

FAQs

How will you know what needs my child has?

As part of our transition process we speak directly with class teachers and SENCos from every school who provide us with detailed information. This includes the support that has previously been in place. We also rely on parents to provide us with information to ensure we can provide any necessary support as quickly as possible.

How is the information about my child's needs and strategies for best practice communicated to teachers?

All students who are on the SEN register will have a Learning Passport. This will provide all staff with information to support and inform teaching in the classroom. Learning Passports are written with students to ensure they are personalised.

My child was on the SEND register in primary school. Will this continue in secondary school?

While all schools have a SEND Register, the criteria for adding a child to the register varies between schools and in particular between primary and secondary school. Students who were on the register in primary school will initially be placed on our register and will be monitored closely for the first half term. A decision will then be taken about whether or not there is a need for this to continue. We will inform you of this decision and discuss it further with you.

My child finds it difficult to manage unstructured time and noise such as break and lunch times. How will you support this?

The Bridge or Learning Support area are safe spaces that can be accessed during these times.

How does the school handle communicating unexpected changes to routine – what notice is given for changes, e.g. staffing, room changes, school trips?

Where possible we inform students and parents well in advance of any changes that may be happening. If this is not possible, for example if a member of staff is ill, we will support students in those changes at that time to reduce anxiety.

My child had a Support Plan in primary school - will this carry on and will they get the same support? Will parents be involved?

All support plans will be reviewed when students start with us and we always make sure that parents/carers are involved in any reviews that are conducted. It is often the case that primary and secondary schools provide different support and interventions. We always work with students and parents/carers to ensure appropriate support is provided where necessary.

My child is used to same LSA. Will this continue in secondary school?

working with the

In secondary school part of our job is to prepare students for adulthood which includes working with different people and managing change. At Darton LSAs work across all subjects. This allows students to build relationships with a number of different staff and reduces dependency on individuals.

Will my child get 1 to1 support in every lesson?

Unless it is specifically written into an EHCP we do not give 1-1 support for students in every lesson. It is useful to remember that there is not an LSA in every lesson as there usually is in primary school.

I have concerns about my child. How do I get help?

Always contact school if you have any concerns; initially this should be the Learning Manager. This can be via email or a phone call. They will discuss and record your concerns before agreeing on the most appropriate course of action.

I think that my child has additional learning needs. How can you help?

If you have any concerns about your child you should initially contact the Learning Manager who will discuss it with you before referring to the SENCo if appropriate. We will listen to your concerns and then gather information from teachers before working together to make a plan to support your child where necessary.

My child has a medical condition, how is this managed in school?

Any medical information should be disclosed in detail as soon as your child starts at school, including providing a current Health Care Plan if one is available. You may then be asked to discuss the details with the Learning Manager. We will then put provision in place to support within the guidelines of the school policy. It should be noted that school cannot give a student any medication that is not prescribed, for example paracetamol. The school medical policy can be found on the school website.