



# Darlinghurst

## ACADEMY

### **Darlinghurst Academy Offer**

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## Darlinghurst Academy's Local Offer

In September 2014 a revised Special Educational Needs Code of Practice came into effect with minor amendments in 2015. This highlighted that all children and young people are entitled to an education that enables them to make progress so that they:

- Achieve their best
- Become confident individuals living fulfilling lives, and
- Make a successful transition into adulthood, whether into employment, further or higher education or training.

In accordance with Chapter 4 of the SEND Code of Practice all Local Authorities must publish a Local Offer, setting out in one place information about provision that they expect to be made available for children and young people in their area who have Special Educational Needs, (SEN) or are disabled. (collectively known as SEND). This offer will, over time, be developed and reviewed in collaboration with the involvement of pupils, parents and service providers.

The Local Offer, provided by Southend Borough Council has two key purposes:

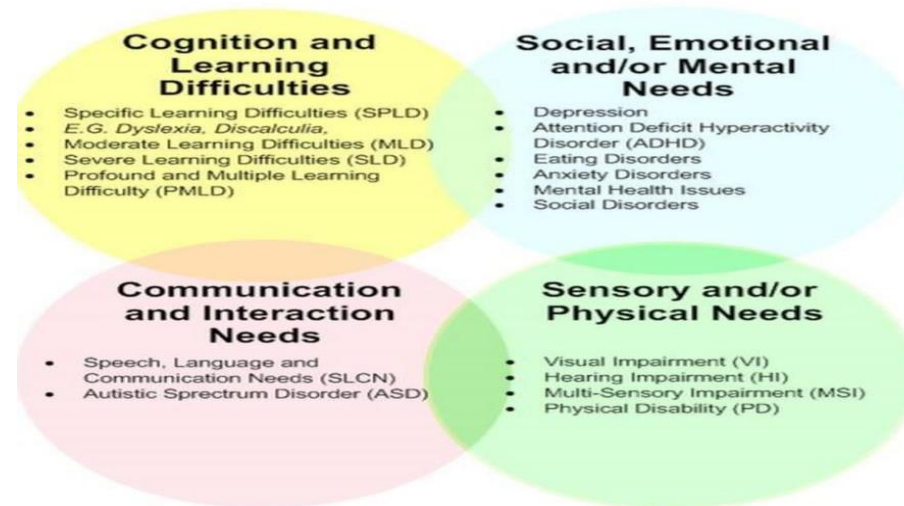
- To provide clear, comprehensive and accessible information about the provision available to support disabled children and children with SEN and their families and how to access it.
- To make provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations by directly involving children and young people with SEND, parents/carers and service providers in its development and review.

Additionally, as outlined in Chapter 6 of the SEND Code of Practice, schools are required to provide details of the school-specific offer, which we at Darlinghurst are calling the Academy Offer. This should reflect the Local Offer and elaborate on it. Further information on what is available from Southend Borough Council can be found at [www.livewellsouthend.com](http://www.livewellsouthend.com)

All schools in Southend are committed to adopting a similar approach to the needs of all pupils with SEND. There is a shared expectation that all pupils, regardless of their specific needs, should be offered quality first teaching, which will enable all children to make the best possible progress in school and feel that they are a valued member of the wider school community.

The four broad areas within the Code of Practice encompass:

1. Communication and Interaction
2. Cognition and Learning
3. Social, Emotional and Mental Health
4. Sensory and/or Physical



At Darlington Academy our Academy Offer provides details of the resources, interventions etc. that we provide to support children with SEND. However, this support forms part of a structured programme of need and may run concurrently with other interventions or independently. Not all children will benefit from every aspect listed and agreement will be sought between all interested parties, parents, pupils and staff.

Some children will need increased support to access their learning because:

- They have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children their age
- They have a disability as defined under the Equality Act which affects their ability to access and benefit from educational opportunities generally enjoyed by children of the same age.

Due to the ever changing needs of our children there may be additional support available that has not been covered here in this document. If you would like further information about what we offer at Darlington, or what you feel your child needs, then please do not hesitate to contact our Inclusion Leader, Mrs Grant, directly.

If you are a new parent or thinking of joining us and what you feel your child may need is not qualified here please ring and make an appointment so that we can discuss your child specifically.



## Communication and Interaction

These include

### **Speech and Language Difficulties**

- Developmental Language Delay
- Developmental Language Disorder
- Phonological/Severe Pronunciation Problems
- Expressive language Difficulties
- Receptive language/Language Comprehension Difficulties
- Social Communications/Semantics and Pragmatics Difficulties

### **Disorders on the Autistic Continuum**

- Autism
- Asperger's Syndrome
- Semantic/Pragmatic Disorder
- Impaired Social Awareness
- Impaired Social Communication
- Impairment of Imagination

#### **Provision Available**

#### **Criteria could include**

<p>Speech, Language and Communication Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to support and advice from a Speech Therapist – obtained through the Early Help Family Support Assessment (EHFSA)</li> <li>• Access to support and advice from the specialist Speech and Language Teacher at the Speech and Language Unit</li> <li>• Individualised Speech and Language Programmes delivered in conjunction with the Speech and Language Therapist</li> <li>• Makaton</li> <li>• Talking Partners</li> <li>• Social Skills Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speech that is difficult to understand or unclear</li> <li>• May struggle to say words or sentences</li> <li>• May not understand words that are being used</li> <li>• May have difficulties knowing how to talk and listen to others</li> <li>• Selective mutism</li> <li>• Diagnosis from a Speech and Language Therapist (this can only be achieved if a child meets their criteria for short or long-term intervention)</li> </ul>
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Autistic Spectrum Disorder (including Asperger's Syndrome and Autism)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For children with a diagnosis access to support and advice from The St Christopher's special school, who have expertise in ASD</li> <li>• Closed activities i.e. those not open to interpretation</li> <li>• Social Stories</li> <li>• Visual Timetables</li> <li>• Use of Time out cards</li> <li>• Social Skills Group</li> <li>• Access to the Educational Psychologist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take some language literally</li> <li>• Find social situations difficult</li> <li>• Unable to read body language of others</li> <li>• Poor imagination skills</li> <li>• Medical diagnosis of Autism or Asperger's Syndrome (this can only be made by a paediatrician qualified to do so)</li> </ul>
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## Cognition and Learning

These include

- Mild and Moderate learning Difficulties
- Severe or Profound Learning Difficulties
- Specific learning Difficulties

	<b>Provision Available</b>	<b>Criteria could include</b>
Mild and Moderate learning Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screening Programmes to identify those who need targeted support</li> <li>• In class support</li> <li>• Interventions – group and individual support</li> <li>• Access to the Educational Psychologist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower than expected levels of progress despite quality first teaching and significant interventions.</li> <li>• Parent, teacher and/or pupils identify concerns about the child's ability to access certain aspects of the curriculum where normal interventions and/or differentiation have proved unsuccessful. Outside agencies may also be involved.</li> </ul>
Specific learning Needs (e.g. dyslexia and dyspraxia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screening Programme and further assessment to devise a bespoke programme of study</li> <li>• Access to the Educational Psychologist</li> <li>• Specialised programme that develops co-ordination – gross and fine motor skills in conjunction with the Occupational Therapist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent, teacher and/or pupils identify concerns about the child's ability to access certain aspects of the curriculum where normal interventions and/or differentiation have proved unsuccessful. Outside agencies, other than those listed, may also be involved.</li> </ul>

## Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs

Provision Available	Criteria could include	
Behavioural Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to a Behaviour Support Manager</li> <li>• Access to specialist support from Outreach Service</li> <li>• Access to support through our Outdoor Learning environment</li> <li>• Family support through the Early Help Team (accessed through the completion of an EHFA)</li> <li>• Access to the Educational Psychologist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children are displaying extreme behaviours, due to underlying social and emotional difficulties, which are preventing them from accessing the curriculum and impeding their ability to learn and make progress.</li> <li>• Poor control over own emotions</li> <li>• Unable to take responsibility for own behaviour</li> <li>• Diagnosis from a medical professional</li> </ul>
Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to support and advice from the Nurture Base</li> <li>• Access to our Pastoral Support Team, including through our Outdoor Learning environment</li> <li>• Access to EWMHS (Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service previously CAMHS, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service) through the EHFA dependent on meeting their criteria although a self-referral can also be made</li> <li>• Individualised Pastoral Support Plan which could include support from our Behaviour Support Manager</li> <li>• Access to an Emotional First Aider</li> <li>• Access to the Educational Psychologist</li> <li>• Family Support through the Early Help Team (following completion of an EHFA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children are displaying extreme behaviours which are preventing them from accessing the curriculum and impeding their ability to learn and make progress.</li> <li>• Behaviours displayed significantly disrupt the delivery of the curriculum to others within the class</li> <li>• Poor self-esteem and self-worth</li> <li>• Eating disorders</li> <li>• Poor control over own emotions</li> </ul>
Social Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Skills Group</li> <li>• Joined up working with Social Care and other outside agencies dependent on need and meeting that agencies access criteria.</li> <li>• Access to support through our Outdoor Learning environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns are raised by parent, pupils and/or teaching staff regarding children's social interaction.</li> <li>• Concerns are raised by pupils, parents and/or teaching staff about the safety and well-being of pupils in a variety of situations.</li> </ul>

As a result of the Coronavirus pandemic we recognise that many children may have mental health and emotional and wellbeing needs upon their return to school. These will be treated on an individual basis and will not necessarily mean that a child will be placed on the SEND register.

## Sensory and Physical Needs

These include

- Hearing Impairment
- Visual Impairment
- Multi-sensory Impairment
- Physical Impairment

Provision Available		Criteria could include
Hearing Impairment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to Hearing Impairment Specialist Teacher based at the Local Authority</li> <li>• Physical Environment Audit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified hearing impairment that may or may not need hearing aids.</li> </ul>
Visual Impairment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to Specialist Teacher for the Visually Impaired based at the Local Authority</li> <li>• Touch Typing lessons</li> <li>• Braille lessons if identified</li> <li>• Physical Environment Audit</li> <li>• Adapted resources</li> <li>• Specialist equipment if identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified visual impairment other than that which can be remedied using just glasses.</li> </ul>
Multi-sensory Impairment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk assessment and additional support provision as identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified through medical assessment.</li> </ul>
Physical Impairment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disabled toilet</li> <li>• Reasonable physical adjustments</li> <li>• Access to support and advice from Physiotherapist and Occupational Therapist as required</li> <li>• Trained LSA support</li> <li>• Ramp access to most classrooms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified physical impairment requiring short or long-term medical intervention and support.</li> </ul>

## Medical

This can encompass many things and will be dependent on the needs of the individual child.

Please note this is not specifically classed as a special educational need

Provision Available	Criteria could include
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specialist support as needed</li><li>• Access to specialist medical professionals</li><li>• Access to school nurse</li><li>• Individualised Care Plan</li><li>• Medical Room</li><li>• Secure storage for medication</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medical need requiring short or long-term care/ intervention</li></ul>

Some of the organisations below may also be able to answer any questions that you may have about additional educational needs

- Autism Anglia is a good website they offer arrange of autism specific information for the family  
[http://www.autism-anglia.org.uk/get\\_support/for\\_families/for\\_families](http://www.autism-anglia.org.uk/get_support/for_families/for_families)
- The National Autistic Society  
Information and support for Autism and Asperger Syndrome. Parent to Parent (P2P) is a confidential telephone support service for parents and carers of an adult or child on the autism spectrum.  
(recommended by the NAS)08088004106
- NAS Recommended Autism Helpline Call 0808 800 4104  
Lines are open 10am-4pm, Monday to Friday  
(free from landlines and most mobiles) We give impartial, confidential information, advice and support to people on the autism spectrum, their families, professionals, researchers and student
- SCOPE can offer support locally regarding disabilities that may be affecting an individual or family. Our local contact is  
[Linzi.Lee.Ellison@scope.org.uk](mailto:Linzi.Lee.Ellison@scope.org.uk) 07436831218
- Contact a Family Organisation who helps families of children with varying disabilities.  
Advice and Information on Special Needs for parents
- Dyslexia Action  
Information and support for Dyslexia
- Oaasis  
<http://www.ace-ed.org.uk/>



- Dyspraxia Foundation

Dyspraxia: Developmental Coordination Disorder Information and support for Dyspraxia.

Speech and Language Needs

- Afasic

A parent-led organisation that helps children and young people with speech and language impairments and their families. Probably best used after a diagnosis by a Speech and Language Therapist.

<http://www.ican.org.uk/>

An excellent website, clear explanations and further links, general ideas on helping all children with their communication.

- ADHD <http://www.adhdandyou.co.uk/>

Visual impairment

[www.rnib.org.uk](http://www.rnib.org.uk)

BENEFITS

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/>

Information and contacts about possible benefits you may be entitled to.

Information Advice & Support Service (SENDIAS)

[iass@southend.gov.uk](mailto:iass@southend.gov.uk)

01702 215499/534793

This list is not exhaustive and the information does not replace professional advice/diagnosis, our aim is to keep adding to the list of sites. If you know of any other good quality websites, groups or phone numbers which may be of use to other parents or if you would like information on a specific need to be published then please let Mrs Grant know.

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