

SEND Information at Yardleys School

Contents

Who are the best people to talk to at Yardleys School about my child's educational needs or disability?	1
What are the kinds of special educational needs for which Yardleys School makes provision?.....	1
How does Yardleys School identify children and young people with SEN and assess their needs? ..	1
How will Yardleys School let me know about how my child with SEN is progressing?	2
How will Yardleys School help me to be involved in my child's education?.....	2
How will Yardleys School support my child as they move from Year 6 into Year 7?.....	2
How will Yardleys School support my child in moving on after Year 11?.....	3
What is Yardleys School approach to teaching children and young people with SEN?.....	3
How does Yardleys School adapt the curriculum and the learning environment of children and young people with SEN?	3
What additional support for learning is available for students with special educational needs?	3
What do I do if I'm not happy with the SEN provision that my child receives?	4
Local Authority Local Offer	4

Who are the best people to talk to at Yardleys School about my child's educational needs or disability?

In the first instance, it's best to talk to Mr Richard Thornton, our SENCO who can be emailed on Richard.Thornton@Yardleys.bham.sch.uk or contacted by direct line on 0121 464 5615. If you continue to have concerns, please arrange to discuss these with Mr B Evans, the head-teacher. As a last resort, you may wish to contact the Chair of Governors.

What are the kinds of special educational needs for which Yardleys School makes provision?

Yardleys School can make provision for every kind of frequently occurring special educational need without an EHCP. This includes: Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, language and communication needs, moderate learning difficulties and social, emotional or mental health difficulties. Other kinds of special educational needs do not occur as frequently and we are less familiar with, but we can access training and advice so these needs can be met. Currently, we have pupils with EHCPs with language and communication needs; cognition and learning needs; social, emotional and mental health issues; and physical and sensory needs.

How does Yardleys School identify children and young people with SEN and assess their needs?

Pupils with a SEN or a disability are generally identified through the feeder school, by staff or parents alerting Mr Thornton (SENCO) or the Head of Year. The SENCO also regularly monitors pupil progress

with the individual Heads of Faculty which again alerts the school that a child may have SEN. Once identified Mr Thornton (SENCO) has a range of tests and surveys to make an assessment of the child's needs, enabling clarification of any underlying problems to measure and monitor progress, or refer onto another professionals or outside agencies.

How will Yardleys School let me know about how my child with SEN is progressing?

If your child is identified and assessed as a pupil with SEN or a disability, you will be invited to regular review meetings with Mr Thornton (SENCO). Some of these might be as part of a parents' evening or progress review day. During these meetings a Pupil Profile (previously an IEP), will be drawn up and/or reviewed. These tell your child's teachers what they can do to support your child's progress. You are encouraged and welcome to meet with Mr Thornton (SENCO) or your child's Head of Year if you are concerned about the progress of your child. The SENCO will also be at every parents' meeting so you can talk to him if you have any concerns.

As well as this, Yardleys School regularly checks the progress of all its pupils. Where the progress is not sufficient, extra support will be provided to enable the child to catch up. Some students may continue to make progress which is below expectations and for these students, in consultation with parents, we will investigate to better understand the child's learning needs and therefore what additional, targeted resources and approaches are necessary.

How will Yardleys School help me to be involved in my child's education?

All parents will have an opportunity to discuss their child's progress twice a year at a parents' evening and a progress review day. We are also happy to arrange meetings outside of these times. If progress is not satisfactory, it is likely that you will receive additional communications from the Head of Year or SENCO to discuss the issues concerned.

If your child has special educational needs, even if they do not have an EHCP, you will be invited to a termly meeting with the SENCO to discuss their progress, current support strategies and other issues. If they do have an EHCP, one of these meetings will also include external agencies and will formally review their EHCP, ensuring that it still accurately describes their needs.

How will Yardleys School support my child as they move from Year 6 into Year 7?

During the summer term, we will contact all our feeder primary schools and ask them to let us know about the learning needs of their children. While most needs are common, some will result in further discussion with the primary schools. If your child has an EHCP, there will be a formal transition meeting which we will ask to also be invited to alongside other external agencies so that we get a clear picture of how we can best support them.

All pupils come to an induction day at Yardleys, but those with special educational needs also come to a smaller one the day before so that we can prepare them for the move. On this day, the SENCO will be happy to meet and talk to parents.

Throughout Year 7, those pupils with educational needs will be closely monitored by both the SENCO and the Head of Year to ensure that no issues are arising.

How will Yardleys School support my child in moving on after Year 11?

Choosing the right options for GCSE study can be a difficult decision for pupils with SEND. Once the choices have been made it is very difficult to change them. For this reason SEND reviews are held in the spring term prior to the option evening to discuss the possible choices. Pupils will have been given opportunities to discuss what each exam course entails. Option booklets are sent home and an option evening held for the parents and children to decide on their choices. Where necessary, individual meetings are held with parents to discuss the options process and how it affects their child.

Moving on to further education is another important milestone in your child's life. Yardleys School does not have a Sixth Form so choosing the right college course, apprenticeship or career path is crucial. SEND reviews are held for pupils who have an identified need or disability in the summer of Y10 to discuss possible career paths and college choices. This is prior to Post 16 transition reviews at the start of Year 11. Pupils and their parents are strongly advised to visit colleges during their open days and to discuss their child's needs with the college student support teams. Often colleges will request information from the SEND team so that provision can be made for your child in KS5.

What is Yardleys School approach to teaching children and young people with SEN?

Yardleys School offers high quality education to all of our pupils, regardless of their learning needs with our teachers matching their lessons to the learning needs of their pupils. Our top priority is to provide the best in-class experience for all. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum to all, including those with SEN, and most of this learning takes place in mainstream lessons with experienced teachers. Where extra intervention is required, we will provide small group support which will be focussed on a particular learning need.

How does Yardleys School adapt the curriculum and the learning environment of children and young people with SEN?

The staff at Yardleys School have access to the information regarding your child's needs via your child's Individual Pupil Profile. This information is used to help staff plan strategies to support your child in receiving high quality inclusive teaching and learning. Where needed, we access support from the following outside agencies: Education Psychologist; Hearing and Visual Impairment services; the Communication and Autism Team; Brays Outreach (physical disability); Pupil and School Support Service and the Behaviour Support Service.

Homework, or home-learning, is a vital part of your child's education and one means of ensuring progress. Homework is set online at the start of each week for completion by the following Monday, and will not be accessible after 9 pm that evening. Problems usually occur because pupils leave it to the last minute. Yardleys School has a 'Homework Club' in the school's Library. This is open to pupils for help with their homework every-day from 8.00-8.45 am, at lunchtime and after school until 4.30 pm. In addition there are a number of computers in the atrium that pupils can access when not in lessons.

What additional support for learning is available for students with special educational needs?

At Yardleys School, there is a three-tiered approach to supporting pupil progress:

- Classroom level where we use our notional SEN funding of £6000 per child that we receive as part of our budget to provide quality teaching by experienced staff. Lessons will be targeted, taking into account the educational needs of the pupils concerned. The aim is to scaffold up so that all pupils can access the full curriculum rather than provide a separate simplified version.
- Intervention level where we will make additional short-term special educational provision to remove or reduce barriers to learning, or help them catch up if they have fallen behind. These small group sessions may take place outside the classroom.
- Specialist level where we seek advice and regular support from individuals within Yardleys and from external agencies. This may include: Educational Psychology, Speech and Language therapy; or hearing or visual support.

What do I do if I'm not happy with the SEN provision that my child receives?

We do our very best to support your child throughout their time at Yardleys School. During the year there are opportunities to discuss your child's progress with us. For all pupils there are parents' evenings and progress review days. If you are the parent of a pupil with special educational needs, a disability or a long term medical condition Mr Thornton (SENCO) will invite you to SEND review meetings at least once each term.

From time to time parents can feel that their child isn't receiving the support they need in Yardleys School. If you feel unhappy with what we are doing please contact your child's Head of House or Mr Thornton. Should you feel your concern has not been addressed then you can contact Mr Basra (Pastoral Deputy), Mr Bate (Curriculum Deputy) or Mr Evans (Head Teacher).

Local Authority Local Offer

The SEND Code of Practice requires the Local Authority to publish their Local Offer. The Local Offer tells you, the parents of a pupil with a Special Educational Need or a Disability what is available to you in the area your child goes to school. It can be found by going to:

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/localoffer>