

The logo for Orchard Hill & Academy Trust features a red horizontal bar at the top. Below it is a red house-shaped outline containing a white ampersand (&). The text "Orchard Hill" is on the left, "Academy" is on the right, "College" is below "Orchard Hill", and "Trust" is below "Academy".


Orchard Hill & Academy  
College Trust

# SEND Policy

St Dominic's School

The OHC&AT Board of Directors has agreed this Policy – 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

Jay Mercer  
Chair of OHCAT Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Mercer".

Peter Lauener  
Chair of OHC Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Lauener".

## **ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES POLICY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Orchard Hill College and Academy Trust (OHC&AT) is committed to providing outstanding educational opportunities for all our pupils and students. OHC&AT is a 'family' of providers, comprising Orchard Hill College (OHC) and Orchard Hill College Academy Trust (OHCAT), which works for mutual benefit. OHC&AT is proud of its diverse community of pupils/students, staff and stakeholders and is committed to maintaining excellence in teaching and learning by ensuring there is equality of opportunity for all, fostered in an environment of mutual respect and dignity.

It is recognised that the 1996 Education Act, the Children and Families Act 2014 and the 2014 SEND Code of Practice are valuable sources of structure and guidance in developing systems and processes which will help to ensure that the needs of all pupils/students at St Dominic's School are met.

### **PRINCIPLES**

The Governors, Senior Leadership Team and staff at St Dominic's School are fully committed to the ideal of maximising the potential of our pupils/students by meeting their individual needs. We adhere to the following principles:

- Pupils/students are entitled to have access to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum. The curriculum must be well-matched and appropriately differentiated to their individual needs and underpinned by specialist approaches and strategies to address those needs.
- Pupils/students must have free access to the school buildings and facilities so that they can be treated equitably irrespective of their disabilities.
- Pupils/students within the Academy are regarded and treated as unique individuals who must be given the opportunity to excel and experience achievement, which will be recognised and celebrated.
- Pupils/students benefit most when their individual needs and starting points are clearly identified in a proactive manner, so that programmes of intervention can be effectively planned implemented, monitored and reviewed.
- All teachers at St Dominic's School are considered to be teachers of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), whose role is to plan and develop the curriculum to take account of individual differences and secure good progress.

- The pastoral and academic areas of the curriculum are managed in such a way as to ensure that the participation of pupils/students in their own learning is maximised and to enable them to fully achieve their potential.
- Working in partnership with parents, carers and families is key to supporting the needs of pupils/students.
- A multi-disciplinary and inter-agency approach involving the expertise and resources of outside partners is essential when working with pupils/students whose individual needs are additional and complex.

## Aims

We will aim to:

- Ensure that all pupils/students at the Academy receive appropriate teaching and support which takes into account their SEND.
- Ensure that tasks and activity are well-matched and differentiated where necessary and that teaching methods and practice are regularly reviewed to ensure that they remain appropriate and relevant to the needs of the individual.
- Involve pupils/students and families in decisions regarding education and the meeting of the pupils'/students' needs, to support them to promote learning and development and planning for their future.
- Ensure that resources available to the Academy (including financial, staffing, technical and advisory) are deployed appropriately and effectively to meet pupils'/students' needs.
- Liaise effectively with individuals and organisations who have an interest in, or are able to make a positive contribution towards, pupils'/students' lives.
- Work with OHC&AT to ensure that staff are able to access a programme of specialised continuing professional development (CPD) appropriate to their role and career pathway, and ensure that staff participate in such training and development in order to enhance and update their skills in meeting the needs of pupils/students with Special Needs.
- Ensure that the obligations of the Academy are met in respect of the Children and Families Act 2014 in accordance with the SEND Code of Practice.
- Work collaboratively with the multidisciplinary team such as therapists and medical professionals and agencies to support the development and wellbeing of the whole person.

## Admissions

St Dominic's School is a special school, therefore all pupils/students will have an EHCP or Statement (historic). For further details, please refer to our admissions procedure.

## POLICY REVIEW DETAILS

<i>Version:</i>	1.3
<i>Reviewer:</i>	John Prior
<i>Approval body:</i>	Family Board
<i>Date this version approved:</i>	28 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
<i>Due for review:</i>	Summer 2020

## RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Administration of Medication and Prescribed Substances in College Policy

Admissions Policy

Accessibility Statement

Child Protection, Adult Protection & Safeguarding Policy

Complaints Policy and Procedure

Equality and Diversity Policy

Health and Safety Policy

Mental Capacity and Consent Policy

Personal and Intimate Care Policy

Positive Behaviour Policy (Academies)

Supporting Pupils in Schools with Medical Conditions Policy