

Aylesbury Vale Academy

Special Educational Needs (Information) Regulation

Annual Report 2018/19

All mainstream schools and maintained nursery schools are required by law to produce a Special Educational Needs Report on an annual basis, [Special Educational Needs \(Information\) Regulations Clause 65](#)

All mainstream schools and maintained nursery schools are required by law to make their Special Educational Needs Report available on their website.

This template document has been co-produced by parents of children and young people with SEND in Buckinghamshire.

1. The type of SEND provision that the Aylesbury Vale Academy provides is mainstream.

The Academy's Accessibility policy can be found here:

<https://www.theacademy.me/page/?title=Policies&pid=27>

The Academy's Policy

2. The Academy's Policy (including pupils who do and do not have an EHC Plan) is as follows:
 - identifying and assessing pupils with SEND

All students attending Aylesbury Vale Academy are monitored and assessed regularly and carefully to ensure that they are making appropriate progress. In addition to this, students' interactions with others are observed along with their social competency. If it is felt that a student is experiencing difficulties that hinder his/her ability to make progress, a meeting with the class teacher/form tutor, SENDCo and parents/carers is arranged. All concerns raised during the meeting are considered and strategies to support the student are then agreed and implemented. Every member of staff coming into contact with the student will be advised of the planned support strategies either through an Individual Provision Map or an SEND Support Plan, depending on need. If, after the student has been on a support plan, serious concerns remain, an application for an Educational Health care Plan may be submitted to the Local Authority.

- evaluating the effectiveness of its provision for pupils with SEND

The SENDCo monitors and evaluates all SEND provision within the setting. This is done by measuring progress through observation, rigorous data recording/comparisons, discussions and meetings with staff, students, parents and external professionals where applicable.

- assessing and reviewing the progress of pupils with SEND

Meetings to review SEND provision are held regularly, and include the advice of all professionals working with the individual student or family. At each review meeting, targets are evaluated and reset, and all progress towards outcomes is measured and reported. For those students on an SEND Support Plan, a termly parental meeting is arranged with the SENDCo (or keyworker in Early Years) to review progress in meeting desired outcomes and agree the student's next steps. The SENDCo holds a yearly review of all EHC Plans in the Academy in conjunction with parents, students and external professionals. The EHC Plan is re-visited termly and reviewed with the student and their family.

The Aylesbury Vale Academy's Approach to Teaching

3. The Aylesbury Vale Academy's approach to teaching pupils with SEND (including pupils who do and do not have an EHC Plan) is as follows:
 - by adapting the curriculum & learning environment that ensures:
 - An interesting and inclusive curriculum that builds on student's strengths and aspirations
 - Differentiation to student's individual levels across the whole curriculum along with adapted resources as required
 - Curriculum adaptation, including smaller classes in English, Maths and Science at KS 4
 - Advice from specialists in order to establish and maintain a safe environment for students with a range of disabilities
 - The provision of access arrangements for both internal and external tests and exams
 - with additional support for learning

Staff are provided with a range of strategies to support differentiation in the classroom. Regular lesson observations are undertaken, to ensure such strategies are being incorporated into lessons. All teachers implement the 'work systems' strategy, which ensures a stepped approach to tasks and aids students with their planning. A team of LSAs supports students with their learning both within the classroom and in small group withdrawals where this is felt appropriate.

- through activities that are available to pupils with SEND in addition to those available through the curriculum

Every student is encouraged to take part in normal school activities as well as extra-curricular clubs and sports. Where required, adaptations are made to ensure that all can participate fully and the student, their parents and where necessary external professionals are consulted, in order to do enable this.

Adjustments to the curriculum take into account the specific difficulties encountered by the student and may take the form of adapted materials, modification of rules and times along with health and safety considerations. At all times the Academy ensures that students are able to play a positive part in decisions when it comes to their inclusion.

- through improving the emotional and social development of pupils with SEND

The Academy delivers a range of interventions to support students' emotional and social development. Interventions are overseen by the Academy's support team and may include mentoring, self-esteem and confidence building clubs as well as small group sessions. The Academy continues to build on the skills of the support team through a range of training opportunities.

The Aylesbury Vale Academy's Facilities

4. The Aylesbury Vale Academy's facilities to include pupils with SEND and how we obtain new or specialist equipment & facilities is as follows:

All students who may encounter accessibility difficulties are assessed to ensure that they can safely leave the building in case of emergency and are included in the planning for their safe evacuation. Where it is felt or advised that specialist equipment or facilities are required, these are provided. The school has both a disabled and general lift, which students can use. Doorways are wheelchair accessible with no steps either into classrooms or to outside areas. Disabled toilet and showering facilities are available when needed.

The Aylesbury Vale Academy's Training

5. The Aylesbury Vale Academy's arrangement for training staff in relation to pupils with SEND is as follows:

Whole school staff training, based on identified student need is delivered on a regular basis. This could be group focused i.e. students with processing speed difficulties or focused on the specific needs of a particular individual. Outside professionals linked to named students provide consultation surgeries and on-going training to both teachers and support staff as required. Support staff are actively encouraged to undertake training as various learning opportunities become available.

- Specialist expertise is obtained by the Aylesbury Vale Academy

Specialist expertise is obtained through a variety of sources. Staff training is purchased through the Buckinghamshire Learning Trust or is provided through bought-in services from other providers where available and relevant to the Academy's requirements.

The Aylesbury Vale Academy's Consultation

6. The Aylesbury Vale Academy's arrangements to consult with and involve are as follows:

- parents/carers of SEND pupils concerning the education of their child / young person

Parents are regularly consulted in relation to their child's support and its progress/effectiveness. This is undertaken through regular meetings, telephone calls, emails and letters. The Academy welcomes parents' input into the support of their children and is keen to develop and build supportive relationships.

- children/ young people about their education

Children and young people are actively encouraged to take ownership of their support and learning and have a voice in how it should be shaped. They are included in all meetings, whether in termly parents' evenings or SEN support meetings held as and when deemed appropriate. Teachers mark books regularly and provide constructive feedback, which encourages students to develop further their subject knowledge. In addition to this, regular verbal feedback is provided informally when students are working on a task and when responses to teachers' questions are made.

The Aylesbury Vale Academy's Partnerships

7. The Aylesbury Vale Academy's Governing Board involves other bodies (including health, social care, BCC support services, voluntary & community groups) to meet the needs of pupils with SEND and their families by the following:

The Academy has access to a range of external professionals. Where appropriate the Academy makes referrals to the Speech and Language, Occupational Therapy or Specialist Teaching Services. Prior to any referral being made, parents will have been consulted to gain consent and the student will be discussed with the service to explain the reasons for the referral. Following a specialist assessment, the relevant service provides a report detailing support requirements to be built into the support plan and circulated to teaching staff, so that they can implement the advice. Where specific provision is recommended in a small group, this too will be implemented within the Academy. Before any of the additional support is provided, a parent / student meeting is undertaken to outline the strategies and provision recommendations so that both parents and children/young people have a "voice" in their planned support.

The Academy also works with the Educational Psychology Team who discuss concerns it has in relation to individual students. Where it is felt that the Educational Psychologist should see the student to carry out a review of full assessment, parental consent is sought.

The parent will be given an outline of the concerns and what form the assessment will take. A full assessment will involve meetings with parents/teachers/support staff and the child or young person. The form these meetings take will be planned dependent on the needs of the individual. The written report created is then shared with all concerned so that targets and desired outcomes can be incorporated into the Support Plan or Educational Health Care Plan. Advice received will be circulated to staff teaching or supporting the child. The Academy buys into services provided by the Specialist Teaching Service and other outside professional bodies as deemed appropriate.

Where students are supported by external professionals from Social Care, CAMHS and the health service, specialist advice is sought and the Academy strives to work effectively in conjunction with these other agencies. Where it is felt a student with SEND may have difficulties around personal safety, resources such as 'Keep Safe' and 'R U Safe?' are used.

8. The Aylesbury Vale Academy's arrangements for pupils with SEND transferring between other education providers or preparing for adulthood & independent living are as follows:

Wherever possible, students transferring into the Academy are afforded visits prior to admission. Vulnerable students or those with SEND are invited to special visits, designed to familiarise them with the school setting and to allow them to meet key staff and take part in a range of fun activities and specially planned lessons. Liaison takes place between staff from the existing school and those at the Academy to ensure that staff are made aware of students' needs before they transfer to the Academy.

When SEND students leave the Academy to start at a new school, all of the SEND information is transferred, including current needs, past provision, advice on specialist equipment or relevant task / site adaptations. All KS 4 students with SEND are provided with a Connexions meeting so that any support required in terms of post 16 applications is provided. The Connexions' advisor is invited to all support reviews to help facilitate a smooth transition to further education. The Aylesbury Vale Academy Team is available to other educational providers for discussions and meetings in relation to students joining or moving on from the Academy.

9. The Aylesbury Vale Academy communicates the contact details for the support listed above to pupils with SEND and their families during meetings and as advised by telephone.

The Aylesbury Vale Academy's Key Contacts

10. The name and contact details of the Aylesbury Vale Academy's SEND co-ordinator

Name: Mrs N Bowley SENCO Email: nbowley@theacademy.me Tel: 01296 428 551

Primary phase contact: Mrs C Heale Email: cheale@theacademy.me Tel: 01296 674263

11. The contact for compliments, concerns or complaints from parents of pupils with SEND

Name: Ms R Rochefort Chair of Governors

Email: cog@theacademy.me

The Aylesbury Vale Academy's Complaints policy can be found here:

<https://www.theacademy.me/page/?title=Policies&pid=27>

The Aylesbury Vale Academy's link to the Bucks Local Offer

Information for the Local Offer for Buckinghamshire is available at www.bucksfamilyinfo.org/localoffer

The Bucks Local Offer provides information and advice on Special Education Needs & Disability provision, both inside and outside the Local Authority. If you wish to contact Buckinghamshire County Council about the Local Offer please call 0845 688 4944 or email familyinfo@buckscc.gov.uk