

INTRODUCTION

The Additional Needs Department supports a multi-disciplinary approach to maximise the educational provision for pupils that have barriers to learning. Many agencies and support services are able to help identify, assess and provide support for AEN pupils. Such agencies and support services include a wide variety of specialist teachers and other professionals. The school has a named medical officer (Donna Jones) and a named school nurse, Helen Finland, within the local District Health Authority (DHA) to whom references are made in accordance with the Staged Procedure for assessment. In addition, we have a named Connexions Service Personal Adviser, Julie Corker.

The SENCo can give advice on how best to access the LEA's support services. The LA provides all schools with a booklet that details the range of services that are available and how they can be accessed.

The Additional Needs Department works with the following services which are provided by the LA and the DHA:

- Educational Psychology Service;
- Child & Family Services
- Student Support Service;
- Speech Therapy;
- Physiotherapy;
- Occupational therapy;
- Educational Welfare Service;
- Advisers with an expertise in using I.C.T. to enhance the provision for AEN ;
- CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services)
- Hearing Impairment Team;
- Visual Impairment Team;
- Autism Team;
- Home Tuition;
- English as a Foreign Language;
- General learning difficulties;
- Specific learning difficulties.

The school may procure the aid of the above specialist services at any time that it is deemed appropriate, e.g. advice on the identification, assessment and effective provision of resources. The Connexions Service provides guidance and support to many young people (aged 13 – 19) into adult life. Many of the above agencies work together within the Connexions Partnership thus streamlining the lines of communication and co-ordinating the agencies. The Connexions Personal Advisers (based in School) is first made aware of all AEN pupils in Year 9. The Connexions Personal Adviser **must** be invited and attend the Year 9 annual review meetings. The attendance of the Connexions Personal Adviser is critical to the process. The Personal Adviser is invited to all subsequent annual reviews, and is expected to attend where appropriate.

Co-operation between the School, the LA, the health services and Social Services is vital if we are to secure the most effective assessment, intervention and deployment of resources for all pupils. Indeed, the Children Act 1989 and the Education Act 1993, place statutory duties on these agencies to co-operate with the school/LEA's request unless they consider that the request is not reasonable (with respect to available resources) or that the required help is not necessary for the LEA to discharge its functions. In light of the publication of 'Every child matters', this interaction between agencies must be appropriate, initiated quickly and supported from **all** involved agencies.

EDUCATION WELFARE SERVICE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Contact is made with the Social Services Department as appropriate. The SENCo and the EWO will meet on a regular basis. Such contact and liaison is maintained by the SENCo and named individuals at the respective services. Both the Education Welfare Service and Social Services, co-operate with other agencies in order to produce workable action plans. Both

services should also be able to encourage parental involvement in the resolution of any problems or difficulties.

The school Child Protection Officer (Miss. MacLennan – Assistant Head) usually attends a child's care plan review which is co-ordinated by Social Services. She or Mr. Stead (Deputy Head) is responsible for contacting the social services to register concern about a child's welfare and implementing procedures relating to child protection.

LINKS WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

The School has supported local community organisations, charities and projects, especially the sports college status.

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