



SEND Information Report

2024 -25

Policy reviewed, updated and ratified by the GB:	June 2024
Date of next review:	March 25

Northwood School SEND Information Report

This report should be read in conjunction with the SEND Policy, all of which can be read on the school website or are available on request from the school. Our report is in line with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0-25 years (2014).

Every child brings a unique pattern of strengths and areas of need to our community and the school aims to fulfil the potential of all students. The links here relate to those students who have difficulties that affect their learning and are recognised as needing specific types of support. Follow the links to find out more about how Northwood works to support young people with a range of additional needs.

My child has difficulties with learning and literacy

This can include:

- Reading and spelling
- Learning new information and concepts
- Working with numbers
- Working memory
- Concentration
- Students may have conditions such as Specific Learning Difficulties, dyslexia, general learning difficulties, AD(H)D, Fragile X, Down Syndrome
- Students may present with difficulties that do not have a specific title

What can Northwood offer?

All students at Northwood can access

- Quality First Teaching with appropriate differentiation (including best SEND practice)
- Visual aids to support key vocabulary, concepts and themes
- Access to homework support clubs
- Access to assessment for identification of significant needs
- Dedicated and caring staff who value all students regardless of ability

Support for targeted groups of students may include

- Blocks of 1:1 reading intervention
- Blocks of small group lessons that focus on a range of needs such as literacy and reading comprehension
- Where needed, help from an external agency (e.g. Educational Psychologist)
- Learning Support Assistant (LSA) support in some lessons
- Targeted lunchtime clubs for vulnerable students

Targeted individual support may include

- Where needed, help from an external agency (e.g. Educational Psychologist)
- Subject –specialist teaching assistants in key subjects to provide on-going support
- External agency advice where needed
- Exam Access Arrangements
- Post 16 Transition support

My child has sensory and/or physical needs

This section covers students who have difficulties with:

- Vision
- Hearing

- Gross motor co-ordination
- Fine motor co-ordination
- Self-organisation for daily living
- It includes conditions such as cerebral palsy, physical injury, dyspraxia

What does Northwood offer?

All students at Northwood can access

- Quality First Teaching with appropriate differentiation (including best SEND practice)
- Visual aids to support key vocabulary, concepts and themes
- Access to homework support clubs
- Access to assessment for identification of significant needs
- Dedicated and caring staff who value all students regardless of ability.

Support for targeted groups of students may include

- Medical Care Plans
- Handwriting exercise groups
- Group discussions and information given from our qualified nurse
- Access to assistive technology, software and audio digital books
- Access to LSA support

Targeted individual support may include

- 1:1 Outside Agency support from Advisory Teachers
- Keyboard skills training
- Access to assistive technology, software and audio digital books
- Exam Access Arrangements

My child has difficulties with Communication and Interaction

This can include:

- Understanding language
- Using language
- Understanding how to communicate socially with other people
- Conditions include: Specific Language Disorder, ASD/ASC, Asperger Syndrome
- Stammering – advice given to families about how to access support from outside agencies

What can Northwood offer?

All students at Northwood can access

- Quality First Teaching with appropriate differentiation (including best SEND practice)
- Visual aids to support key vocabulary, concepts and themes
- Access to homework support clubs
- Access to assessment for identification of significant need
- Dedicated and caring staff who value all students regardless of ability

Support for targeted groups of students may include

- Assessment and identification of language needs and feedback to parents and staff
- Small group sessions in the SRP with the Speech and Language Therapist
- Social Skills groups
- Zones of regulation
- Lego therapy

- Literacy (reading and spelling)
- In-class LSA support in some lessons

Targeted individual support may include

- 1:1 session with the Speech and Language Therapist
- Exam Access Arrangements
- Post 16 transition support

My child has difficulties with social, emotional health or mental health

This section includes all those young people who experience short but significant periods of high anxiety, stress, distress or anger that affect their education.

It also includes young people who have a range of longer-term recognised mental health conditions.

For both groups, issues can include:

- Forming and maintaining relationships
- Bereavement
- Attitudes to attainment
- Attendance
- Self-esteem
- Life outside school

What can Northwood offer?

All students at Northwood can access

- Quality First Teaching with appropriate differentiation (including best SEND practice)
- Access to homework support clubs
- Access to assessment for identification of significant needs
- Whole school Central Reward System
- Whole school policy for behaviour management with graduated response
- Anti-bullying policy

Support for targeted groups of students may include

- Summer school – year 6 into 7 activity week
- Year 7 Nurture group
- In-class LSA in some lessons
- Peer mentoring

Targeted individual support may include

- 1:1 mentoring
- Counselling
- Outside agency input (eg CAMHS, Educational Psychologist)
- Personal support Plan – support for students at risk of permanent exclusion
- Support from school nurse
- Child Looked after support

Parents' FAQ

How does your school know if my child needs extra help?

- If your child is transferring to Northwood and already has a special educational need, your

primary school will inform the SENCO at Northwood. These children form the majority of SEND students at the school.

- There is planning between the schools and with parents/carers in Year 6 to support the student's move from primary to secondary school.
- On entry, all year 7 students will be screened using the CATs (Cognitive Ability Tests) and also for Reading and Spelling and Numeracy ability.

What should I do if I think my child may have a special educational need or disability? Who can I contact for further information?

- If you are concerned about your child's abilities, the school will listen to your concerns, discuss them with you and agree on a plan that might only need light monitoring or might require assessment by specialist staff or external agencies.
- You can contact the school by phone, letter, e-mail (please see contact details on the home page of the school website).
- It will be OK to contact the school through a family friend or professional translator if you feel more comfortable using a language other than English.
- You may also contact the SENCO to gain more clarity on the support your child may receive based on their special educational need or disability.

What is an EHCP?

An EHCP is a legal document that identifies a child's SEN needs and focuses on the support required to meet agreed outcomes. EHCPs also outline the child's health and social care needs, outcomes and support.

How will I know if your school is supporting my child? How will I know how my child is doing? How is student progress monitored?

All students:

- The school will contact you to discuss any concerns or provision we are proposing to offer your child support that is additional to or different from what is already in place for all mainstream students.
- Parent consultation evenings are both opportunities to discuss your child's progress and needs and to find out about support options.
- Parents are always welcome to contact their child's Form Tutor at any time to discuss particular concerns as they arise.

Students with EHCPs:

- Your child will have identified needs and an Individual Education Plan in place from the time they start at Northwood.
- Students will have an Annual Review of their progress and needs. This comes in the form of a full written school report in advance of a specially arranged face to face meeting between parents and staff. During this meeting, students, parents and staff have the chance to express their views about the progress being made and the provision they are receiving at school.

How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs? How are the school's resources allocated to these needs?

- High quality teaching and differentiation is delivered by the subject teachers to support access and ensure that all students can experience success and challenge in their learning. Grouping arrangements are organised flexibly with opportunities for both ability and mixed setting to maximise learning opportunities for all.-At KS4, some pupils will follow a specialised pathway that incorporates extra help with English and maths.

- Teachers also have access to the Individual Education Plan of students known to have specific needs and they can collaborate with the specialist staff to build adaptations to activities especially for those individual students.
- Many lessons benefit from having a learning support assistant in the class who can spot difficulties and help to give instant support.

Will my child be able to access the school environment?

The new build was opened in October 2016. There is a lift which gives accessibility to all floors and students who require this facility are issued with lift keys. There is independent wheelchair access to all paved areas around the school.

How is progress monitored by the school?

- Your child’s progress is continually monitored by his/her class teacher. Northwood School has a whole tracking system so you will be able to monitor your child’s progress in all subject areas throughout the year. You will also be able to meet your child’s teachers at parents’ evenings and discuss your child’s progress.
- Teachers also have access to Individual Education Plan of students known to have specific needs and they can collaborate with the specialist staff to build adaptations to activities especially for those individual students.
- Many lessons benefit from having a learning support assistant in the class who can spot difficulties and help to give instant support.

What specialist services and expertise are available at the school?

- The SRP team has access to a Speech and language Therapist.
- All Learning Support Assistants receive regular Continuing Professional Development training and coaching for specific issues / students, from the relevant specialists.
- As a school, we work closely with any external agencies that we feel are relevant to individual children’s needs within our school including; Educational Psychologist, ASD specialist, School Nurse and the Hearing Advisory Teachers.

How will you help me in supporting my child’s learning at home?

- Northwood runs a variety of information evenings, local offer workshops and coffee mornings for parents such as Options Information Evening, Speech and Language workshops and coffee mornings.
- Annual reports written at Northwood often contain advice that will be discussed and developed with you at the face to face Annual Review meeting.
- Parents are always welcome to contact their child’s support team for ongoing advice.

What support will there be for my child’s well-being?

- We are an inclusive School; we welcome and celebrate diversity. All staff believe that children having high self-esteem is crucial to a child’s well-being. We have a caring, understanding team looking after our children. The Form Tutor has overall responsibility for the pastoral, medical and social care in their class; therefore, this would be the parents’ first point of contact. If further support is required, the class teacher liaises with the SENCO for further advice and support. We employ our own School counsellor and teachers make referrals through the SENCO.
- We have a variety of extra-curricular clubs that all students are invited to join and take part in, including art, drama, basketball and science clubs for example, to enhance their positive experience at Northwood School.

How will the school help prepare my child for transfer to post -16 education or to another school?

- All pupils have access to the careers advisor. There are well established links to local colleges to enable students to have a smooth transition to college. We have a close relationship with Uxbridge College and arrange visits for those students as part of the transition process.

The Local Offer

The purpose of the local offer is to enable parents and young people to see more clearly what services are available in their area and how to access them. It includes provision from birth to 25, across education, health and social care. Information on the London Borough of Hillingdon Local offer is available on www.hillingdon.gov.uk/families .

Further Information

If you require any further information in respect of our SEND provision, please contact our SENCO Department on 01923 836363.

Complaints from parents of children with SEND about the provision made at the school should be made in accordance with the School Complaints Procedure (which is available to read on the school website or available on request from the school).

Ratified by the Full Governing Body: 27th June 2024