



Cabot
Learning
Federation



The
SKY
ACADEMY



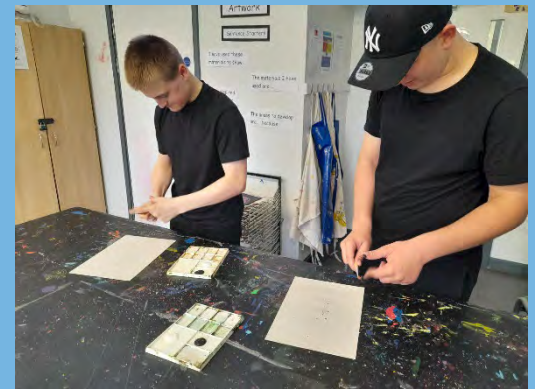
Special Educational Needs Information Report 2024-2025

This report is designed to inform you
of the types of support
available for your child at Sky
Academy.

It will help you understand who
can help and how this help can be
accessed.

How does the school know if a young person needs extra help?

- Sky Academy is a specialist provision for boys who have an EHCP
- We meet with key staff from your child's previous school as well as professionals who have contributed to the EHCP process to gain key information that allows us to understand and plan for your child's needs.
- This Information, along with the EHCP and other reports, is used to develop a pen portrait (PLP).



How will the school support my child?

- The pen portrait (PLP) will be shared with all staff and planning will be adjusted according to specific needs, strengths and preferences outlined, by the Keyworkers working with your child.
- A series of personal outcomes will be linked to your child's EHCP. These outcomes will be used to inform' planning and provision.



How will the school support my child?



- When a child is struggling to regulate their emotions, staff will employ de-escalation strategies in the first instance and as a last resort, 'Team Teach' techniques will be used to physically intervene to keep your child and others safe.
- If your child has needs where staff would benefit from additional training and guidance, this will be offered and external professionals will be involved.
- Regular meetings are held involving a variety of professionals (key workers, PFSA, Educational Psychologist). At these meetings, the needs of individuals are discussed and plans implemented to address any difficulties. Actions are then communicated to all relevant staff and to parents.

How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

- All students are taught in small class groups (between 8 and 10) by teachers and teaching assistants.
- Our aim is to provide a holistic and individualised approach that is tailored to support students to fulfil their potential.
- We aim to embed a nurturing strategy throughout the school as we realise that effective learning will take place when lessons are outstanding, staff are confident, and students have high self-esteem and feel safe in their learning environment.



How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

- Throughout their time at Sky Academy, Keyworkers will use the EHCP to identify strengths and learning preferences and offer clear guidance in the form of personalised outcomes that target key areas for development.
- We recognise that social and emotional development and the development of social communication skills are a crucial part of learning for all our boys. We use Talk About and Zones of Regulation to assess their level of social and emotional development, identify key areas for development and track progress against these.



- We also acknowledge the importance of applying practical, physical approaches to enhance learning and social development. In addition to class-based learning, students are given the opportunity to use the outdoor environment to develop their independence, problem-solving and social skills.



How will I know how my child is doing?

- All of the students at Sky Academy have an EHCP. Every year you will be invited to an Annual Review meeting where their educational provision can be discussed with the SENDCo and, where appropriate, professionals working with your child and the school's Educational Psychologist. At this meeting, you will be able to share your views, hear the views of those working with your child and share in the process of planning for the next year.
- Progress reports will be delivered to you 3 times a year to inform you of your child's attainment level in each area of learning.



How will I know how my child is doing?

- We feel it is essential that we maintain regular contact and a positive, supportive partnership with you as parents and carers.
- Keyworkers will keep in regular contact (at least once a week) to update you on your child's school experience and our Parent and Family Support Advisor (PFSA) is always available to talk to you about any concerns you have about your child's wellbeing both at school and at home.

What support will there be for my child's overall wellbeing?

- Sky Academy embraces trauma informed and attachment aware approaches which provide nurture, support and develops emotional resilience.
- Other professionals including Educational Psychologist and Speech and Language Therapist may be involved with your child.
- As a nurturing school, the role of the Keyworker is essential. Each day, your child will have Keyworker time which will enable them to foster the establishment of positive relationships.



What support will there be for my child's overall wellbeing?

- The school also employs Pastoral Support Workers who can offer pastoral and emotional support when students are in need of help in regulating their emotions and anxieties.



What specialist services and expertise are available at Sky Academy?

- In our school, we have staff with specialist knowledge in Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Attachment Disorder, Dyslexia, Sensory Processing, Team Teach, English, Maths, PE, PSHE.
- We also have access to an Educational Psychologist and other therapeutic staff such as ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistants).



What training have the staff supporting my child had?



At Sky Academy, your child will benefit from the support of a specialist staff team who receive on going specialist training that supports them in meeting their developmental and educational needs. Most recently, the staff team has engaged in the following training courses:

- Sensory Processing
- Understanding of Working Memory
- Team Teach
- ADHD understanding and awareness
- First Aid training for nominated staff
- Trauma Informed Practice Training
- Supporting and Developing Language (Questioning).



How will my child be included in activities outside of school, including school trips?

- Our school will assess the risk for your child based on their identified needs.
- Risk assessments are completed for all students for a range of activities that they might participate in.
- Through this approach, we are able to offer a wide range of outdoor and offsite activities and experiences to your child.



How accessible is the school environment?



- Sky Academy is a modern building. It has been designed to be accessible to students and parents with physical and/or mobility impairments.



- All permanent buildings on the main site are single storey and temporary structures can be accessed via ramp ways. Within the school's nurture base, access to rooms for wheelchair users is limited.



- Outside the school there are three designated disabled parking spaces from which the building can be easily accessed.

- There is one accessible toilet in the reception area and two accessible toilet/shower rooms situated in the main corridor and the gym.

How will the school support my child during transition into Sky?

- Prior to entry, you will be invited, with your child, to visit the school where you will be given a tour of the site and facilities by our staff. There will also be the opportunity to meet senior leaders and key staff and ask any questions you may have about the provision we offer.
- Our Parent and Family Support Advisor (PFSA) will also arrange to visit you and your child at home to support you with completing the initial paperwork and gather additional information.
- We will liaise with key staff from your child's previous setting to develop a pen portrait (PLP).



How will the school support my child during transition to College?



- Our drive to support transition into Post 16 education begins in Year 10, when students will begin to discuss their options for their futures with our Educational Psychologist and Careers Advisor.
- Sky Academy has excellent links with colleges across Somerset, such as Crockers and Yeovil College.

- There will also be numerous opportunities over Key Stage 4 for your child to meet with our staff to consider the options available on the basis of interests, academic goals and future planning will present a key focus for consideration during Annual Reviews.
- Following transition, wherever possible, we maintain contact with the boys and we always ensure there is a thorough process of data sharing and discussion with the receiving setting.



How are parents involved in the school? How can I be involved?

- From the moment Sky Academy has been named as part of your child's EHCP, our Parent and Family Support Advisor (PFSA) will be in contact to talk you through the transition process and all relevant paperwork. Whilst your child is on roll with us, our PFSA will be keen to help you; by signposting support agencies, supporting with health appointments, helping you seek support and advice with your child's education, providing a direct connection to the school, accompanying you to meetings as required.
- Staff regularly monitor attendance to support you in ensuring your child attends school regularly in order that they are equipped to fulfil their potential.



Who can I contact for more information?

There are several professionals available to talk to you upon request:

Headteacher (Bex Jones)

- Our Parent and Family Support Advisor (PFSA Anna Roden) Anna.Roden@clf.uk
- Your child's keyworker
- Our Attendance Lead (Fi Barnes) Fiona.Barnes@clf.uk
- Our Pastoral Lead (Kai Francis) Kai.Francis@clf.uk
- Our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO Gaby Long) Gaby.Long@clf.uk

Telephone: (01823) 275569

Who do I do if I am not satisfied with a decision or what is happening?

- Your first point of contact is always the person responsible – this may be your child's tutor, our PFSA, the SENDCo, our Designated Safeguarding Lead or the Principal.
- Explain your concerns to them first.
- If you are not satisfied that your concern has been addressed then please ask for the contact information for their line manager.
- If you still feel the issues are unresolved, the Head Teacher will arrange a meeting with the Chair of Governors. Please contact the school for this to be arranged.
- If your concern is with the Local Authority, then please contact the Somerset SENDIAS.

Who can I contact for additional support?

There are a number of external services who are able to offer you support:



<https://sometersend.org.uk/>



Somerset
Council

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/the-local-offer/education-health-and-care-plans/the-statutory-send-team/>

NHS

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/feelings-symptoms-behaviours/feelings-and-symptoms/grief-bereavement-loss/>

<https://www.somersetft.nhs.uk/camhs/>



