

## Valentines Special Educational Needs Department

### Information and Context

Valentines High School has remained a school at the heart of the community that strives to educate all of its students. We assert that a first rate education is an entitlement of every child and we embrace students who have obstacles to learning, supporting them to overcome these barriers. All members of the school community recognise the importance of educating informed, reflective and economically aware students and we are proud of both the academic achievements and those achieved outside of the academic route that have helped shaped the continuing success of Valentines.

At the school, the traditional values of discipline, respect and outstanding behaviour are combined with leading edge practice in learning and teaching. We strive for every member of the school community to be the very best that can be. Our aim is to help our students develop into happy, educated young people with the desire, drive and aspirations to succeed in the future. We work hard together as a school to prepare our students to be good citizens who are prepared for life and beyond their education for a modern Britain.

Our motto is 'In Harmony, achieving excellence' and everything we do is planned to enable us to achieve this vision. Our students and staff focus on positive behaviour traits, focusing on developing and embedding respect for all and the spiritual, moral, cultural aspects that ensures in a multi faith school and diverse area, outstanding relationships are formed through the community where different faiths and cultures are evident.

Our most recent OFSTED inspection placed us as 'Outstanding' in every section of the report. Outstanding attitudes to learning and behaviour, outstanding quality of teaching and outstanding results were all commented upon in the final report. This also included outstanding harmony achieved in such a diverse school. Valentines has developed, grown and improved since the last inspection. We have continued to form outstanding relationships with our parents, the local community and both nationally and with our international partners.

### Special Needs Department

The Special Educational Needs department are located in the main building at Valentines where there are dedicated classrooms located in a safe and secure setting in the school. SEND staff work enthusiastically and productively with all staff across the curriculum. The department currently consists of 12 members of staff; full time and part time (Including one part time teacher), with roles such as the SENCO and Head of the SEND Department, senior support assistants for interventions, learning support assistants and admin support for the SENCO.

Out cohort with regards to SEND currently include 5 students on EHCP, 82 students on SEN Support and 12 students who are Statemented. The priorities for 2015-16 is for all students with SEND or a Statement to improve their attainment and achievement compared with 2014-15.

### Key Stage 3

Learning Support Assistants are strategically placed to support identified students across Key Stage 3 and specialist intervention teachers also have withdrawal groups in the core subject areas. There is also a designated Key Stage 3 homework club for students 4 days a week after school and a breakfast club.

### Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4, targeted in class support and withdrawal sessions are delivered for English and Maths. There are also courses taught by SEND staff, comprising of alternative entry level English and Maths courses and is offered for students whom the mainstream GCSE curriculum is not appropriate. There is also a designated Key Stage 4 homework club for students 4 days a week after school.

### Key Stage 5

Support continues for our 6<sup>th</sup> Form students with the SEND department. This can be in the form of providing effective transition from Key Stage 4 to 5, continued support with writing workshops for 6<sup>th</sup> form and also exam and access arrangements.