



EPSOM

COLLEGE

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Provision

The philosophy of the Department for Academic Support is that all pupils can improve and achieve given the appropriate support for their special educational need and disability. At Epsom College qualified and experienced specialist teachers are able to provide for a wide variety of mild SEND: dyslexia, DCD (dyspraxia), Asperger's Syndrome, AD(H)D and other behavioural, social and emotional needs.

The generic provision is one of personalised learning. Teaching programmes are customised and take various forms for the range of specific learning difficulties: literacy programmes for pupils with dyslexia; handwriting, touch-typing and organisational support for those with dyspraxia; support programmes for pupils with AD(H)D; exam and revision technique; study skills and time management. A variety of industry-standard software is available. The SEND provision often includes a counselling element. The aim is to produce confident independent learners who can apply the taught strategies and techniques across the curriculum.

Integral to the practice is close liaison with parents, Housemasters/mistresses, Heads of Year, tutors, subject staff, the medical centre and external agencies. The Department maintains a SEND Register of all pupils with special educational needs. This includes a description of the need and strategies for supporting the pupil in class. All information is highly confidential and is available to Common Room on a secure intranet site and iSAMS only. Academic Support staff are able to provide more detailed advice to staff and parents, as required.

All pupils take literacy tests on entry and appropriate action is taken if there is a cause for concern. The Head of Department is qualified to administer specialist specific learning difficulties (SpLD) assessments to tertiary level. This includes testing for access arrangements for public examinations.

Most specialist intervention and individual tuition consists of 30 weekly lessons of 30 or 45 minutes. These lessons are always arranged in consultation with the pupil and are outside the academic timetable and extra-curricular activities. Other programmes of support are offered according to need and can last from 6 to 12 weeks.