



St. Martin's School's SEND Information Report – updated February 2022

St. Martin's School is a comprehensive school for students aged 11 to 18. At St Martin's, our ethos is based on traditional, inclusive values, including students' personal development, outstanding academic achievement and personalised provision and support. The school has a committed staff, supportive parents/carers and students who want to learn. The school staff are forward thinking and constantly seeking to improve in order to offer a first-class education for our students. At St. Martin's, we believe that all children can be successful learners and that all are capable of achievement, in line with the school's Value: '*Be The Best You Can Be*'. We aim to provide learning experiences and an environment that allows all students to succeed. The school has an excellent academic record, significant numbers of its students achieve at the very highest levels at GCSE and A-level. Expectations of students are high and we insist on standards being maintained in every aspect of school life. We promote a strong code of values based on respect and tolerance and we encourage our students to be good citizens within a caring community. We look to the future with confidence and believe that we provide a safe, supportive learning environment in which all our students enjoy school and can develop their full potential.

What type of needs are currently supported at St. Martin's School?

We currently have a range of needs that we can offer provision for:

- ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder);
- ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder);
- Cognitive Processing;
- Dyslexia;
- Dyspraxia;
- Physical disabilities, visual and hearing impaired;
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health;
- Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD);
- Speech, Language and Communication difficulties.

We will, however, look to support and implement provision accordingly, when new students arrive with different needs.

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How does St. Martin's School know if my child needs extra help?

The principle of Quality First Teaching underpins the approach taken at St. Martin's School. This means that most students' needs are met within the classroom. All teachers are teachers of SEND and have a responsibility to identify and support students, who may need additional support. Students, who have additional needs are identified in a range of ways, and at a number of different times in the school year. This can be done by:

- Gathering information from primary schools through the transition process. Working closely with the Head of Year and the SENDCo from primary schools.
- Informal and formal assessment and observation of lessons.
- SENDCo regularly meets with Heads of Year and Assistant Headteacher to discuss any concerns around a student's progress.
- Regular Learning Walks.
- Parental views and meetings.
- Student's own views.
- Teacher reports.
- SENDCo will regularly meet with S.E.A.L Coordinator.
- Evidence from external professionals including, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, specialist teachers, speech and language therapists, social workers, educational psychologists, Emotional Wellbeing Mental Health services (EWMHS), doctors, outreach and others. Evidence will be drawn from the school's core approach to student progress, attainment and behaviour. It will also draw on the individual's development in comparison to their peers.

What should I do if I think my child may have a Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND)?

If you have a concern about your child's progress, the first person to contact is your child's subject teacher and the Head of Department, who is responsible for the progress your child makes in that specific subject. If it is a general concern, you will need to contact the Head of Year or Year Administrator, who will then liaise with the SENDCo. Should the SENDCo feel that further assessment must take place, they will organise this to investigate any concerns. Parents/carers and students will be involved in this process and in further discussion for next steps.

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How will I know how St. Martin's supports my child?

At St. Martin's School, if we decide to provide SEND support, the parents/carers will be informed. A review meeting will be arranged through the year with the SENDCo or another member of the SEND Department to discuss the interventions/support to be put in place and the expected impact on progress, development and behaviour. The SENDCo will contact parents/carers if there are changes to the provision offered.

How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

Teachers plan using students' One Plans, differentiating tasks to ensure progress for every student in the classroom. When a student has been identified as having SEN, the curriculum and the learning environment will be further adapted by the class teacher to reduce barriers to learning, enabling them to access the curriculum more easily.

These adaptations may include strategies suggested by the SENDCo and/or external specialists and may include:

- Mentoring if necessary
- Differentiated curriculum pathways
- Targeted interventions
- Support for exams from Year 7, should access arrangements be identified.

Should it be required, students may be provided with specialised equipment or resources such as ICT and/or additional adult help.

How will I know how my child is doing?

Parents/carers will be informed of their child's progress mainly through termly reports, but additionally via regular updates through One Plan review meetings, which may be conducted by someone from the SEND department or someone, who knows the student well, and parents' evenings where parents/carers will have an opportunity to discuss progress with each of the student's subject teachers. If there are any concerns, staff will communicate with parents/carers more regularly.

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How will you help me to support my child's learning?

Students' voice is central to how we plan our provision.

Students, who are identified as having a SEND need will have a One Plan in place. This is shared with staff and updated when new information is added.

We have monitor plans for students, who have been discussed with the SENDCo, but who do not require additional support beyond the classroom. The monitor plans are shared with staff.

- SEND students are encouraged to come to the SEND department at different points of the day.
- The subject teacher or SENDCo may also suggest additional ways of supporting your child's learning.
- Parents' and carers' voices are important to us. If you have ideas on support that you would like to access in order to further support your child's learning, please contact the SENDCo, who will locate information and guidance for you in this area.

Targeted interventions are planned depending on the individual student's SEND, parents/carers are informed of these before they start.

Examples of some interventions are:

- ARTiculate
- Explore Anxiety
- Anger management
- Breakfast Club
- SEND Lunch Club
- Homework Club
- Lego Therapy
- Talk about teens.

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What support will there be for my child's overall wellbeing?

St. Martin's has a Social, Emotional Aspects of Learning (S.E.A.L) Coordinator, who works closely with the SENDCo. They will lead on a range of interventions to address individual's needs via 1:1 or group work.

The school has strong attendance, behaviour, and anti-bullying policies. At St. Martin's, we are proactive in seeking appropriate support for students, who are vulnerable or who have difficulty managing their emotions in school. The school has a strong pastoral system with a variety of staff, whose core role is to monitor and support students' wellbeing.

What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the school?

If your child has been identified as having SEND, the school will do the very best to give your child the support they need. This may include getting advice and support from specialists outside the school, such as:

- An Educational Psychologist advisory service where possible
- Specialist teachers
- Education access team
- Careers adviser internally and externally
- We attend termly meetings with the Essex School Partnership to discuss students, who we may have concerns about.

What training are the staff supporting children and young people with SEND had or having?

Staff are offered regular SEND CPD sessions (both in-house and external) in order to improve Teaching and Learning across the whole school and improve outcomes for SEND students. Our SENDCo has the NASENCO qualification.

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How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom, including school trips?

At St. Martin's, students with SEND are encouraged to participate in all school activities. For example, they are allocated responsibilities around the school on an equal basis, such as the Duty Student role or providing tours when we have external visitors to the school. They are also given the opportunity to become School Council members, House and Games Captains and to represent the school in other ways through sports teams and competitions. School trips are accompanied by a high ratio of adults to students and risk assessments are carried out. Our SEND students are also given the opportunity to participate in many drama/music performances, which help build their self-confidence and team-working skills.

How accessible is the school environment?

Please see our Accessibility Plan.

How will the school prepare and support my child when joining St. Martin's or transferring to a new school or post-16 provision?

A member of the SEND team may visit primary schools and attend annual review meetings where applicable for incoming Year 7 students.

- SEND Department and Head of Year gathers specific information from primary schools to inform tutor groups and areas of concern before the beginning of the new school year.
- Individual parental visits to St. Martin's with the SEND department.
- Three additional SEND mornings before two full days with the rest of the Year 6 children, who will be joining us for Year 7.
- SEND students are invited to a summer school.
- College transfer meeting.
- Travel training if needed.
- Careers guidance.

Who can I contact for further information?

SENDCo – Mrs. S Hamit, sendco@st-martins.essex.sch.uk

You can also contact your child's Head of Year.

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