

## The Meadows Sports College SEN Information report

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### SEN information 2016/7

The Meadows Sports College is a secondary day special school for young people aged 11-19 years. We have currently 144 pupils on role. The Meadows Sports College provides educational opportunities for young people with a wide range of complex difficulties. **All** young people admitted to the school will have a severe learning difficulty however also they may have a range of additional problems, these may include:

- Autism
- Sensory impairments, including visual and or hearing impairment
- Physical impairments
- Epilepsy
- Challenging behaviour
- Speech, language and communication difficulties
- Complex medical needs

### What kind of SEN provision is available at the Meadows Sports College

Young people may fall into more than one of the above categories. It is important then that the school is clear about its specific approaches to each of the categories and is able to respond to individual needs in a structured, cohesive and personalised way.

At the Meadows Sports College - the young people's identified needs will be complex including: severe learning difficulties, and profound and multiple learning difficulties. These may include young people with sensory and physical difficulties. Autistic spectrum conditions and or challenging behaviour or a combination of these difficulties. The admission arrangements for our young people can be found on our website within the admission policy.

### How will the Meadows Sports College identify and assess my son/daughter's special needs?

Young people are admitted to the Meadows Sports College following consideration of all multi-agency evidence. On admission the LA will provide a copy of all assessments previously undertaken with the young person from the relevant agencies.

On entry the school will undertake an assessment of each young person's educational needs. This will take place in conjunction with the relevant professionals from other agencies. In order to undertake this assessment the school will use the schools own curriculum documentation and assessment tool.

Following the assessment an Educational and Health Care plan (EHCP) will be written and forwarded to the LA. This will be shared with the families through the school's annual reporting process.

This year families of young people in years 14, 11 and a small group of year 10 will have their Statement of special educational need transferred to an EHCP.

### **How does the Meadows Sports College evaluate the effectiveness of our provision?**

We have robust procedures for self-evaluation and monitoring of our work. Members of the Senior Leadership team monitor all teachers on a termly basis. In addition, the school is supported and challenged by the LA School improvement partner.

### **How does our school meet the needs of the young people?**

Following the assessment the school will be able to place the young person on the relevant level of the school curriculum.

The school provides a personalised curriculum full of enrichment opportunities, which is relevant to real life and which meets the needs of individual young people and fulfils statutory requirements.

Full details of the curriculum can be found on the Curriculum Statement.

Records will be kept in line with the school's Assessment Recording and Reporting policy and these records will be used to monitor the progress of the young people across the school.

### **How do I know how well my son/daughter is doing at the Meadows Sports College?**

We inform you of your son/daughter's activities and learning through the school's text service. Early in the Autumn term you will have an opportunity to meet your son/daughter's class Teacher at a Parents Evening (or if applicable some day appointments are available) and again in the Summer term,

As part of the annual review and new Education and Health Care plan(EHCP) you will be invited to share and contribute towards a report which outlines the progress your son/daughter is making. In addition to this you are welcome to discuss your son/daughter's progress with us at any time. Your son/daughter's targets are sent home each term.

### **How will staff support my son/daughter and how will the curriculum be matched to my son/daughter's needs?**

All planning is highly differentiated for each young person and the support for each young person is outlined in the Statement/EHCP/Care plan /and individual learning targets for each young person. School staff are supported by members of the Community nursing team, speech and language therapist, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, educational psychologists and the Community paediatrician.

### **What additional support for learning is available?**

Agencies we work with include:

Children's Community nurses. There is a nurse on site during the course of the day. The community paediatrician holds regular clinics at the school so that the young people can be seen annually for a medical within school. Specialist staff from the support services will be available to support young people in the school with visual and hearing impairment.

Other Agencies include:

- Speech and Language Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Educational Psychologist
- Occupational Therapist
- CAHMS
- Connexions
- Yoga therapist
- Birmingham Repertory Theatre

### **What further activities are available in addition to the Curriculum activities?**

The Meadows Sports College runs an after school club and a holiday scheme.

Young people across the school have opportunities to take part in offsite activities and for some young people they are offered a residential opportunity.

### **What training is provided to develop staff expertise?**

The school is committed to a comprehensive training programme for all staff which includes Lifting and Handling, MAPA, Makaton and supporting the development of language and communication skills with young people with complex needs. Training packages are personalised for each learner. All staff undertake level 1 safeguarding training.

The Meadows Sports College is a fully equipped modern Special school

- Swimming pool heated to hydrotherapy temperatures which is accessible to all young people
- Hoists for young people who require manual handling, which includes ceiling hoists in the pool.
- Drama studio
- Library area
- Food Technology room
- Two school minibuses with tail lifts for offsite activities
- Sensory Integration room
- Soft play room
- Adapted software and hardware e.g. eye gaze system
- Horticulture garden area
- Sensory walkway
- Forest school
- Computer and iPads accessible for all young people
- Access to specialised seating for young people with physical difficulties
- Disabled toilet facilities

- Adapted classrooms for young people with very complex and profound learning disabilities that include a multi-sensory dark studio
- School shop

### **How are families involved in the education of their young people?**

At the Meadows Sports College families are fully included in the process of working with their young people.

This includes:

- Visits to school
- Home visits
- Support from the Pastoral team
- Daily text message exchange and sharing of information
- Twice a year parents evening
- Annual Review or EHCP meeting
- Parent workshops and training
- Coffee mornings
- Access to the Family Room in school
- Parental Representation on the Governing Body
- Regular newsletters
- Families are welcome to make an appointment to come and see the class teacher or Head teacher regarding any issues or concerns they may have at any point within the school year.

In addition, there is a Friends of the Meadows, an organisation run by families of young people at the Meadows that promotes our work and helps to raise much needed funds.

### **What do I do if I have a concern about provision at the Meadows Sports College?**

In the first instance, please contact your son/daughter's class teacher. If you still have a concern then please contact the Head teacher, Joanna Cliffe.

There is a complaints policy available on our website.

### **How does the school governing body deal with any complaint by a parent?**

Any complaint that cannot be resolved by the child's class teacher or the Head teacher is always referred to the Chair of Governors. Families also have the right to take a complaint directly to any member of the governing body. Governors take an impartial view when investigating any complaint and will always respond in writing. If the complaint is, still not resolved it will be taken by the school to the Local Authority who will review it impartially.

**What are the school's arrangements for supporting young people in transferring between Key stages of education or in preparing them for life when they leave school?**

Transition arrangements transferring between Key stages will be organised by the Key Stage Leaders and relevant Key Stage staff. Prior to transferring Key stage young people will have the opportunity for taster visits to their new Key stage class group.

The Connexions service offer independent careers advice and support to young people and their families from year 9 onwards.

On reaching year 11 young people have opportunity to experience College taster sessions to help them start to think about what they would like to do when they have finished school in year 14. During their time in 6<sup>th</sup> form young people have opportunity to take part if it is appropriate in various link programmes with Colleges and other appropriate providers such as Portway Centre. All 6<sup>th</sup> form students are given opportunities to be out and about in the community.

On reaching year 14 young people are prepared for transfer to College or an appropriate placement in the Community with Social care. This transition is managed by the Head of 6<sup>th</sup> form who will liaise closely with the Colleges and Community Providers. Families have opportunity to visit the college or Community placement and meet staff throughout the year. The decision on final placement at the end of year 14 will be discussed and made through the Annual Review/EHCP process. Transition arrangements will be organised by the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Manager and appropriate placement.

**Where can I get further information and support?**

Click [here](#) and this will take you to our family information page on the website