



# Faringdon Community College

## SEND INFORMATION REPORT 2023-2024

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These pages set out information about our provision for students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

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### ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

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Faringdon Community College provides for students with a wide range of special educational needs and disabilities including those with:

- **Communication and interaction needs:**  
This includes students who have speech, language and communication difficulties including autistic spectrum disorders
- **Cognition and learning needs:**  
This includes students who have learning difficulties and specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia
- **Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs**
- **Sensory and/or physical needs:**  
This includes students who have visual or hearing needs, or a physical disability that affects their learning

Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) is Mrs Julie Timbrell. Our Inclusion Managers are Mrs Emma Somerfield and Mrs Hannah Francis. They can be contacted on [Senco@fcc.faringdonlearningtrust.org](mailto:Senco@fcc.faringdonlearningtrust.org).

Our Governor with responsibility for SEND is: Mr Michael Mayes

Our SEND policy is available on our website: <http://www.fccoxon.co.uk/policies/>



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## HOW DO WE IDENTIFY AND GIVE EXTRA HELP TO STUDENTS WITH SEND?

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Not all children have their needs identified by the time they reach secondary school. If a member of staff or a parent is concerned about a student, a referral should be made to the SENCo or Inclusion Manager.

The school uses Oxfordshire County Council's document 'Oxfordshire Guidance for Special Educational Needs (SEN) Support'.

The guidance sets out:

- How we identify if a student has a special educational need
- How we assess students and plan for their special educational needs, and how we adapt our teaching
- Ways in which we can adapt our school environment to meet each student's needs
- How we review progress and agree outcomes and involve you and your child in this.

Click here to read it: [Guidance for Schools](#)

A range of intervention programmes are run through the SEN department, The Bridge. These include interventions for literacy such as Lexonik phonics, Rapid Plus reading, Accelerated Reader and DiaPhon spelling. For numeracy, interventions include Numicon Big Ideas and Power of Two. We also run interventions to support students' emotional understanding and social skills, such as Talkabout for Teenagers, Let It Out, ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support) and Autism Advocate 1:1.

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## HOW DO WE WORK WITH PARENTS AND STUDENTS

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We will always contact parents if we have a concern that a student may have a special educational need.

We work closely with students with SEND and their parents to agree outcomes and how we will all work towards those, and then to review progress. We do this by meetings, phone calls and Parents' Evenings.

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## ADAPTING THE CURRICULUM

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We offer a broad and balanced curriculum for all students including those with SEND. Details are published on the school website:

<http://www.fccoxon.co.uk/curriculum/>

The curriculum can be tailored to meet the needs of an individual student with SEND. However, the expectation for the majority of our SEND students is to complete the same number of GCSE or equivalent GCSE courses as students with no identified educational need or disability.



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## WHAT EXPERTISE CAN WE OFFER?

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- Mrs Timbrell (SENCo) is a qualified teacher and has attained the National SENCo Award
- Mrs Timbrell also has a Postgraduate Certificate in Working with Children with Literacy Difficulties and is qualified to assess students for examination access arrangements
- Teaching Assistants are trained to support the particular needs of the children they work with
- We have two part-time dyslexia specialists
- We have two qualified Emotional Literacy Support Assistants with ongoing supervision provided by Oxfordshire County Council Educational Psychology Service.
- We also have a teaching assistant who specialises in supporting students with ASD / ADHD.
- All staff have a basic awareness level training in Special Needs, Physical Disabilities, and in Literacy
- We have a SEND link governor

We also have access to a range of specialist support services including:

- Educational Psychology
- Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Speech and Language Therapy (SLT)
- Communication and Interaction Service (C&I)
- Physical Disability Support Services (PDSS)
- Occupational Therapy (OT)
- Meadowbrook College
- Virtual School
- Hospital School
- Early Intervention Service
- Children's Social Care

Information about these services and what they can offer can be found on the Oxfordshire County Council SEND web pages:

[Oxfordshire SEND Support Services](#)

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## HOW DO WE KNOW IF SEND PROVISION IS EFFECTIVE?

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The progress of all students is tracked throughout the school through assessment point tracking and regular home/school communication. In addition, for students with SEND we follow the assess, plan, do, review process to review whether support has made a difference and what we need to do next.

When we run special intervention programmes for groups of students, we assess how successful they have been and use that information to decide on how best to run them in the future.

Information about how the governing body evaluate the success of the education that is provided for students with SEND is contained in the governors' annual SEND report.

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## HOW ARE STUDENTS WITH SEND HELPED TO ACCESS ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM?

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All students are included in activities and trips following risk assessments where needed and in accordance with duties under the Equalities Act 2010. Where necessary, we talk to parents and students when planning trips so that everyone is clear about what will happen.



There is information about activities and events for disabled children and those with SEND in Oxfordshire in the Family Information Directory:

[Family Information Directory Disabilities and Additional Needs](#)

Oxfordshire's accessibility strategy can be read at:

[Oxfordshire Schools Accessibility Strategy](#)

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## WHAT DO WE DO TO SUPPORT THE WELLBEING OF STUDENTS WITH SEND?

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All students have the opportunity to share their views through their school council representatives. We listen to the views of students with SEND who attend our morning, lunch and after school clubs and our SEND Student Council.

Where needed, SEND students are allocated a key worker who they can talk to should any issues arise. The key worker helps to monitor the student's progress in school as well as liaising with teaching staff and parents.

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## JOINING THE SCHOOL & MOVING ON

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We encourage all new students to visit the school before starting. For students with SEND we have a programme of extended transition including visits by FCC staff to primary schools and additional visits for students to FCC.

For students requiring extra support with the transition from primary to secondary education, we run a daily Nurture Group and a twice-weekly Transition Group.

Our Careers Advisor, Mrs Tina Belcher, offers additional support as needed for students transitioning to college after GCSEs.

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## WHO TO CONTACT

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At Faringdon Community College, we welcome feedback from parents. If a parent or guardian is concerned about SEND provision for their child, initial contact should be made with the form tutor. A meeting can then be arranged, which may include the SEND and/or Pastoral Teams, to discuss the concern.

In the event of a formal complaint concerning SEND provision, parents/guardians are advised to contact the Head teacher and follow the Oxfordshire LA procedure in the first instance.

If you would like impartial advice from SENDIASS, formerly Oxfordshire's Parent Partnership Service, click here: [SENDIASS Oxfordshire](#)

If you would like to know more about opportunities for children and young people with SEND and their families, including support groups, these are listed in the Family Directory: [Family Information Directory Disabilities and Additional Needs](#)

Oxfordshire's Local Offer contains lots of information for parents. Click here to see it: [Oxfordshire Local Offer](#)