

Additional Literacy Curriculum Overview



At Learning Opportunities we offer individual literacy lessons that focus upon improving literacy through emphasis on student motivation, engagement and achievement. Sessions are regular timetabled slots in which students develop their reading, writing, spelling, phonics, and comprehension and ICT skills. Additionally students are encouraged to participate in playing games that develop knowledge and enjoyment of words. The literacy department works closely with the students regular classroom teachers to ensure cohesion between student's classroom work and the work they undertake with the literacy department. This includes identifying and sharing areas of strength and weakness and the implementation of strategies to support the students in their regular classroom environment. In addition we strive to hear students read at least once a day with staff and reading books to go home to ensure parent / carer support, along with weekly spellings. Certificates of achievement are awarded and go home regularly to inform parents and carers of success. Students are encouraged to access the school library and are encouraged to read and access a range of different texts and resources including newspapers, novels, comics, magazines, and websites.

Aims and Objectives

- ▶ to provide a sensitive and effective response to each student's needs as they change throughout their school career
- ▶ to support the student's access to the curriculum throughout the school
- ▶ to support the exam officer when applying for special arrangements
- ▶ to maximise opportunity to achieve students' own aims for their school career
- ▶ to support students to become independent learners for life
- ▶ initially to assess formally all students' attainments in the key areas of single word reading, reading comprehension, spelling, and computational skills to provide evidence for planned, individual interventions
- ▶ annually to assess formally all students to monitor progress and adjust programmes
- ▶ to use a nationally recognised and consistent set of tests
- ▶ to assess handwriting formally at the beginning of KS4 to inform decisions about examination access arrangements
- ▶ in liaison with colleagues and the head teacher to refer students for external assessment where expertise within the school is limited

Summary of Curriculum Content

- ▶ There is no one curriculum.
- ▶ Individual programmes are designed for each student according to their needs. Medium Term Plans outline termly objectives which are reviewed and adjusted.
- ▶ Individual Lesson Plans detail work covered for each individual and Daily Lesson Observation Sheets monitor progress closely.
- ▶ Individual needs are met by using a variety of teaching techniques taking into account every facet of the student's learning style. Resources are often made to meet an individual need.
- ▶ Broadly, needs cover Literacy, Speech, Language and Communication, preparation for answering examination questions across the curriculum, Emotional Literacy, Handwriting and/or Typing and support in developing research skills.