

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What do I do if I think my child has an undiagnosed Special Educational Need?

If your child is a current student at All Hallows Catholic School and you are concerned that they may have an undiagnosed Special Educational Need, please contact the SENDCo using the SEND Concern Form under the 'Quick Links' section.

For concerns regarding Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), a medical diagnosis is required. Please also contact your GP who can make the appropriate referral.

### Are you able to diagnose my child with Dyslexia?

No. At All Hallows we use a screening tool which is assured by the British Dyslexia Association. However, this is a screening tool and is not a diagnosis. If you believe your child may be dyslexic, please speak to the SENDCo in the first instance using the SEND Concern Form under 'Quick Links'. If necessary, you may wish to contact the Helen Arkell Centre or a private Educational Psychologist for an assessment. Please note, under JCQ regulations, a private dyslexia report does not automatically qualify a student for Access Arrangements for their examinations.

### What do I do if I believe my child may need an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)?

Details regarding the EHC application process can be found on the Surrey Local Offer. A link to this can be found under 'Links to External Support'. A flow diagram of the steps we must take in school before applying for an EHC assessment can be found here: [SEND Support Arrangements Process](#)

Please contact the SENDCo if you believe your child is not making progress despite the interventions in place for them using the SEND Concern Form under 'Quick Links'.

## Contact Information

**SENDCo:** Ms R Peters

**Assistant SENDCo:** Mrs K Attrill

## Quick Links

[SEND Policy](#)

[SEND Concern Form](#)

## Links to External Support

[Surrey Local Offer](#)

[National Autistic Society](#)

[British Dyslexia Association](#)

[Mind for Better Mental Health](#)

### **How does All Hallows identify and assess students with SEND?**

At All Hallows we assess each student's skills and levels of attainment on entry and reassess students yearly throughout KS3 using a standardised screening tool. The test has British Dyslexia Association assured status, but it can only be used for screening purposes. It cannot diagnose dyslexia. In addition, in every class and every subject there is a continuous cycle of planning, teaching, assessing and evaluating. Through this, teaching staff are able to identify those whose progress is significantly below that of their peers starting from the same baseline, fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress, fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers or widens the attainment gap. Slow progress and low attainment will not automatically mean a student is recorded as having SEN.

### **What additional support for learning does All Hallows provide?**

A wide variety of strategies are used to provide SEN support for students in the various learning areas of the curriculum. The following interventions and methods are currently used within the school:

- differentiation of input, tasks and outcome;
- small group intensive support sessions in literacy and numeracy;
- catch-up spelling groups;
- specialist programmes run by the educational psychologist;
- extra-curricular homework/ coursework support club;
- speech and language support for targeted students;
- support in examinations for specific students;
- students with an EHC plan may receive one-to-one or paired withdrawal and in-class support in line with the statutory requirements outlined in their EHC plan;
- students with SEND receive in-class support where possible and are taken out of lessons for targeted numeracy and literacy sessions if the SENDCo identifies the need;
- students with SEND are monitored carefully by the SENDCo and staff are made aware of their needs through a Pupil Passport. It is the classroom teacher's responsibility to ensure that the needs of these students are being met through effective differentiation

### **Can my child be awarded Access Arrangements for their GCSE examinations?**

The SENDCo organises the provision of exam access arrangements with the help of the in-house Access Arrangements Officer and Examinations Officer. Public examination access arrangements are overseen by the regulatory body; the Joint Council for Qualifications [JCQ]. The SENDCo must follow the regulations for the award of exam access arrangements stipulated annually by the JCQ. Before a pupil can be assessed for access arrangements, school-based evidence must be submitted by subject teachers evidencing the need for an access arrangement (for example, the student runs out of time in class tests where their peers do not). Once this evidence has been collated, the in-house assessor will conduct an assessment free of charge that fulfils the JCQ criteria. The awarded exam access arrangement or adjustment must become the students' 'normal way of working' and we must be able to show that they derive 'substantial benefits' from this way of working. This is evidenced by trialling the access arrangement for class- based assessments and in mock exams. In the rare case that parents appoint an external assessor, the assessor must have an established relationship with the school, and school-based evidence must be submitted to the external assessor prior to an assessment being carried out. If the aforementioned conditions are not met, the school will be unable to accept the findings of the external assessor.

### **How can I support my child with their homework?**

Invitations to The Ark Plus One homework club are sent to children with SEND who are identified as needing additional homework support. The homework club runs every Monday to Thursday from 3.15-4.15pm. Places at The Ark Plus One are limited and are offered on a first-come, first-served basis each half term. If your child is unable to attend this supported homework club, please contact their Head of Year who can provide details of their year group homework club.