



THE LOCAL OFFER

WHAT IS THE LOCAL OFFER?

The purpose of the Local Offer is to enable parents and young people to see more clearly, what services are available to them in the area and how to access them. The offer includes provision from birth to 25, across education, health and social care and has been developed in conjunction with children and young people, parents and carers, and local services, including schools, colleges, health and social care agencies.

Please read this in conjunction with the websites below, which outline the North Yorkshire Local Offer. The content of these websites were updated in September 2014 to reflect the new legislation of the Children and Families Bill 2014 and the new SEND Code of Practice.

Northallerton School & Sixth Form College provides a range of support services as part of the Local Offer.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

How do you support children and young people with social, mental and emotional health difficulties?

Our school and college offers a wide variety of pastoral support for students who are encountering such problems. These include:

- Form Tutors/Base Coaches
- Class Teachers
- Heads of Year
- Prevention
- SENCo
- Independent College Counsellor
- Student Support and Development (SSD)Team

Clubs and quiet areas are available for those who find lunchtimes a challenge. The Learning Support Base in C Block, has been created as a quieter, supportive area for students who need emotional support and help with social interaction.





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How do you support children and young people who have medical needs?

- A detailed Care Plan is compiled for students with medical needs and those students who require additional support. This may involve the school nurse, in consultation with parents/carers. These are discussed with all staff who are involved with the student.
- Staff receive EPI-pen training delivered by the school nurse.
- Where necessary and in agreement with parents/carers, medicines are administered in school and college but only where a signed Medicine Consent form is in place to ensure the safety of both child and staff member.
- Designated staff have basic first aid training.
- Specific staff have 'EVAC' Chair training.
- Diabetes training.
- Several staff hold the First Aid at Work Certificate (First Aid at a more advanced level) and an Outdoor Activities First Aid at Work Certificate.

What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by the colleges/schools?

Sometimes it is necessary to consult with professionals to access their more specialised expertise. The professionals used to support our students include:

- Communication and Interaction for Autism
- LADO (Local Area Designated Officer) for Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Educational Psychologist
- CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service)
- Educational Social Worker Service and Parent Support Advisors
- Physical Sensory and Medical Service to support pupils with hearing/visual Impairment
- Children and Young Person's Social Care
- SALT Team (Speech & Language Therapy)
- Occupational Therapy
- Consultant Paediatricians
- School Nurse
- Virtual School Team for Looked After Children
- Young Carers
- COMPASS
- Collaborative and PRS (Access and Inclusion)
- The Prevention Team
- Community Police
- Army Welfare Service





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What is a Review?

These are meetings that are usually held three times a year for students with additional educational needs and involve the parents/carers, the student, school staff and, where appropriate, other professionals. The aim of a Review is to gain an understanding of and try to resolve a pupil's difficulties and plan how staff can best support the student in order to take their learning forward.

What training have the staff supporting students with SEND had, or are having?

- Students with SEND are supported in lessons by staff who hold the Higher Level Teaching Assistant or Advanced/General Teaching Assistant qualification.
- Support and Teaching Staff have received training related to SEND as part of their continuing professional development in the areas below:
 - Supporting students on the autistic spectrum.
 - Supporting students with social and emotional needs.
 - Supporting students with speech and language difficulties.
 - Supporting students with physical and co-ordination needs.
 - Supporting students with Dyslexia and other specific learning difficulties.

How will my child be included in activities outside the classroom including school trips?

Activities and school and college trips are available to all, providing that we can fully meet all Health and Safety requirements.

Risk assessments are carried out and procedures are put in place to enable all children to participate.

How accessible is the school environment?

As a school and college we are happy to discuss individual access requirements and we involve parents/carers, the student and outside agencies in planning for specific access requirements at transition (KS2 to KS3 and Post 16/18) and students who are new to the school and college.

Facilities we have at present include:

- Ramps to make the building accessible to all.
- Toilets adapted for disabled users.
- Wide doors in some parts of the building.
- Stair lifts and elevators.
- Highlighted steps, handrails and raised areas for visually impaired students.
- Wet room.





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How will the school prepare and support the SEND needs of my child when joining our school?

- All students attend a transition day, where they spend time with their new teachers and classmates.
- Additional visits are arranged for students who need extra time to adapt to their new school and college.
- The school and college SENCo consults the SENCos from the primary/previous schools regarding relevant information on SEND students joining the school and college.
- When a student has more specialised needs, additional meetings will be arranged with parents/carers, professionals involved with the student and the SENCo and a Transition Support Plan agreed.
- A key worker from receiving school/college (usually an HLTA) will meet regularly with the student and work with them to make transition a smoother, non-threatening experience.

How are the school's resources allocated and matched to children's special educational needs?

The SEN budget is allocated each financial year. The money is used to provide additional support or resources, dependant on an individual's needs.

How is the decision made about how much support my child will receive?

- Support will be based on achievement at their previous school and consultation with teaching staff.
- The level and types of intervention your child has had in the past will help us to decide on the type of intervention and provision your child may need to sustain and enhance previous progress.
- Termly tracking of pupil progress informs us how much additional support may be needed for your child.
- Assessment by other professionals such as the educational psychologist or Communication and Interaction will help us to select and use strategies to help your child progress at school.

There will be a **graduated response to need** based on this evidence.

How will I be involved in discussions about and planning for my child's education?

All parents/carers are encouraged to contribute to their child's education.

This may be through discussions:

- With the Class Teacher
- SENCo





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- Learning Support Manager/Head of Year

This may lead to a **Learning Passport** for your child.



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Access to a supportive environment – IT facilities/equipment/resources (inc. preparation)

- Northallerton School & Sixth Form College offers a wide range of differentiated resources both in print and on-line; mostly created in-house to meet the needs of our students.
- KS3 offers specialised literacy intervention sessions, which can include some use of computer spelling and punctuation programmes. In class, I.T. facilities are used periodically. Resources are differentiated according to targets in intervention and according to teacher feedback in class.
- At KS3 and KS4, we offer access to personalised IT resources, including PCs, laptops, tablets, and software as required.
- At Northallerton School & Sixth Form College, we offer access to personalised IT support, where appropriate.
- We will configure our IT provision to suit the need of the user when we are reasonably able to do this.
- All students who qualify for the Pupil Premium will be provided with revision guides at KS4.

Social Skills programmes/support, including strategies to enhance self-esteem

- Personal Tutors at Northallerton School & Sixth Form College work closely with each student to monitor progress and are the first point of contact for your child if they have any worries or concerns.
- Our Student Support and Development department (SSD) are on hand to answer any questions students might have, or offer a listening ear when needed.
- The school and college has an “in-house” counsellor and students can ask to be referred to her.
- We will refer students to other professionals where this is appropriate.

Strategies/programmes to support speech and language

- Northallerton School & Sixth Form College have a long-standing relationship with our local SALT and liaise closely with our dedicated speech therapist.
- Speaking and listening tasks are embedded within lessons.
- We provide specialist equipment where needed and practically able to, e.g. personal screen for visually impaired students, or radio microphones for those needing them and staff have had relevant training.
- Students may be supported in a small withdrawal group, specifically to develop speech and language skills.
- Students will be seated in the classroom where they are able to participate most effectively.





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Mentoring activities

- At Northallerton School & Sixth Form College, we have Learning Support Bases, which offer further support to those who need it.
- At Northallerton School & Sixth Form College Peer Mentors may work with students to develop social skills.
- Students may have a 'Study Buddy' in lessons.
- Students may follow a Paired Reading literacy programme with an older student.

Access to strategies/programmes to support occupational therapy/physiotherapy needs

- Our SENCo and the SEN Teams will liaise with relevant agencies and specialists and act upon advice given to support the individual needs of your child.

Strategies to reduce anxiety/promote emotional wellbeing (including communication with parents/carers), are at the core of our student support at Northallerton School & Sixth Form College.

- At Northallerton School & Sixth Form College, we have an Assistant Principal who oversees the progress of all of our vulnerable learners. The aim of this is to ensure the curriculum is flexible enough to meet all needs by organising intervention when needed. This requires regular contact with parents/carers and being available for both students and parents/carers at all times.
- Within KS3, intervention sessions are in small groups (approx. 3 students), to provide a supportive environment based on learning need.
- Northallerton School & Sixth Form College offers personalised tracking and support by Heads of Year, to ensure the progress and wellbeing of all students.
- Teachers' Consultation Evenings are held at least every 12 months and staff are available throughout the evening to feedback on your son/daughter's progress.
- The Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) is available at all Teachers' Consultation Evenings.
- The SENCo will arrange review meetings with parents/carers of all SEND students on a regular basis throughout the year.
- The school and college is pleased to offer qualified counsellors to all students at any time.





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Strategies to support/develop literacy inc. reading

- At Northallerton School & Sixth Form College, we ensure that all students access literacy opportunities in maths, including maths reading books. Some intervention sessions focus on helping students develop skills in reading and interpreting exam style questions, which they will ultimately encounter at GCSE.
- Every student will be given a library introduction when they first arrive at Northallerton School & Sixth Form College and they will be able to use the library resources regularly. This includes reference books and books that can be checked out and taken home, as well as the library computers. Library staff are always on hand to help with any questions. Students in Year 7 will also have regular lesson time in the library.
- In Year 7 and Year 8, the whole school and college follows the Accelerated Reader programme. Students take a test, which allocates them a zone of proximal development (ZPD). From this, they can choose a book from within this zone so that all students are reading books at an appropriate challenge level. The students are given 20 minutes every day to read. Students take a quiz after they have finished a book, which tests their comprehension.
- Independent study clubs run after school, as well as before and after school access to the Library.
- Students identified as needing additional literacy intervention will be assessed and appropriate help given. This might include:
 - Toe by Toe Phonics Programme (1:1).
 - North Yorkshire Reading Intervention programme (1:1).
 - Units of Sound.
 - Accelerated Reader programme (all students Years 7 - 10).
 - Small 1:4 Literacy Intervention groups (one lesson per week Years 7 - 9).
 - Handwriting Club.
 - Paired Reading programme.
 - LEXIA intervention programme.
 - 'Catch up' literacy.

Strategies to support behaviour for learning

- Behaviour policy.
- Use of reports.
- Praise, rewards, postcards home and sanctions, including internal exclusions and detentions.
- Involvement of other professionals.
- Personalised provision including work related learning.
- Off-site provision.
- Personalised timetables.
- Involvement of the Pupil Referral Service.





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Strategies to support/develop numeracy

- We offer 1 to 1 sessions with a specialist numeracy ATA and small group interventions for students of all abilities. This support can range from helping students tell the time, to helping them understand trigonometry.
- 'Catch Up' numeracy.
- Home logins available for mymaths.co.uk and Autograph to help students review lessons and gain extra practise.
- The library has a range of multi-media resources, which can be borrowed, that support students' learning in mathematics such as Maths Watch.
- All maths teachers are always willing to provide one to one help at break and lunchtime when required.
- Maths equipment and calculators are always available from the resource centre.

Provision to facilitate/support access to the curriculum

- Learning Support Base provides education for students outside of lessons. All teaching in the Learning Support Base is linked to the curriculum and students will be taught either individually or in small groups.
- Additional GTA/ATA staffing for specific identified students with SEND.

Support/supervision at unstructured times of the day including personal care

- Staff are on duty around Northallerton School & Sixth Form College during unstructured times of the day.
- Personalised support and supervision is offered when needed.
- Students also have access to the specialised support of the Learning Support Base and the library plus lunch clubs for SEN/PP.
- Northallerton School & Sixth Form College offer some after school maths sessions.
- Students are supported at lunch times in the dining hall and specific SEND needs and specialised diets can be catered for.

Planning and assessment

- Our Staff at Northallerton School & Sixth Form College use an intervention, review, impact, monitoring system that informs differentiation and challenge in their lesson planning.
- Assessment is a part of our tracking process and this is shared at regular intervals throughout the year with parents/carers.





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Liaison/communication with professionals/parents, attendance at meetings and preparation of reports

- Our SENCo will liaise with relevant professionals and act upon their advice to support the needs of your child.
- Parents/carers and students are included in all meetings and reviews.
- Parents/carers, students and teachers, work in conjunction with professionals to secure the best possible support for your child at this school and college. This may include accessing additional funding, applying for an EHCP (replaces the Statement of Educational Need), or following the advice made in reports submitted by professionals to help your child achieve his/her full potential.
- Our SEN Team provides support for the parents/carers of our SEND students and is an effective link between home and Northallerton School & Sixth Form College.

Whom can I contact for further information?

If you wish to discuss your child's educational needs, or are unhappy about something regarding your child's schooling, please contact:

Northallerton School & Sixth Form College on 01609 773340, to arrange a meeting with the SENCo, Jo Shallow.

Signed:..... (Chair of Interim Board)