



# Sheldon School

BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to you from Learning Support at Sheldon School. **We are writing to you as we may work alongside you** and your child's teachers to support their learning and development as they progress through secondary school. It may be that your child was receiving SEND support in their primary school or that as they have progressed through the transition to secondary, we have observed that they may need additional support to thrive in our setting.

It can be daunting to join a new school and the step from primary to secondary is particularly significant. We often hear that for students and parents alike, one of the key challenges is getting to know so many new names and faces, as well as which person to turn to with a query or concern. By way of introduction, these are the members of staff who oversee the Learning Support Faculty.



Ms Zuanella

SENDCo, Head of Learning Support and specialist dyslexia teacher  
You may have already been in contact with Ms Zuanella if your child has an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP)



Miss Evans

Deputy SENDCo and teacher of Geography and PSRE  
Miss Evans oversees primary transition for students with SEND and so you may already have been in contact with her towards the end of Year 6.



Mrs Sellwood

Teaching Assistant Manager and Thrive Practitioner  
Mrs Sellwood is often a key safe person for many of our students with SEND.



Mrs Freeman

Teacher of the Deaf and Hearing Resource Base (HRB) Manager  
Mrs Freeman supports our students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

During the final term of Year 6, we, alongside our feeder schools, worked diligently to ensure that we have as much information as we can about your child before they begin with us. During this time, we may have already met you at transition events, taster days and Year 7 Parent Information Evening.

At Sheldon, we believe that transition does not end with the first day of school. The transition season continues into Year 7 and is bespoke for each individual student. We recognise that it takes time to build the relationship between the School and the children and parents we serve, and that this is the foundation of good SEND provision.

It also takes time to get to know how our Year 7 students present in our environment, to tweak the plans we already have for them, and to ensure our teachers have all information they need to thoroughly support them.

During Term 1 of Year 7, we continue the work began last year. This includes:

- Finalising our Year 7 SEND Register and Monitoring List
- Receiving your child's SEND file from their primary school
- Finalising an Individual Pupil Profile (IPP) for every child on the SEND register
- Meeting with parents and carers who have concerns or questions
- Holding pupil clinics for teachers of students with Educational Health Care Plans (EHCPs) or complex needs

By Meet the Tutor Evening, your child will have been in Year 7 for a month and we hope that they will have settled fully into their new school routines and the initial anxieties about starting a new school will have eased. This will be a helpful time to reflect on any challenges they may be facing and how we may tweak the support provided for them.

Prior to the Meet the Tutor Evening, Ms Zuanella and Miss Evans will be opening up slots for parents and carers to book between 4.00pm and 5.45pm. We welcome parents and carers of students with SEND to book an appointment with us so that we can get to know you and answer any specific questions you may have.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that your child has a successful start to their life at Sheldon School.

Yours faithfully,

Linda Zuanella and Corinna Evans  
SENDCo and Deputy SENDCo