

SEND Information Report 2024-25

At Leigh Academy Rainham we value the abilities of all our students and strive to provide the best education to all our students so they can make good progress and achieve ambitious and appropriate goals.

We strongly believe that it is our duty to provide equal opportunities for every child/young person in our care, and also provide a safe and fully equipped learning environment, which caters to the needs of every pupil/student as an individual. We are committed to providing excellent provision for all pupils/students with SEND by providing an ambitious and inclusive Academy curriculum offer, delivered by skilled teachers, and a rich co-curriculum. We aim for all pupils/students to be included in all aspects of Academy life and work proactively to eradicate any barriers to inclusion.

The governing bodies of maintained schools and maintained nursery schools, and the proprietors of academy schools must publish information on their websites about the implementation of the governing body's or the proprietor's policy for pupils with SEND. The information published should be updated annually and any changes to the information occurring during the year must be updated as soon as possible. The information required is set out in the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 and must include the following:

1) The kinds of SEND that are provided for at Leigh Academy Rainham:

At Leigh Academy Rainham, we provide support for the following main areas of Special Educational Needs:

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Mental and Emotional Health Difficulties
- Sensory and/or Physical Needs

The range of special needs currently being met within our Academy include: ADHD, anxiety, auditory processing disorder, autism, dyslexia, emotional dysregulation, epilepsy, fine and gross motor skill delay, global development delay, hearing impairment, Irlen syndrome, mental health needs, moderate learning difficulties, multi sensory impairments, physical disabilities. sensory processing disorder, speech and language needs, social skills difficulties and visual impairment.

2) Policies for identifying students with SEND and assessing their needs:

Leigh Academy Rainham follows the guidance contained in the [Code of Practice 2014](#). This recommends a single assessment for students under the description of Additional Needs based on one or more of the four main areas of need as outlined in the Code of Practice 2014.

You can find our SEND Policy: [here](#)

Identification of students with special educational needs will be determined in the following ways:

- a) Recommendation from primary and/or previous secondary school attended before joining Leigh Academy Rainham
- b) Key Stage 2 data and results
- c) Baseline data
- d) Teacher/parental/carer referral
- e) Reports and recommendations from professional agencies
- f) Regular assessment of progress by subject leaders /pastoral staff
- g) Use of the 'Graduated Approach' as stated in the SEN Code of Practice (2014)
- h) Where appropriate, Leigh Academy Rainham will make applications for High Needs Funding and/or EHCPs to support students with SEND

Please note some pupils may have needs but not need to be on the SEND Register as they are able to have their needs met through an appropriate, adapted curriculum and Quality First Teaching.

Teachers can raise concerns once they have included intervention/additional provision within their lessons via the Additional Education Needs Referral Form.

2a) The name and contact details of our Inclusion Team:

Sharron Loveridge (SENDSCO)

Tel: 01634 412440

Email: inclusion@leighacademyrainham.org.uk

Please allow 48 hours for Leigh Academy Rainham to respond.

Sharron Loveridge is a qualified teacher and has been accredited by the National Award for SEND Coordination and also holds a BA (Hons) in Educational Needs.

Julie Morse (Assistant SENDSCO)

Tel: 01634 412440

Email: inclusion@leighacademyrainham.org.uk

Please allow 48 hours for Leigh Academy Rainham to respond.

Julie Morse has a wealth of knowledge and experience gained from working in both a secondary mainstream setting and a specialist setting.

Gaynor Haynes is the SEND Administrator and can be contacted by telephone on 01634 412440 Ext 440 or by email at inclusion@leighacademyrainham.org.uk.

We aim to answer all emails within 48 hours.

Please contact the school to make an appointment.

Parents can also contact the College Teams on the following email addresses:

Turing College - turingcollege@leighacademyrainham.org.uk

Kingsley College - kingsleycollege@leighacademyrainham.org.uk

3) Arrangements for consulting parents and carers of children with SEND and involving them in their child's education:

Leigh Academy Rainham will make regular reviews of students' progress both academically, emotionally and socially. This will take place through:

- Academy reporting systems
- Parents'/Carers' Evenings
- SEND coffee mornings
- Students with an Educational Health and Care Plan, as per the statutory requirements in the SEND Code of Practice 2014 will have an Annual Review every 12 months
- Parent/Carer Forums

4) Arrangements for consulting students with SEN and involving them in their education:

Leigh Academy Rainham will follow the guidelines contained in the Code of Practice 2014 regarding the assessment and review procedures of students with special educational needs and disabilities.

Students will be assessed and reviewed in the following ways:

- a) We will follow the graduated approach and the four-part cycle of Assess, Plan, Do, Review.
- b) All students identified as having special educational needs will have an individual learning plan as part of the Provision Mapping System that clearly outlines their area of need, suggested strategies to address these needs and clear targets and objectives. Students will be part of creating this plan and it will be available to staff, parents/carers and students.
- c) Students identified as having special educational needs will have regular reviews of their individual learning profile at least twice per year.
- d) Students with an Educational Health and Care Plan will have an annual review as per the statutory requirement contained in the SEND Code of Practice 2014.
- e) Regular reviews of intervention programmes will be carried out to monitor the progress of students against their starting points. The impact of the intervention programmes will be assessed, enabling interventions to be adapted, where appropriate.
- f) All staff will have access to individual learning plans via the provision mapping system/SEND tracker, in order to inform planning, monitor progress and ensure the appropriate adaptation and scaffolding of work for students with special educational needs has been made.
- g) Staff will have access to inclusion websites providing strategies and information on meeting the

needs of students with additional needs.

h) Staff will have access to: Leigh Academy Rainham's Teaching and Learning Tracker, CPD/SEND, specific insets, SEND toolkit, regular SEND specific updates and access to research and evidence based SEND articles.

5) Arrangements for assessing and reviewing student's progress towards outcomes:

Leigh Academy Rainham will follow the guidelines contained in the Code of Practice 2014 regarding the assessment and review procedures of students with special educational needs and disabilities.

Students will be assessed and reviewed in the following ways:

a) All students identified as having special educational needs will be tested at the beginning and end of each academic year using tests that provide standardised scores for reading. This will enable Leigh Academy Rainham to establish areas of need and provide the necessary intervention programmes, and enable Leigh Academy Rainham to monitor progress.

b) Students and parents/carers will receive regular feedback on progress through assessment reports, formative and summative marking, parents'/carers' evenings and annual reviews of Educational Health and Care Plans.

6) Arrangements for supporting students in moving between phases of education and in preparing for adulthood:

In accordance with the SEND Code of Practice 2014, Leigh Academy Rainham has clear procedures to ensure the smooth transition of students between Key Stages and Post 16.

Key Stage 2 to 3

a) The SENDCo will attend Year 6 annual reviews for students with an Educational Health and Care Plan.

b) The SENDCo will attend the borough KS2-KS3 SEND transition day meeting to identify and discuss students with special educational needs.

c) The SENDCo, or another member of the Inclusion Team, will make additional visits to primary schools for identified students and visits from the primary school to Leigh Academy Rainham will be arranged.

d) Meetings with parents/carers as requested will take place with the SENDCo/Assistant SENDCo.

e) The SENDCo will give feedback to all staff on identified students.

f) A full induction day and/or transition workshops will take place for all students.

Post 16

a) The SENDCo arranges for a representative from the Career Learning Development team at RBG SEND to meet with identified students to discuss next steps.

- b) Transition planning is completed on a regular basis.
- c) Options evenings and booklets are made available to parents/carers and students.
- d) University visits/taster days are arranged for identified students.
- d) Information is shared with FE establishments etc, as requested.
- e) Interviews with LAT mentors can also be arranged.

Change of School Procedures

- a) Parents/carers contact admissions at Leigh Academy Rainham.
- b) Information is forwarded to the new school.
- c) The SENDCo meets with parents/carers and appropriate staff from the new school as requested.

7) The approach to teaching students with SEND:

Leigh Academy Rainham is an inclusive establishment that offers a broad and balanced curriculum which is specific to the needs and future opportunities of all students. It ensures this by:

- a) Delivering Quality first teaching in all areas of the curriculum. Staff are expected to be aware of the needs of all students in their classes, and scaffold work accordingly through adaptive teaching, to meet these needs. *QFT means that some pupils with needs may not require 'additional to and different from' provision.* This will be monitored via regular lesson reviews, learning walks and pupil work reviews by the SENDCo, Academy Leadership Team and Directors of Learning.
- b) Offering a range of intervention programmes designed to improve the outcomes of students with special educational needs, ensuring they can fully access all areas of the curriculum. These may happen during lessons across two modules. Students are encouraged to attend the Inclusion homework club to catch up on work missed.
- c) Providing a range of co-curricular and extended learning activities that offers enrichment opportunities for all students, including those with special educational needs.
- d) Providing a clear reporting system three times a year that outlines targets and current achievements.
- e) Carrying out regular lesson reviews to ensure that all students, including those with special educational needs, are receiving high quality teaching and learning experiences in all areas of the curriculum.
- f) Adapting the curriculum to meet the needs of individual students if necessary. However, it is important to note that the curriculum is not narrowed for SEND students and remains broad and balanced.
- g) Ensuring that identified students receive the necessary in class support and exam access arrangements.
- h) Ensuring that all staff receive regular training on all areas of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.
- i) Providing a provision mapping system that is accessible to all staff. The software provides details of all students with special educational needs, students in receipt of pupil premium, higher attaining pupils, looked after students and students with English as an additional language. Staff will use this

system to inform their planning to ensure they are addressing the needs of students. It will also be used to track, monitor and review students on intervention programmes and provide governors and, where appropriate, provide parents/carers with a clear report in terms of cost, hours and interventions provided.

j) Ensuring all students with special educational needs are tested twice a year using tests that provide standardised scores for reading. The results from these tests will be used to identify areas of need and to inform the SENDCo when planning for interventions and exam access arrangements.

k) Providing a range of numeracy, literacy, social, emotional and mental health interventions, which will be offered to all students who have been identified as having special educational needs in the relevant areas. These will be reviewed regularly.

l) Providing regular and timely communication with parents/carers via assessment reports, annual reviews, parents'/carers' events, telephone and emails.

m) Supporting with access to outside agencies via the local authority, health authority and Leigh Academies Trust.

n) Informing parents/carers of any additional provision that their child is receiving via the SENDCo or Director of Progress.

o) Ensuring that the local authority local offer and academy offer will be available on Leigh Academy Rainham website so that parents/carers, students, staff and the wider community can access its contents.

8) How adaptations are made to the curriculum and the learning environment of students with SEND:

- Teaching Assistants will be available to provide in class support on an individual or small group basis in order to support the learning of identified students.
- Teaching Assistants will develop, deliver and monitor literacy, numeracy, social, emotional and mental health intervention programmes in order to address the special educational needs of identified students. This will be delivered on an individual, or small group basis.
- Teaching Assistants will maintain records and monitor progress of students on intervention programmes, and liaise with parents/carers regularly.
- Teaching Assistants will support the transition of identified students from primary school to secondary school, and from secondary school to further education establishments.
- Teaching Assistants will accompany identified students on trips and during extra curricular activities where necessary.
- Key staff members have also attended specialist training on emotional literacy and are qualified Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSAs).
- All students have access to a 1:1 device which they can use adaptive strategies independently, whether this be through the support of an app, or another learning platform to suit their needs.
- Leigh Academy Rainham opened its new building in 2021 so is fully DDA compliant. Accessibility was a major consideration as part of the planning process. The building meets all standards. It has disability toilets on each floor in each college, lift access to all upper floors and staff have had Evac-chair training. All rooms have signs on classroom and office doors to show the purpose of the room.

9) The expertise and training of staff to support students with SEND, including how specialist expertise will be secured:

Leigh Academy Rainham is committed to the professional development of its staff in all areas including Special Educational Needs and Disability. The following provision is in place to ensure that all staff are aware of and can meet the needs of students with special educational needs:

- a) The SENDCo/Assistant SENDCo delivers continuous professional development sessions to all staff on identified areas of Special Educational Needs and Disability.
- b) Staff attend training on identified areas of Special Educational Needs and Disability organised by the Local Authority, Health Authority and Leigh Academies Trust.
- c) Staff have access to inclusion websites providing links and information on Special Educational Needs and Disability, and inclusive teaching and learning strategies.
- d) Through commissioning, experts (EP, CAMHs, SaLT etc) are invited to Leigh Academy Rainham to deliver training sessions on identified areas of Special Educational Needs and Disability to all staff.

10) Evaluating the effectiveness of the provision made for students with SEND:

Leigh Academy Rainham is dedicated to ensuring the highest level of provision to students and parents/carers. It is constantly striving to improve this provision including the SEND practices within the Academy. In order to ensure the best possible provision, the following evaluation processes are implemented:

- a) Regular meetings with the SEND Link Governor and SENDCo where reviews of practice and policies are discussed and fed back to the Governors as a body
- b) Regular meetings with the Principal and Heads of Colleges to discuss and review SEND practices and policies
- c) Parents/carers/student/staff questionnaires on SEND practices within the Academy
- d) Completion of self evaluation to inform SEND action plans, following regular meetings with the Principal
- d) Attendance of SENDCo/Assistant SENDCo at Leigh Academies Trust SENDCo Forums, Leigh Academies Trust Inclusion Drive Team meetings, and local authority SENDCo meetings to share best practice and discuss current innovations
- e) Regular and robust reviews of intervention programmes
- f) Data analysis, including comparisons to national benchmark data and student progress

11) How students with SEND are enabled to engage in activities available with students in Leigh Academy Rainham who do not have SEND:

Leigh Academy Rainham offers a wide range of co-curricular and enrichment activities for all students, including those students with special educational needs. It achieves this by:

- a) Ensuring that all staff involved in co-curricular and enrichment activities are fully trained in relevant areas of Special Educational Needs and Disability
- b) Offering a range of activities to accommodate all interests, abilities and physical needs

12) Support for improving emotional and social development:

- a) A range of social, emotional and mental health interventions will be offered to all students who have been identified as having special educational needs in these areas. These will be reviewed regularly.
- b) Access to outside agencies via the Local Authority, Health Authority, Leigh Academies Trust and other agencies (CAMHs Tier 2 and support with referral to Tier 3, SaLT, EPs, School Nurse, FaSS).
- c) The SENDCo will liaise with Health and Social Care teams as dictated by the Code of Practice and Education and Health Care Plans.
- d) Teaching Assistants will develop, deliver and monitor social, emotional and mental health intervention programmes in order to address the special educational needs of identified students. This will be delivered on an individual or small group basis.
- e) Identified students will have access to counselling and mentoring. We have a part time counsellor and one of our Student Services Manager is a trained Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA).
- f) Access to Student Leadership and Student Voice opportunities.
- h) Supervised Wellbeing Wednesday Lunch and homework club supervised by Teaching Assistants, four afternoons, after school.

13) How Leigh Academy Rainham involves other bodies, including health and social care bodies, local authority support services and voluntary sector organisations, in meeting student's SEND and supporting their families:

According to the Code of Practice 2014, the following must be adhered to:

Children and young people with SEND may need integrated support from education, health and/or social care to help them achieve their ambitions. Working together, these agencies can achieve far more for these children and young people than they can separately, more efficiently and often at a reduced cost. The local offer must set out the range of services available locally to children with SEND and the support that children, young people and families may access outside the local area.

The Academy Board and Leigh Academy Rainham will liaise and consult with the above-mentioned agencies to create an effective local and academy offer that jointly commissions all agencies. It will then adhere to the local and academy offer to ensure that parents/carers and students receive a cohesive, supportive and transparent service. It currently is able to provide services through the Local Authority, Health Authorities and Leigh Academies Trust through the specified referral routes.

We have access to external advisors for children who meet the criteria, such as the educational psychologists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists. Further support can be accessed through Medway's Local offer, including expertise from Fortis Trust and the Marlborough

Centre. The school SENDCO is in regular contact with the School Health Nurse and pupils can be discussed and expertise shared to ensure that they are being supported effectively. It may be that referrals to outside agencies are recommended, a diagnosis is being explored or additional support is required; if this is the case, parents and carers are consulted and consent obtained.

There is the additional membership of professional networks for our SENDCO e.g. NAS, LAT SENDCO forum and NASEN.

The Medway Local Offer can be found [here](#):

Kent Local Offer can be found [here](#):

14) Arrangements for handling complaints from parents of children with SEND about the provision made at the Academy:

Should you have a complaint, we encourage parents and carers to firstly discuss their concerns with the student's Form Tutor or subject teachers, Student Services Managers, the SENDCO, Heads of College, and the Principal in order to resolve any issues.

If you deem your complaint to be unresolved and wish for it to be investigated by the Academy Principal, Mrs Millward, please complete the form [here](#).

If you deem your complaint to still be unresolved after the academy has responded, please submit a formal complaint to the Trust's Academies Director.

The LATComplaints policy can be found [:here](#)

If the complaint is not resolved after it has been considered by the academy's Governing Body, then a disagreement resolution service or mediation service can be contracted. If it remains unresolved after this, the complainant can appeal to the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability), if the case refers to disability discrimination, or to the Secretary of State for all other cases.

There are some circumstances, usually for children who have an EHCP, where there is a statutory right for parents and carers to appeal against a decision of the Local Authority. Complaints which fall under this category cannot be investigated by Leigh Academy Rainham or Leigh Academies Trust.

National Websites:

- Contact a Family: <https://contact.org.uk/>
- National Network of Parent Carer Forums: <https://nnpcf.org.uk/>
- ACE Centre Advisory Trust - (for communication difficulties): <https://acecentre.org.uk/> 0800 080 3115 (free advice line)
- British Dyslexia Association: <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/> 0333 405 4567
- Council for Disabled Children: [Council for Disabled Children](#)
- Cystic Fibrosis Trust: [Cystic Fibrosis Trust](#) 0300 373 1000 or 020 3795 2184
- Disability Rights UK: [Disability Rights UK](#)
- Disabled Living Foundation: [Disabled Living Foundation \(DLF\) - Information Now](#) 0300 999 0004
- Down's Syndrome Association (DSA): [Downs Syndrome Association](#) 0333 1212300
- Parents for Inclusion: [Parents for Inclusive Education NI](#) 0800 652 3145
- The National Autistic Society: autism.org.uk

Local Websites

- SEND Information [HUB](#)
- Kent Parents and Carers Together ([PACT](#))
- Information, Advice and Support for Parents and Carers of children and young ([iask](#))