the Virtual School.

**Staff Training**

We continue to work towards further developing our support for students with additional needs. We regularly review our systems and practice with a view to further improvement. Whole staff training takes place regularly including any required updates of statutory requirements (eg. Safeguarding) Other whole school CPD has included: Sensory Needs, Attachment Awareness, Asthma, Use of Epipen, Diabetic training, Administration of medication, Mental Health First Aid.

**NAS Accreditation and Awards**

Ashley High School has achieved recognition of outstanding practice in supporting students with Autism. In 2016 the school was reaccredited by the National Autistic Society (2016-19) and in March 2018 was awarded The 2018 Autism Professionals Award for Inspirational Education Provision. In 2019, the school achieved Advanced Accreditation from the National Autistic Society.

This policy should be read alongside the SEND Information Report published on the school website and Halton’s Local Offer website page.