

SEN FAQs FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Questions	Answers
1. How does the Academy know if I need extra help?	The Academy gets information from your last school which helps us know if you may need some help in school. We also have staff who look out and report information to us if they become concerned about you in class. We monitor your work in class every term to see how well you are working towards your targets. You also can tell us if you think you are having problems with your work. You may tell a teacher, your Form Tutor or come and see either Mrs Tordoff or Miss Duddridge. If you feel too shy, you can ask your parents to ring up and speak to us.
2. What should I do if I think I need extra help?	You need to tell us if you think you need extra help. You can either do this by talking to your parents and asking them to phone school, talking to your Form Tutor or any of your teachers, or staff in our student support area called the POD4U. This information will then be passed on to Mrs Tordoff or Miss Duddridge. Or you can simply come and speak to us yourself.
3. How will my course work be organised to meet my individual needs?	At the Academy we try and place you within a group where the work is set and done at the right speed and level for you. If it is found that you are working above that level, we can move your group; the same thing happens if you are finding the work too hard. We also have sessions to help you if you are struggling with a particular area like English or Maths. Sometimes these sessions take place during form time, or sometimes you may come out of a couple of lessons to take part in these sessions. In Years 10 and 11 teachers will guide you and work with you to make sure you have the best chance of learning how to work under exam conditions.
4. How will I be involved in planning for my needs and who will explain it and help me?	If you have a Statement (EHCP) you will have and may already have had the opportunity to discuss any needs that you think need to be met at the Academy. If you are moving from Year 6, you may also have had your own meeting with the SENCo and your parents to discuss your needs. If not, the SENCos can make themselves available to discuss any extra needs which you feel you might need, either on your own or with your parent, by making an appointment at reception. Consultation evenings are also an opportunity when you can come and speak to your subject teachers about your progress and set up any extra help/new targets that you may need to progress.
5. Who will tell me what I can do to help myself and be more independent?	If you have a Statement (EHCP) you may already have targets set on your Individual Learning Plan that will help you to become more independent. There are also many extra-curricular clubs which you could join to help build up your confidence and help you to become more independent.
6. What should I do if I am worried about something?	If it is a problem with work it is best to speak to the subject teacher or your form tutor. This will then lead to the problem being sorted out between you. For personal issues, it is better to speak to one of our student mentors who are located down in Pod4U. Miss Kershaw and Mrs Horsfield are both experienced student mentors.

<p>7. How will I know if I am doing as well as I should at school?</p>	<p>All students are given target grades when they come to the Academy and your teachers will let you know on a termly basis whether you are reaching or exceeding your target grade and how you can improve. You will also get the opportunity to attend a parent's evening and at any time during the school year if you wish to know more about how you are doing we can organise a mini feedback from staff about your progress in each subject.</p>
<p>8. Are there staff in the Academy who have been trained to help young people who need extra help?</p>	<p>There are many staff who have been trained to give extra help to young people. We have staff in the student support service, called the POD4U, who can listen to any problems you may be experiencing in school. We also have around 15 Educational Support Assistants who have worked with young people who have many different issues which can affect their learning. We also have four Higher Learning and Teaching Assistants who are trained to break down work in to smaller and easier chunks and help students to grasp this work in a smaller group situation. Finally, for students experiencing difficulties with the set-up of Academy life we have two areas where students may go to experience a break from the normal routines.</p>
<p>9. Can the Academy get extra help from experts outside the Academy if they need to?</p>	<p>The Academy has access to a range of out of school expertise. First of all we have our own Educational Psychologist called Tracy Laverick who is in school one day a week and is happy to speak to parents, staff and pupils once permission has been gained. The school has access to the Nursing services and Hearing and Visual impaired services. We can also access when requested the Communications and Interactions Team (CIAT) and travel training services. The Academy also benefit from access to a careers service through Jo Sergeant.</p>