

Horizon Community College SEND Information Report



Date of Report:
January 2021

SEND Information Report

The following report provides information on how Horizon Community College caters for the needs of those students identified as having Special Educational Needs/Disabilities (SEND). For further details please refer to the college's SEND Policy.

How does college know if students need extra help?

At the heart of every class is a continuous cycle of planning, teaching and assessing which takes account of the wide range of abilities and interests of students. The majority of students will learn and make progress within these arrangements. Those students whose overall attainments or attainment in specific subjects or other areas of development, fall significantly outside the expected range, may have SEND.

There is an emphasis placed on the experience and expertise of the subject teacher and SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) team in identifying students with SEND through their observations. A range of assessment tools are used to help college identify students who may have SEND. College also receive information from parents, Primary settings and other professional agencies which help us identify students who may need additional support at college. Information from parents also provide college with a vital in-sight into the child's strengths and difficulties.

What should I do if I think my child has SEND?

A parent with any concerns about their child's learning or social, emotional development should not hesitate to arrange a meeting with the subject teacher or Year Team. An appropriate plan will then be discussed.

What kind of SEND does the college cater for?

Horizon Community College caters for a wide range of SEND. This includes:

- students with specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia
- students with more general learning difficulties
- students with speech and language difficulties
- students with social and communication needs (this may include students on the Autism Spectrum)
- students with social, emotional, or mental health needs (this may include students with attention difficulties)
- students with sensory and/or physical needs (this may include mild visual impairment and moderate hearing impairment)

How will I know that the college will support my child?

College follows the requirements in the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice (2015) to use our best endeavours to make sure that a child with SEND gets the support they need. We have a designated teacher (Director of SEND/SENDSCO) who is responsible for coordinating the SEND provision who, along with School teams and Team Leaders, will communicate with parents to ensure they are fully involved in discussions about support for their child.

How will the curriculum be matched to meet my child's needs?

SEND support in our college is matched carefully to the needs of each child. High quality first teaching in the classroom means that activities and tasks can be adjusted by the subject teacher to ensure they are matched to the child's needs. We also use a wide range of interventions and programmes devised to support students' learning. These are taught in a range of settings; in small groups or one-to-one, in the classroom or sometimes in learning areas outside the classroom and are delivered by a number of staff.

How will I know how my child is doing?

The progress of students with SEND is reported through the college's usual reporting systems, as well as through SEND Reviews and meetings, phone calls, emails, letters and Parents' Evenings. In addition, open communication is encouraged, and parents are always welcome to make an appointment via phone call or email, as and when the need arises.

How will you help me to support my child's learning?

Parents are invited to attend Review Meetings and Parents' Evenings where they can gain information as to how they can best support their child's learning. The SENDSCO is able to signpost parents to other sources of information and support e.g. the Local Offer, voluntary agencies. The SENDSCO has information for parents on a range of different SEND. Parents are welcome to contact subject teachers for advice on supporting learning in specific areas of the curriculum.

What support will there be to support my child's overall well-being?

At Horizon Community College we recognise that students learn best when they feel happy and secure. With this in mind, all staff work hard to raise students' self-esteem. We are particularly aware that students with SEND may be more vulnerable to low self-esteem and staff use a range of strategies to try and balance against this e.g. giving roles of responsibility, reward systems, verbal praise and encouragement, highlighting their

strengths and talents including those outside of the college curriculum. Access to Wellbeing, Inclusion and Alternative Provision may also be discussed.

How is the SEND Provision at Horizon Community College evaluated?

The SENDCO, in conjunction with teaching staff and the Senior Leadership Team, is responsible for monitoring the provision of SEND. We will regularly review the impact of the work we do through data monitoring, observations, feedback from staff and students and self-evaluation processes.

The effectiveness of SEND provision is evaluated through a variety of means including:

- assessment and formal examination results
- attendance data
- rates of exclusions
- tracking and progress data
- regular SEND reviews with parents
- regular communication between teaching staff and the SEND team
- seeking advice and guidance from other professionals and agencies

What specialist services are accessed by the college?

College can access expertise and advice from other professionals such as Educational Psychologist, Speech and Language Therapists, Autism Service, links with Specialist Colleges and voluntary agencies. If a child is receiving care from an NHS service such as CAMHS the college will liaise with other professionals involved to provide the best support for the child.

What training have staff supporting students with SEND had or are receiving?

Teaching and support staff have training around the Code of Practice with a number of staff having had additional training around specific needs. Training around SEND is an ongoing part of the college's training programme. The SENDCO is a qualified teacher who specialises in the learning of students with SEND and holds the relevant SEND qualifications.

How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom?

College will endeavour to enable all students to access activities outside the classroom. This may mean providing additional adult support for a child whilst on a trip or activity. All students are encouraged to take part in extra-curricular activities.

How accessible is the college environment?

The college has a lift in place. The fire escape routes are suitable for all and Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans are in place to ensure all disabled students can be safely evacuated in an emergency. Please refer to the college Accessibility Policy for details

How will the college support my child in starting Secondary school and moving on?

The Year Team and the SENDCO will communicate with primary school settings and parents prior to the child starting Horizon Community College to ensure any useful and relevant information is shared prior to starting college. If any SEND has already been identified, the primary school setting will often invite the SENDCO attend a review in the summer term prior to them starting college.

We have a Transition Programme for the students in Year 6 as they move to Horizon Community College. Extra visits are planned for students with SEND in addition to the usual induction days. This enables them to become more familiar with the new college and meet staff who may be supporting them.

When students are in Year 11, they receive advice and support to help them make decisions regarding their move to Post 16 provision. Horizon Community College has good links with local colleges and works to ensure a smooth transition. Students can take part in additional transition visits and all information is passed on to the receiving provision to ensure they have a full picture of the student's strengths and difficulties.

How are decisions made about how much support my child will receive?

Decisions about the level of support a child should receive are made on the basis of need. Information is gathered about the needs of students with SEND throughout the college and the SENDCO draws up a Provision Map which allows college to allocate the available resources and support appropriately. The SENDCO works closely with the Headteacher to make the most efficient use of the available funding for SEND in the college.

Who can parents contact for further information?

The Director of SEND, Mrs S Proud, and School Teams are contactable for further details of how Horizon Community College meets the needs of students with SEND. The college SEND Governor is Sandra Creeton.

Link to BMBC Local Offer - <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/children-with-specialeducational-needs-and-disabilities-SENDd/SENDd-local-offer/>