



Our Ref: SJH/MBE

24th March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

SEND DEPARTMENT UPDATE

I am writing to share some updates from the SEND department as we come to the end of Term 2. I joined the school in November 2025 and have been very busy in the background ensuring that we have the best provisions available for our students. Across this time the SEND team has grown and as we come to the end of my first full term, I thought this a great opportunity to share with you some updates.

The Hub

We recently appointed our new Hub Lead, Ms Williams, who has opened our new, even better Hub, deliberately named due to it being a Hub of learning. This is a space where students can go to self-regulate, work independently and receive specialist 1:1 or small group intervention. Students can still attend if dysregulated and from there have a choice to regulate independently, use some self-regulation packs available to them or to talk things through with Ms Williams. Her background is mental health and so is the perfect addition to the team and we are very lucky to have her specialist knowledge.

The choice of how to regulate is of course given over to the student as they know themselves best and what will aid them in the moment. When calmer the student then has the option to stay in the Hub and work 1:1 with Ms Williams on their regulation plan for when this happens again, join one of the interventions running at that time; this could be anything from emotion skills to numeracy, or to return to their lesson. Ms Williams is also available to walk with the student to lesson if they would prefer.

Movement Passes

Running alongside the Hub is our Movement Pass, this has been given to all students with either diagnosed ADHD or displaying traits. This is permission to move out of lesson. We use walking to the Hub to touch the door as an example. Research shows us that when a student with ADHD is feeling dysregulated it is the physical movement and release of adrenaline that can reset their concentration and focus. This is sometimes all the students need to regulate and want to be back in the lesson with their peers.

Interventions

Our suite of interventions available to students has grown, below I have listed some examples, this is not an exhaustive list but gives examples of the wide range of support teachers can identify students as needing extra support with. We have 17 different interventions running currently that students can receive additional support through:

- Numeracy
- Lego therapy
- Emotional regulation
- Managing strong emotions
- Understanding anxiety
- Counselling
- Dyslexia screening
- Handwriting
- Hair and Beauty
- Boxing
- Football

Learning Plans

All students on the SEND register will have now had two learning plan reviews, one prior to Christmas (if they were on the SEND register then) and a second this term (between January and the Easter holidays). Adults at home are always invited to these, however, don't always attend so please do look out for communication from us as to how to arrange the appointments as we would love to work collaboratively with you. Students learning plans are completed by a trained member of the SEND team, this could be the Learning Support Assistant who knows them best and works closely with them in lesson or a staff member who delivers one of their personalised interventions. These plans then describe how best to help the student and are shared with teachers so they can make sure the lessons are tweaked in the best way possible for each student.

Social Media and Parental Voice

Please do make sure you are following DHS on social media as we are sharing lots of help for families of SEND students, rewards for SEND students of the week and updates for parents through these posts.

We recently shared a parental voice feedback form on there and thank you to everyone who completed the form. One suggestion came in about smaller enrichment groups available to those students who don't like the large activities, this was listened to and implemented, so now some groups are capped at lower numbers and as requested by the students a specific mindfulness group has been added with one of our mental health team.

If you do have any questions about anything related to the SEND provision for your child, please use our dedicated email address to make contact with the team: SENDEnquiries@nclt.ac.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Ms Jackson Horner
Assistant Headteacher (SENCO)