

The Discovery Special Academy - Statement of Provision

Introductory statement

The Discovery Special Academy is 39 week, educational day provision (Mon – Fri), which specialises in meeting the needs of girls and boys aged between 4 - 11 years. These children will have a range of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND); all will have delayed cognition as their primary need. Some children will have other complex needs which co-exist with their primary need, including:

- severe or complex learning difficulties (severe learning difficulties and/or a range of complex difficulties which may be linked to one or more health need) (SLD)
- speech and language impairment (S&L)
- communication and interaction needs (CI)
- sensory impairment (SI)
- sensory processing difficulties
- physical and/or medical needs (Ph)

In order to achieve this aim, Discovery Special Academy will offer all pupils a personalised learning programme addressing and removing barriers to individual progression.

The curriculum will be designed to meet the broad needs of the school's pupil population, recognising the range of pupils' abilities and their additional needs. All pupils will be valued equally regardless of gender, race, ability or disability whilst having due regard for inclusion. We will provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils building on pupils' strengths and needs which will be broad and diverse. Teaching and learning will be based on the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and the National Curriculum, differentiated to meet individual need. Strategies will be employed to take account of each individual pupil's style and pace of learning. All pupils will participate effectively in learning and assessment activities by the removal of barriers to learning.

The objectives of our provision for our pupils, all of whom have SEND are:

- to ensure that all pupils receive appropriate small group educational provision, with a high adult ratio, across the day, with opportunities for one to one support
- where identified, pupils will access therapeutic input and pastoral support to achieve outstanding outcomes and make outstanding progress
- to provide for the learning, physical, social and care needs of all pupils in a supportive environment
- to encourage pupils to develop independence and seek to avoid an over-reliance on adults to ensure that they have access to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum which is differentiated to meet their needs, and allows them to have access to the same opportunities as all
- to ensure that reasonable adjustments are made to curriculum delivery, equipment and premises to make them generally more accessible to disabled pupils
- to ensure ongoing, effective monitoring and assessment procedures are implemented, in conjunction with other agencies and organisations where appropriate
- to ensure that resources available to the school are allocated and used efficiently, effectively, and equitably (including teaching and support staff, within and outside the school)

- to work actively in partnership with school staff, children, parents/carers and other agencies.

Admissions to the School

The Discovery Special Academy is a special school which provides 84 places for boys and girls aged 4 to 11 years with severe learning or complex learning needs some of whom will have co-existing needs such as speech and language impairment, communication and interaction needs, sensory impairment and physical/medical needs.

For a child to be admitted, the school must be named, by a local authority, in the child's education health and care plan ('EHCP'). Parents wishing their children to benefit from our provision should ask their local authority to name our school in their child's EHCP.

Although parents can indicate to their local authority the school of preference to be named, the authority may not agree with the placement identified. In such circumstances, parents have the right of appeal to the First-tier Tribunal (SEN and Disability). The school will work with our local authority partners through the SEND place planning process to ensure timely allocation of places at the academy.

For further information on our school, and the process for obtaining a place here contact Emma Lowe, SEND Inclusion Officer for Tees Valley Education Trust. enquiries@discoveryspecialacademy.org.uk Tel: 07736 0473282.

Other school policies and further information can be found via these policies which are available on the school website www.discoveryspecialacademy.co.uk :

- Equal opportunities
- Information sharing
- Curriculum
- Complaints procedure
- Safeguarding policy
- SEND Policy
- Admissions Policy