

SEN Link to Local Offer

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

The local offer provides information for children and young people with special educational needs (SEND) and their parents or carers in a single place.

For details of the offer in West Yorkshire follow the link;

<http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/Leeds-Local-Offer.aspx>

THE ELLAND ACADEMY

SEND LOCAL OFFER (2017-18)

What is the local offer?

Our local offer is information for parents / carers of children who have additional educational needs (AEN) and all those who support children with additional needs. This information outlines the support and provision they can expect to receive from The Elland Academy for their children.

The Vision

Our vision is to provide a high quality, effective and inclusive Alternative Provision solution for challenging and vulnerable young people with behavioural and emotional issues and for whom mainstream education fails to provide the appropriate opportunities and learning solutions.

At The Elland Academy, we provide a high quality, effective and inclusive provision for children and young people who are experiencing challenge in their mainstream provision. Our specialist staff team cater for learners aged between 4-18 years old and ensure that our offer is tailored to individual needs.

The Elland Academy is a friendly, safe and caring place, one which successfully nurtures the needs of every member of its community. We aim to provide an environment where all views are valued and where children and young people feel enabled to make positive choices regarding their learning and their interactions with others.

We recognise that all of our students have enormous potential and our dedicated staff team are fully committed to ensuring success for all of our children and young people, giving them the best life chances. At The Elland Academy, we believe all our students can achieve!

In order to implement our vision The Elland Academy:

- Places the health, safety, welfare and well-being of every member of the academy community at the centre of everything it undertakes
- Challenges, supports and encourages everyone to do their best, building self confidence in learners in all aspects of their lives.
- Has high expectations for individuals: both children and staff
- Encourages collective responsibility around improving aspiration, attainment and positive behaviours for its children, staff and the wider community
- Is a caring learning community, based on social responsibility, honesty, equality and consideration for others
- Promotes and achieves success, both collectively and with individual children and staff.
- Encourages self-help, self-determination and self-improvement.
- Promotes inclusion, by collaborative working within the AP Free School and equally with outside agencies and partners.
- Expects courtesy and co-operation, where enterprise, initiative and transformation affect every area of academy learning and academy life.
- Is at the centre of its community; a vibrant and welcoming venue, acting as a resource and a catalyst to community and individual growth.

How are Additional Educational Needs defined?

The Elland Academy has a register of all students who receive additional support in the following three categories:

SEN Support (K) – Your child is receiving extra intervention to support them to achieve their expected level e.g. Literacy intervention both in and outside of the classroom. Your child may have an outside agency working with them e.g. Educational Psychologist (EPS), SENSIT. These agencies will be either currently working with your child or will have worked with you child in the last 6 months. Regardless of their level of need, your child will have a Pupil Passport which details the nature of your child’s difficulties and support which is needed.

Complex needs with an EHCP (previously a statement of Educational Need) – Your child has been identified as having needs that require extra support to access the curriculum. They will be entitled to additional adult support, additional provision and a high level of differentiation from class teachers.

Support for Students with Additional Educational Needs

Students with Additional Educational Needs will get support that is specific to their individual needs. This support may be provided by class teachers or may involve other school staff such as the SENCO, learning support assistants, or the Personal Learning Advocates (PLA). For some students this may also include staff from external agencies such as EPS, SENSIT etc.

Frequently asked questions by parents:

<p>What can I expect my child attends The Elland Academy?</p>	<p>At The Elland academy we are dedicated to providing a personalised teaching approach, which with relevant support and adjustments will maximise every child's learning. We are a fully inclusive school and our support is mainly provided within the classroom and where appropriate, pupils will receive bespoke interventions delivered by trained support staff.</p>
<p>How does The Elland Academy know if children need extra help?</p> <p>What do I do if I think my child has Additional Educational Needs?</p>	<p>Many young people find school a challenge at times for a lot of different reasons, at The Elland Academy we have a referral process which many staff use when they identify an issue. It is likely that if you think that your young person has a special educational need that staff have raised this as a concern too.</p> <p>When a member of staff or yourself raises a concern regarding a young person having a special educational need the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) team will analyse data, speak to the student, contact staff who teach the young person. All the information is collected and discussed with the SENCO to see what action is required. Sometimes a referral is made to other agencies such as a Speech and Language Therapist, an Educational Psychologist, a Child Adolescent Mental Health worker as these are specialist teams who can fully support your young person if their need is greater than what we can provide for in the academy.</p> <p>We work as a team at The Elland Academy and would welcome a phone call/letter/e-mail from yourself to discuss your concerns in more detail.</p> <p>Our SENCo, Mrs Simone King can be contacted on 0113 2127010 or kings3@ellandacademy.org.uk</p>
<p>How does The Elland Academy organise support for children with Additional Educational Needs?</p>	<p>Your child's teachers, the inclusion team and the SENCO will be involved in overseeing and planning your child's education programme. Depending on the intervention required, your child may at times be working in a small group aimed at supporting literacy and / or mathematics. Sometimes a student requires support to access the curriculum or to manage his or her behaviour, emotions, or to work on their social skills. In this case a trained mentor or PLA may support your child to be a successful member of the school community.</p>
<p>What happens if my child has a high level of Additional Educational Needs?</p>	<p>The SENCO will be involved with your child from the start to plan the transition and make sure they have the necessary support in place from day one. Your child will be monitored regularly and support adjusted where necessary. Relevant testing will be carried out and if needed intervention put in place. Staff will be informed of what adjustments need to take place in the classroom via a pupil passport so your child can access the curriculum at their level. Your child may also be entitled to special arrangements in exams which could include support with reading and writing, they may also qualify for extra time to complete external and internal exams.</p>
<p>How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?</p>	<p>The academy believes in Quality First Teaching (QFT), this means that all our teaching staff are able to use their professional judgement to differentiate the work to meet the needs of every young person they teach.</p>

	<p>Our teachers are highly trained to ensure that they are able to ensure that young person accesses the curriculum and makes progress. They do this through the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Differentiating resources; this could be through changing the language, creating visual cues, explanations etc - Teacher intervention; this could involve working with a small group/individual to further explain the task - By additional adult support; an additional adult may support your young person on a one to one basis in a classroom to ensure they understand the task, support them with structuring their work etc - Groupings; students may be in small groups within a classroom that best suit their needs. Students are placed in ability groupings for all subjects. - Differentiated curriculum <p>The academy recognises that one size does not fit all and the academy has developed a programme for our learners with the greatest level of need that stops them effectively accessing a mainstream curriculum .We have also developed a creative curriculum with a vocational offer to support the access a curriculum that supports them with their individual needs, they have intervention programmes, reading programmes. Students are taught in a nurturing setting in small groups to offer the level of support needed. Students undertake a guidance process which is designed to ensure that all levels of learners achieve outcomes.</p>
<p>How will I know how my child is doing and how will you help me support my child's learning?</p>	<p>At The Elland Academy we encourage you to contact us if you have any concerns about your child and you can ask for an appointment to speak to the SENCO or a member of the PLA team at a mutually convenient time. There are plans to hold regular parent/carer coffee mornings/ evenings. You will be invited to attend a termly review meeting and will receive a report every term and we will always ask to see you if we have any concerns about your child's progress.</p> <p>You may have concerns that the academy shares and through working together we can identify the issue and put appropriate intervention in place.</p> <p>Depending on the level of need your child has you may be asked to visit lessons to support your young person and also to see how the members of staff support your child. This is on an individual basis where it is appropriate.</p> <p>We have produced resources that help you understand how to support your young person at home; these include reading strategies and basic number skills. The academy has a governing body that includes representation from the academy parents/carers. This is an ideal opportunity to further drive the education of your person.</p>
<p>What specialist services and expertise are</p>	<p>The academy has developed cohesive working relationships to support the needs of the students that attend the academy. We link with many other professionals such</p>

<p>available at or accessed by The Elland Academy?</p>	<p>as Child and Adolescent Mental Health and we now have an educational psychologist who work as part of the team at the Elland academy.</p>
<p>What training have the staff supporting children and young people with Additional Educational Needs had?</p>	<p>The academy has a rigorous and supportive programme of further development for staff. This includes whole staff training sessions such as recent sessions on attachment and meeting the needs of learners with Dyslexia/ASD. All staff follow a training plan that includes information about the development of SEND best practice on a termly basis. Our SENCO is a qualified teacher, with the Masters level accredited SENCO qualification. All staff receive regular training and updates for the main categories of Special Educational Needs All staff are able to request specialist training if they feel that this will benefit the young people they encounter.</p> <p>Certain training is aimed at specific members of staff, all staff will be trained in each area of SEND but some may be trained in more depth as they are supporting the learners with this area of need more. An example of this is the bespoke programme that our associate staff follows. All our associate staff that work in a classroom are trained to support the learners they support. For some this may be that they are specially trained to deliver interventions in reading and for those with dyslexia.</p>
<p>How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips?</p>	<p>Each half term a range of after school activities that are available for young people to participate in. Regardless of their SEN status. Staff who run the events would be alerted to the additional support the young person may require.</p> <p>Any trips and visits would include an appropriate number of staff to ensure your young person can access the activity. Your child will be given a letter outlining the activity which includes any details of a risk assessment. As a parent/carer you are able to speak to the trip leader to discuss any concerns you may have and to ensure that your child is able to participate appropriately. There may be times that certain medical conditions do not allow a young person to take part in an activity. However these are very rare occasions and whenever possible an alternative activity would be provided to ensure your child remains safe.</p>
<p>How Accessible is The Elland Academy?</p>	<p>The academy opened in September 2014. There are disabled toilets in the academy on the ground floor which are accessed via a RADAR key. The academy has wide opening doors which provide wheelchair access to the ground floor in the academy. Disabled parking spaces are located at the front of the building to allow for pick up/drop of a child with additional physical needs. We make every reasonable adjustment possible. The school site is across three levels but we would move a class downstairs in order that a pupil could access this.</p>
<p>How will The Elland Academy prepare and support my child to join the school and then transfer to a new school?</p>	<p>The SENCO and inclusion team liaise with teaching staff, support staff and SENCOs from referring schools. Admissions and integration meetings are held prior to a student starting at The Elland Academy to support the transition into The Academy. When students first start at The Elland Academy they will be based in our reflection area where they will complete a range of assessments, meet the staff and follow and integration programme.</p>

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	<p>If your child has a statement of Special Educational Needs or EHCP, then your child's needs will be discussed and shared with all staff.</p> <p>When students enter Year 11 they are given further support by a careers advisor.</p> <p>On reintegration back into a host school, a meeting will take place between staff from The Elland academy and host school to ensure support plans and strategies are shared and a reintegration plan agreed to ensure the students continue to be supported.</p>
How are the school's resources allocated and matched to children's Additional Educational Needs?	The funding is accessed through the referring schools and through collaborative discussions, plans are put in place to support the needs of these students. As all our students are dual registered, the funding arrangements are with the main school
How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child will receive?	There are weekly meetings attended by the Assistant Principal for Inclusion, the SENCO, the safer schools officer, EWO and PLAs. If there is a need for some extra support this will be agreed by everyone that needs to help your child.
Who can I contact for further information?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If you have any queries, concerns or questions you can contact the SENCO, Head of behaviour and pastoral support, the Assistant Principal for Inclusion or any member of the school leadership team. - Further information can be assessed through requesting information to be sent to you by writing to: - The Elland Academy - Geldard Road - L S12 6DQ. <p>Or by phoning on 0113 2127010</p>

Frequently asked questions from the point of view of a young person:

How does The Elland know if I need extra help?	Your teachers track your progress and they will know if you need extra help.
What should I do if I think I need extra help?	You can talk to somebody at home and they can talk to your teacher. You can also talk to your teachers and your form tutor.
How will my work be organised so that I can cope and get it all done?	Your teacher will give you work that will allow you to learn and make progress. They will make sure that it is not too easy and not too hard, but it will make you think.

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If I have difficulties how can I be involved in planning my learning?	Once a term you will have a pupil profile meeting to discuss how you are getting on. You will talk about your targets for learning and how else you feel you could be supported.
Who will tell me what I can do to help myself and be more independent?	All the staff at The Elland Academy can help you to become more independent, but if you are worried then talk to your preferred adult. This could be your form tutor, a teacher or someone from the inclusion department.
What should I do if I am worried about something?	If you are worried about something talk to your form tutor, the support staff or any other familiar adult in school.
How will I know if I am doing as well as I should?	You will be given regular verbal and written feedback on your work in all subjects. This feedback will include what you have done well and what you need to focus on next. In addition you will have a school report each term, showing what grade you are currently working at. Your teachers will also meet with someone from home to discuss how you are doing.
How can I get help if I am worried about things other than my school work?	You can always talk to any member of staff at school who you feel comfortable talking to.
Are there staff in school who have been trained to help young people who need extra help?	All our teachers and staff have been trained to teach children with learning needs. Our SENCO and Inclusion team have lots of experience and qualifications that mean they are trained to help children with learning needs. We also have a number of learning support assistants and mentors who are trained to help students in different ways.
If I have difficulty in taking part in school activities what different arrangements can be made?	<p>We can move classrooms around if you are unable to walk up the stairs.</p> <p>So you know who can help you within The Elland Academy, you will be introduced to all the staff that will be working with you so that they understand your difficulties. If you feel comfortable, we could also let your friends know how they can help you.</p> <p>If you want to get involved in school activities but may need extra help, you can talk to your teachers, form tutor or the support staff.</p>
What extra help is there to help me get ready to start at my school?	We will talk to your current school and your parents / carers. You are always welcome to come and visit The Elland Academy. We can give you a school prospectus and a member of staff will give you a tour of the school. You will be allocated a Personal Learning advocate who will support you throughout your time at The Elland Academy. When you first start with us you will be based in Reflection for the first two weeks so you can learn our expectations and routines.