

# Brook Green Centre for Learning SEN Policy



## **Introduction – Vision, Values and Aims**

At Brook Green Centre for Learning we believe that everyone has the right to learn and succeed. Our staff and governors work with young people, parents / carers and appropriate outside agencies in order to remove barriers to learning.

The Brook Green community aims for all of our young people to experience an enjoyable and challenging education, involving literacy, numeracy and social skills throughout all subjects. Students are enabled to take a wide range of recognised qualifications in order for them to have opportunities to choose appropriate next steps towards further education, training or employment.

Each young person is treated with dignity and respect, and these values are taught and encouraged with the goal of students playing a contributing role to society.

We aim to achieve the above in the following ways:

- Every young person has the right to make choices, to be informed, to be consulted and to have a voice. Person centred planning contributes to this.
- Students' progress will be monitored, recorded and celebrated

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

Our SEN information report ('School Offer'), which is published on our web-site and updated annually

Plymouth Local Authority's 'Local Offer'

Our Admissions Policy

Our Vision Statement

Our policy and school offer have been developed in consultation with staff, Governors and parents/carers and will be reviewed by Governors on an annual basis.

Our named SENCO, Sarah Holt is responsible for developing this policy and the school offer and for ensuring their implementation.

## **Our Designation**

Brook Green Centre for Learning is designated as a school for students with cognition and learning needs and associated SEMH (social, mental and emotional health needs). Our students may have, in addition, communication and interaction needs and or sensory/physical needs. All of our students have a statement of special needs or EHC plan.

## **Admissions**

All admissions to special schools in Plymouth, including Brook Green Centre for Learning, are determined by a Local Authority Single Multi Agency Panel (SMAP).

The panel considers all evidence submitted as well as family preference. All students that attend Brook Green Centre for Learning must have a Statement of Special Educational Need or an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan (please see our Admissions Policy).

### **Current Legislation:**

The SEN code of Practice (2014) states that all children and young people are entitled to an education that enables them to make progress so that they can:

- Achieve their best
- Become confident individuals living fulfilling lives
- Make a successful transition into adulthood

This policy has been written to comply with 2014 legislation and to reflect Brook Green's vision and ethos, which is based on the dignity of the individual and that individual's right to an education and a voice in society.

### **Our Ethos**

Staff work with governors and parents/carers to ensure that our students experience a vibrant, enjoyable and challenging education where they are expected to achieve the highest standards they are capable of achieving. We aim for all students to be literate and numerate and confident to succeed in their future adult lives when they leave Brook Green.

We will enable students to take as wide a range of recognised qualifications as possible in order for them to have opportunities to choose appropriate next steps.

We will ensure that our students are confidently able to take a full role in the world beyond school.

- Our SENCO and school staff liaise regularly with parents/carers and other professionals about provision. This can include Educational Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists, school nurses, a school doctor and Counsellor
- We emphasise preparation for life beyond school through working with Careers South West and through our transition to College and work experience programmes.
- Parents/carers are encouraged to be an active part of their child's education and are kept informed through parents' evenings and annual review meetings as well as through the use of home/school diaries.
- Parents are supported in a number of ways for example through weekly parent group meetings held at Brook Green Centre, E Safety sessions and Literacy and Numeracy drop ins.
- Brook Green works closely with support services from Health, Education and Social Care.
- Students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum and have the opportunity to take nationally recognised qualifications.
- Students' progress is reviewed at least half termly and targets are formulated in consultation with parents/carers and other professionals.
- Staff training – all staff receive comprehensive and on-going training in meeting the needs of young people with a range of learning difficulties. This is tailored to individual need but includes ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) training, Health and Safety training, the nationally accredited SENCO (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) award NASENCO (National Award for SEN Coordination), MAPA (Management of Actual or Potential Aggression) training, ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) training, work with occupational therapists and speech therapists, safeguarding training (all) and behaviour management strategies.
- Monitoring of education is evidenced through learning walks, the work of governors committees and involvement in the day-to-day activities of the school.

- Information about Brook Green's approach to SEN is available on the school website and this information is updated at least annually in the SEN information report. The website also signpost parents/carers to the Local Authority's Local Offer.

This Policy was adopted and ratified by the Board of Governors of Brook green Centre for Learning at the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Review Date: Spring 2018