

## LEARNING SUPPORT AND SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS POLICY



### ADMISSIONS

We welcome all children who can make the most of the opportunities that we offer and can flourish in the caring environment we have at King's. Treating every child as an individual is important to us, and we welcome pupils with learning difficulties or special educational needs, providing that our Learning Support Department can give them the support that they require. We do not, however, have the facilities to offer highly specialised and intensive treatment.

We advise parents of children with learning difficulties or special educational needs to discuss their child's requirements with the Registrar before he or she sits our entrance exam so that we can make adequate provision for him/her. Parents should provide a copy of an Educational Psychologist's report or a medical report to support their request, for example for extra time or other special arrangements. A pupil with learning difficulties or special needs usually meets our Learning Support Co-ordinator as part of the entry procedure.

### ON ENTRY

Each pupil with learning difficulties or a special educational need requires special consideration and treatment. If appropriate, adjustments will need to be put in place. We will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisers the adjustments that can reasonably be made for their child once they have accepted the offer of a place and before he/she becomes a pupil at the school.

Our Learning Support Department is staffed by fully qualified specialists who are able to support each pupil with a specific learning difficulty in the following areas:

- Dyslexia
- Dyspraxia
- Dyscalculia.

### MONITORING AND REVIEW

We arrange for pupils with identified or suspected learning difficulties to be assessed by a specialist, so that we can identify the areas that require support. We offer specialist help and assistance with study skills. In Junior School this normally involves pupils being taken out of a lesson for one to one sessions; in Senior School normal practice is to offer tuition in small groups instead of a curriculum subject (usually a foreign language). We work closely with the child and his/her parents and to help him/her to overcome the barriers that his/her difficulties present.

Our Learning Support Department follows the spirit of the *Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2001*. This involves the preparation of an Individual Education Plan setting achievable targets for each child in the 'School Action Plus' category.

Arrangements for pupils with special educational needs who have LEA statements are subject to a formal annual review.

#### PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY

We recognise that some children with special educational needs may also have physical disabilities. Parents and prospective parents of disabled children can obtain copies of the school's Accessibility Plan and Disability Policy from the Headmaster. This shows the ways in which we plan to make our buildings progressively more accessible to disabled pupils, parents and visitors.

#### OTHER ADJUSTMENTS

We are able, depending on need, to arrange for children to use ICT in some classes.

#### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

In order to cope with the academic and social demands of King's, pupils must be fluent English speakers. We may recommend that some children, whose first language at home is not English, receive individual tuition in English as an additional language. Occasionally the school may admit small numbers of pupils from overseas with a view to providing them with greater opportunities to improve their English. Such pupils will receive individual tuition in English as an additional language alongside a range of curriculum subjects.

#### STAFF TRAINING

Our teaching staff receive regular training on the learning needs of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.

#### CHARGING POLICY

Specialist learning support assessments are charged to parents. One to one lessons are charged as extras at the rate of £19 per forty minute lesson. However, the majority of pupils above the age of 11 receive their learning support tuition as part of a small group in place of another curriculum subject, which entails no extra charges.