SEN Trust Southend

Curriculum Statement for SEN Trust

As a multi-academy of four special schools with a range of pupils with a variety of Special Educational Needs, we have many things in common. All our pupils have an Education, Health and Care plan and require additional help and expertise to enable them to make progress with all aspects of their learning. Pupils come from within the Southend local area and also a number from neighbouring Essex Local Authority. They can join our schools at any time from age 2 to 18.

Our agreed aims when we set up the MAT were and are as follows:

- Valuing our young people – a voice for everyone.
- Ambition for our students – high aspirations – the sky is the limit.
- Accountability and transparency in our practices.
- Inclusivity – meeting the needs of the students, whatever the background.
- Rigour and challenge – leading to excellence in our practice.
- Community involvement – working with other services to meet the Special Educational Needs of our young people and their families.

We are four different schools which cater for different aspects of special educational needs. We have some overlaps in pupil population and wish to give parents and pupils a degree of choice in their placements, but we have our own specialisms.

However, we also have some common principles and curricular aims.

The first and foremost is a desire for our pupils to achieve the most possible from their time in our schools and to move on from us ready to use the skills, knowledge and abilities gained in school in the wider world and onto their next stage of education.

We believe that education will be a life long journey for our pupils and we aim to provide the building blocks for them to use in the future to help them become;

- as independent as possible,
- make choices as to aspects of their lives,
- be able to communicate effectively,
- be as numerate as possible including managing their finances within their capabilities
- sociable and able to mix with a variety of others in a positive way
- develop a love of learning and gain a variety of experiences which will enrich their lives.

Each school has a unique curriculum (with the National Curriculum entitlement at its core) and way of meeting the aims we have for each pupil. However, we adhere to the above aims and principles in how this curriculum is presented to pupils and parents as a way of meeting these aims. We also all take account of requirements of each pupils' Education, Health and Care plan and expectations in meeting these targets.

The individual presentation of curriculum in each school varies according to the special educational needs of our pupils and is constantly reviewed and updated to meet the changing needs of each school's population and new curriculum research. For information on each school's individual approach and content of the curriculum please go to the individual school website section. Although we are one 'organisation' in terms of the Multi-Academy Trust, we use different methods and approaches to delivering the curriculum in each school.