

# **SEN and Learning Difficulties Policy**

## **Admissions and Special Needs**

We welcome all children who can make the most of the opportunities that we offer and can flourish in the caring environment of Rossall School. Treating every child as an individual is important to us, and we welcome pupils with special educational needs, providing that our Independent Learning Unit can provide them with the support that they require. We do not however, have the facilities to offer highly specialised and intensive treatment.

It is essential that parents submit, in advance, a current Educational Psychologist's report to enable the School to gauge the level of support required.

Staff provide support in the curriculum and work on boosting language skills, on memory and study skills. Help may be available for pupils with dyslexic-related mathematical difficulties. The aim is to enable the individual to cope as effectively as possible with the normal curriculum. The School's philosophy is that expert tuition should be complemented by participation in timetabled lessons so that the individual pupil does not feel detached from the School community.

## **On Entry**

Each pupil with a special educational need requires special consideration and treatment. If appropriate, adjustments will need to be put in place. We will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisers the adjustments that can reasonably be made for their child once they have accepted the offer of a place and before he/she becomes a pupil at the school.

Our Independent Learning Unit is staffed by a fully qualified specialist who is able to support each pupil with a specific learning difficulty in the following areas: The main forms of disability relate to dyslexic tendencies, short-term memory problems and organisational difficulties' however children with hearing and sight impairments are also successfully integrated and accommodated.

## **Monitoring and Review**

We arrange for pupils with identified or suspected learning difficulties to be assessed by a specialist so that we can identify the areas that require support. We offer specialist one to one lessons and help with study skills outside the normal curriculum. Pupils are usually taken for one, two or more sessions per week, depending upon need, missing an agreed subject, usually a second language. If it is preferred, another time may be found. We work closely with the child and his/her parents and to help him/her to overcome the barriers that his/her difficulties present.

In full consultation with parents and other interested parties e.g. educational psychologists, the Special Educational Needs Coordinator will identify the specific needs of the child and put in place an individual educational plan. This plan will also identify reasonable adjustments that can be made to the school facilities both physical and educational.

### **Physical Accessibility**

We recognise that some children with special education needs may also have physical disabilities. Parents and prospective parents of disabled children can obtain copies of Rossall School's Accessibility Plan and Disability Policy from the web site. This shows the ways in which we plan to make our buildings progressively more accessible to disabled pupils, parents and visitors.

### **Other Adjustments**

We are able, depending on need, to arrange for children to use laptop computers in classes.

### **English as a Foreign Language**

In order to cope with the academic and social demands of Rossall School, pupils must be fluent English speakers. We may recommend that some children, whose first language at home is not English, receive individual tuition in English as a Foreign Language.

### **Staff Training**

Our teaching staff receive training on the learning needs of pupils with special education needs, English as a Second Language and disabilities.

### **Charging Policy**

Support lessons in the Independent Learning Unit are an extra cost and billed termly. Our charges for individual tuition in English as a Foreign Language are an extra cost and are also billed termly.

### **Related Policies**

- Disability Policy
- Accessibility Plan
- Bullying
- Administration of Medicines
- Disability: Employment Policy and Procedures

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**Revision of policy:    September 2013**