



Malcolm Arnold
Academy

Provision Specifications

Malcolm Arnold Academy - Designated Special Provision

Trinity Avenue, Northampton, Northamptonshire NN2 6JW

www.malcolmarnoldacademy.co.uk

01604 778000

Type of Provision

Malcolm Arnold Academy (MAA) is a secondary academy that serves pupils aged 11-18 in the Northampton area. It is part of the David Ross Education Trust. Malcolm Arnold Academy has a designated special provision (DSP) that provides 14 places for pupils with moderate, severe, or profound, permanent bilateral hearing loss.

Malcolm Arnold Academy's designated special provision is for pupils whose primary needs are:

- Sensory and/or Physical Needs - Hearing Impairment (HI)

Admission Criteria and Arrangements

All pupils in the DSP will have an EHC Plan. The Local Authority will determine admission to the unit provision. It will consider parental preference and consult with the governing body and headteacher. It will follow the [Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years \(2015\)](#).

Characteristics of the School

Malcolm Arnold Academy has a capacity of 1200 pupils in Years 7-11 and a sixth form with 250 pupils. It serves an expansive and diverse local community in the heart of Northampton, with pupils coming from schools across the town, especially Abington, Kingsthorpe, Dallington, Headlands, Queen's Park, St James, and Kingsley Park.



West
Northamptonshire
Council

www.westnorthants.gov.uk

The academy campus has extensive grounds and sports facilities, including floodlit 3G AstroTurf pitches. The academy has benefited from significant capital investment in developing new facilities for sixth form, art, music, and learning resources. Malcolm Arnold Academy has invested heavily in ICT and has recently carried out an overhaul of its infrastructure and a major redevelopment of its atrium.

Description of the Provision

Malcolm Arnold Academy's designated special provision follows a 'Total Communication' approach as defined by the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS).

There is an acoustically treated room that provides an excellent acoustic environment where both individual and group work can be carried out when required.

A British Sign Language (BSL) tutor visits the academy every week to either work with pupils whose first language is BSL, or to improve pupils' levels in BSL. The DSP will support signing pupils to achieve their BSL level 1 and level 2 qualifications through Signature (the national body for BSL training and exams). BSL level 1 is equivalent to ½ a GCSE grade, while BSL level 2 is equivalent to a 'B' grade at GCSE.

Arrangements for Including Pupils in the Mainstream School

Pupils attend mainstream classes and are fully included in all aspects of academy life. They will be expected and supported to take a range of GCSE courses during Years 10 and 11. The DSP will put programmes of support in place for pupils who may find some of their GCSEs challenging.

Reviews

Role of School:

- Review arrangements for pupils with EHC Plans are set out in the SEND Code of Practice. Malcolm Arnold Academy will adhere to them, ensuring that due process is followed and relevant timeframes are adhered to.
- Malcolm Arnold Academy's SENDCo reviews the pupils' EHC Plans annually.

Role of the Local Authority:

- The Local Authority will review a pupil's EHC Plan in accordance with the SEN Code of Practice. The Local Authority will ensure that due process is followed and that relevant time frames are adhered to.



West
Northamptonshire
Council

www.westnorthants.gov.uk

Monitoring and Evaluation

Of the Pupils:

- Pupils all have permanent hearing loss and have been issued with an EHC Plan. These are reviewed with the pupils and parents on a termly basis, as well as a formal Annual Review. Any alterations to the provision are made as soon as possible.

Of the Provision:

- The designated special provision is inspected and graded as part of the whole school OFSTED inspection. Latest report: Good (09 March 2020).

Exit Arrangements

Sometimes (during an Annual Review), it might be decided that a pupil with a hearing impairment no longer requires support. If that happens, the pupil can continue at the academy or apply to another school.

Future Development of the Provision

Any planned changes will be the outcome of discussions with the Local Authority. Changes will be in accordance with the number of pupils who have a hearing impairment (and their needs). Changes will be linked to the academy development and improvement planning.

Staffing Details

The DSP is managed by a qualified teacher of the deaf (QToD), who works alongside a team of access communication support workers (ACSWs) if required, and teaching assistants (TAs). ACSWs would be qualified to a minimum of level 2 or working towards level 3 or higher in British Sign Language (BSL). All members of the team are trained in deaf awareness. If pupils have speech and language therapy listed in their EHC Plan, the DSP will seek advice from an appropriate therapist.

For more information about Malcolm Arnold Academy, please visit their website: www.malcolmarnoldacademy.co.uk.



West
Northamptonshire
Council

www.westnorthants.gov.uk