



**Orchard Hill College & Academy Trust**

# **SEN Policy**

**St Philip's School**

**The OHC&AT Board of Directors has agreed this Policy – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016.**

Jay Mercer

Chair of OHCAT Board



## ST PHILIP'S SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS POLICY

### Principles

The Governors, Senior Leadership Team and staff at St Philip's School are fully committed to the ideal of maximising the potential of pupils/students by meeting their individual needs. They adhere to the following principles:

- Pupils are entitled to have access to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum. The curriculum must be well-matched and appropriately differentiated to their individual needs and underpinned by specialist approaches and strategies to address those needs.
- Pupils must have free access to the school buildings and facilities so that they can be treated equitably irrespective of their disabilities.
- Pupils within the Academy are regarded and treated as unique individuals who must be given the opportunity to excel and experience achievement. Their successes, however small, will be recognised and celebrated.
- Pupils benefit most when their individual needs and starting points are clearly identified in a pro-active manner, so that programmes of intervention can be effectively planned implemented, monitored and reviewed.
- All teachers at St Philip's School are considered to be teachers of Special Needs, whose role is to plan and develop the curriculum to take account of individual differences.
- The pastoral and academic areas of the curriculum are managed in such a way as to ensure that the participation of pupils in their own learning is maximised and to enable them to fully achieve their potential.
- Working in partnership with parents, carers and families is key to supporting the needs of pupils.
- A multi-disciplinary and inter-agency approach involving the expertise and resources of outside partners is essential when working with pupils whose individual needs are additional and complex.

It is recognised that the 1996 Education Act, the Children and Families Act 2014 and the 2014 SEND Code of Practice are valuable sources of structure and guidance in developing systems and processes which will help to ensure that the needs of all pupils at St Philip's School are met.

## **Aims**

We will aim to:

- Ensure that all pupils at the Academy receive appropriate teaching and support which takes into account their Special Needs.
- Ensure that work is well-matched and differentiated where necessary and that teaching methods and practice are regularly reviewed to ensure that they remain appropriate and relevant to the needs of the individual.
- Involve pupils and families in decisions regarding education and the meeting of the pupils' needs, to support them to promote learning and development and planning for their future.
- Ensure that resources available to the Academy (including financial, staffing, technical and advisory) are deployed appropriately and effectively to meet pupils' needs.
- Liaise effectively with individuals and organisations who have an interest in, or are able to make a positive contribution towards, pupils' lives.
- Plan the provision of appropriate staff development and training to ensure that staff enhance and update their skills in meeting the needs of pupils with Special Needs.
- Ensure that the obligations of the Academy are met in respect of the Children and Families Act 2014 in accordance with the SEND Code of Practice.
- Work collaboratively with the multidisciplinary team such as therapists and medical professionals and agencies to support the development and wellbeing of the whole person.

## **ADMISSIONS**

St Philip's School is a special educational needs school for young people aged 11-19 years. The current number of planned places, agreed with the local authority, is 143.

The local authority (Achieving for Children, SEN Department) is the Admissions Authority for the school.

We consider requests for placement at the school in the light of the needs of the school as a whole. We do this to ensure that we are able to continue to meet the needs of all students effectively; this includes consideration of placements that put the school roll above the agreed number of planned places.

### **Admission Criteria**

Pupils will be considered for a place at St Philip's School when it is clear that they will benefit from the provision and that they meet the following criteria:

1. Applicants will have a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

In some cases it might be necessary to offer a (temporary) 'assessment' place; for instance, when a child arrives as an 'in-year' transfer to a mainstream secondary school and demonstrates significant learning difficulties that would normally warrant a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) being awarded.

2. Applicants will be operating at academic levels considerably below age-expected; their learning difficulties would be described as moderate.
3. Applicants may have additional needs; these may include one or a combination of the following:
  - Autistic Spectrum Disorder
  - Speech, Language and Communication difficulties
  - Mild sensory impairment and/or mild physical disabilities
  - Medical needs, such as epilepsy
  - Emotional issues
  - Other – such as ADHD/chromosomal syndromes

Interested parents/carers are encouraged to visit the school. It is preferable for Year 6 pupils to accompany their parents/carers on a visit.

No decision can be made about the ability of the school to meet a child or young person's needs, or an offer of a place made, until the local authority has formally consulted with the school.

Parents/carers should indicate St Philip's School as their preference at their child's Year 5 Annual Review or Year 6, at the latest, if the Annual Review is held early in the Autumn Term.

Alternatively, Kingston parents/carers may contact their child's SEN Case Manager or the SEN department directly:

Achieving for Children (SEN)  
42 York street  
Twickenham  
TW1 3BW

Tel: 020 8547 6632

Email: [afc.sen.kingston@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:afc.sen.kingston@achievingforchildren.org.uk)

Parents/carers of out-borough children must proceed through their local authority arrangements for making consultation requests, to Kingston SEN (Achieving for Children), on their behalf.

## **POLICY REVIEW DETAILS**

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|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Version:</i>                    | 1.1                              |
| <i>Reviewer:</i>                   | Ashley Jordan-Diaper, John Prior |
| <i>Approval body:</i>              | Family Board                     |
| <i>Date this version approved:</i> | 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2016       |
| <i>Due for review:</i>             | Summer 2017                      |

## **RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Admissions Policy  
Equality and Diversity Policy