

6. How we make sure that teaching and support helps your child to learn and make good progress

We know that high quality teaching and skillful support will make a big difference to the progress of students with SEND. Making sure that this happens in all classrooms is one of the most important things that our school leaders, including members in our Learning Support Team, do.

We make sure that the guidance and advice of specialist services and experts informs teaching and learning. For example, we provide training and ongoing support through our Speech and Language Therapist and Brent Outreach Autism Team for all teachers of a student who have been diagnosed with autism.

The SENCO and Learning Support team work with subject teachers and support staff to promote inclusion and provide effective teaching and support for students with SEND in a variety of ways. These include:

- carefully differentiated (taking account of different needs) planning which ensures that all students can make progress
- helping and supporting Subject Teachers to take full responsibility for all student's learning and progress
- Quality First Teaching (QFT) which means high quality inclusive teaching together with our continuous whole school processes for assessing, planning, implementing, tracking, monitoring and reviewing your child's progress.
- using a wide variety of teaching approaches, for example, guiding learning through demonstration, group and paired work and providing visual support materials
- providing a stimulating, rich and interactive classroom environment
- tracking progress
- using regular, clear and rigorous assessments that help teachers to track pupils' progress and identify gaps in their understanding
- providing additional adult support either from the SENCO, Learning Support Teachers, Higher Level Teaching Assistants, Learning Support Assistants or other specialist services
- making available specialist equipment and digital technology to support access and participation in learning, for example, laptops and Chrome books
- ensuring that the school has a responsive and personalised KS4 curriculum to allow all our students to make progress in-line with their abilities and needs

We help our students to develop their skills as resilient learners and to persevere when they find learning difficult. You can read more about how we support good learning in our whole school learning policy found on our school's website: <https://www.preston-manor.com/>

Finally, we ensure that all pupils have fair access to examinations by providing access arrangements for those that are legally entitled to them. We have developed a robust provision ensuring all pupils have their needs met for exams. Access arrangements are coordinated and managed by our KS4 deputy SENCO, and overseen by the SENCO, who identifies the pupils who could qualify for them. We start training students who require access arrangements from Year 7 where we ensure that the concessions they require are put in place for all formal assessments (in-class or otherwise). This then becomes their normal way of working and allows for a better experience for our students when they come to formal GCSEs or A-level exams. Preston Manor has a Learning Support Teacher on staff who is a qualified assessor who can carry out a range of assessments to meet the criteria set out by the Joint Council for Qualifications for exam access arrangements assessments. Once the assessments have been completed, the KS4 deputy SENCO applies for the concessions directly to the exam board through the Joint Council for Qualifications, who then agrees with our applications if we have met all of the preassigned criteria set by them. The various access arrangements offered to our young people include:

- small room accommodation
- 25% or 50% extra time
- Rest breaks/ Prompts
- Access to word processor
- Access to a Reader, a Scribe or, sometimes, both

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – TEACHING AND SUPPORT

Q. What kind of support will you be able to offer my child?

A. This depends on the needs of your child. We provide a range of specialist one to one and small group support as well as in-class partnerships between subject teachers and support staff. We have included the school's current Provision Offer in the appendix. Where necessary we arrange members of specialist services to work directly with students or to train staff on specialist programmes.

Q. Will teachers understand my child's needs?

A. The school uses the programme Go 4 Schools to monitor students and inform staff of needs and provision. Pupil Profiles found in our Additional Educational Booklet and Provision Maps are easily accessible to all staff through SIMS.

Q. Where can my child get homework help?

A. Preston Manor runs an extended day. The Learning Support department runs after school homework help sessions, on Mondays to Thursdays, from 3:20 until 4:20. The Homework Club is staffed by the SEN Team. Some Learning Support areas are open to students with EHCPs from 8:15am as well as at break and lunchtimes, where the children are more than welcome to get homework help. The library is open before the school day, at break and lunchtimes, and after school allowing all pupils access to computers and space to complete their homework. Most curriculum areas also run after school help sessions.

Q. How can I get my child support during his exams?

A. If you have concerns regarding your child's access to examinations, please contact your child's DSD or the KS4 deputy SENCO directly who will follow up and reply to your concerns. You can find these details in the appendix of this document.