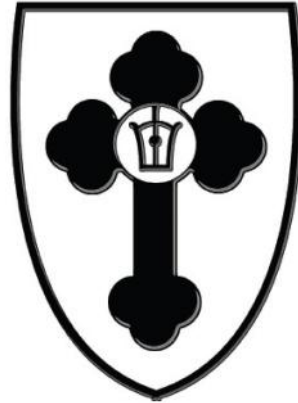


LEARNING SUPPORT

**WILLIAM BROOKES
SCHOOL**



Learning Support

**Parents' Learning
Support Guide
2009 - 2010**



AIMS

The aims of the Learning Support Department are:

To enable all students to develop as fully as possible their abilities, interests and aptitudes and to make additional provision if necessary for those who have a specific difficulty.

To develop skills and attitudes that will enable the students to take their place in a working world.

To develop positive, good social attitudes and relationships.

Teachers:

Mrs L Ravenscroft SEN Co-ordinator
Mrs M Horsley Key Stage 3 Learning Manager

Senior Teaching Assistants:

Mrs R Dickinson
Mrs G Clarke

Teaching Assistants:

Mrs M Bain Mr M Morris
Mrs P Bristow Ms C O'Keeffe
Ms S Brown Mrs H Prydden
Mrs M Evans Ms V Robbins
Ms R Gennard Ms A Vicente
Mrs J Kelly Ms H Wood
Mrs S Lovelace

Student Support Centre:

Mrs S Reynolds (Inclusion Manager)
Mrs S Hall (Behaviour Support Room)



STUDY SUPPORT

In KS4, selected students are invited to join Study Support. This is accredited by ASDAN. The scheme offers a flexible activity-based programme allowing students to develop personal and social skills. The course develops Key Skills of Improving Own Learning; Working with Others and Problem Solving through:

- A college day release or a full day work placement per week, starting in Year 10.
- Volunteering in the local community.
- Consideration of Law & Order and how it affects them. This includes visits to a Police Station and the Magistrates Court.
- Individual careers interview and action planning, including trips to local colleges of further education.
- Participation in a St John's Ambulance Young Lifesaver Award (to Level III).
- Accreditation through the ASDAN Wider Skills Awards (up to 3GCSE equivalents)
- Coursework support

ORGANISATION

The Learning Support Department is based in two purpose-built rooms in the main part of the school. The Learning Support Base is equipped with computers and materials to provide extra resources to aid students' learning. Support is provided for students who need extra help in order to benefit fully from all areas of the curriculum. All students are integrated into mainstream classes and the majority of support is provided within the classroom, by subject based Teaching Assistants, complemented by individual and small group sessions if and when appropriate.

The Department has a team of caring and committed teaching staff and teaching assistants. Most Teaching Assistants are based in a subject team.

All students are part of the whole school. They are all members of a mixed ability tutor group. Many of the lessons in KS3 are taught in these groups, although students are regrouped by ability in some subjects. Much of the help given to students is through in-class support. This is provided by a second adult in the class who is either a special needs teacher or a teaching assistant. The second adult, though nominally attached to one or two students in a class, can offer help to a wider number of students who may need help at a given time. Thus support is more widely spread and getting help from a second adult is part of the normal routine of the classroom.

Some students are withdrawn from the mainstream lessons for short periods of individual help if a

learning difficulty is slowing their progress.

A small number of students with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties also have individual support and counselling. By using a number of approaches, we hope to offer the maximum support with the minimum of isolation. We work closely with the Inclusion Manager and the Inclusion Assistant when appropriate. The Key Stage 3 Strategies in Literacy and Numeracy, support students at all levels by placing them in groups if they need extra help.

Supervised homework help is available in Room 19 every lunchtime. Specialist Maths and Science homework clubs are in the Maths block on Tuesday & Wednesday lunchtimes. A sanctuary at school provides a quiet lunchtime environment; students attend by invitation.

THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

The National Curriculum is the entitlement of all children. This applies equally to children with rights under the 1981 Education Act. Students' needs will vary. Children with difficulties may need extra resources to ensure full access to the National Curriculum. The Learning Support staff work closely with others to consider the best provision for the full ability range.

CODE OF PRACTICE

William Brookes School follows the principles and guidelines of the 2001 Code of Practice on the identification and assessment of Special Educational Needs.

Our full SEN policy is available on request.



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