

## **Valley Park School Foundation Learning Department**

### **Staffing**

The Foundation Learning Department is an innovative department, staffed by qualified teachers and supported by a range of other professionals. The teaching staff take responsibility for the SENCO role in a year group each, as well as having a link with a subject department, through their subject specialism. The department, in this way, is able to work with students both through year groups as well as through subject lessons.

The Foundation Learning teachers work closely with other professionals, including an Educational Psychologist, Clinical Psychologist, Play Therapist, School Nurse and Exam Access coordinator to ensure that very best provision and support for all our students.

The work of the Foundation Learning Department is managed and led by the Head of the Foundation Learning Department, Dr Alison Ekins.

### **Curriculum and subjects**

All students follow a two year KS3 and a three year KS4. In Years 7 and 8, the Foundation Learning Department provides support to identified students in our Foundation classes, teaching smaller classes with a strong focus on developing core skills in numeracy and literacy. This intensive support is provided for identified students in English, Mathematics, History, Geography and Ethics.

In Years 9, 10 and 11, Foundation Learning staff provide support across the curriculum to students with SEN. This support is closely focused to provide high quality individualised support to help each student to reach their full potential.

Foundation Learning staff also provide support to students studying in our popular Sixth Form, and there is an exciting emphasis on supporting all students to achieve a successful Transition to Adulthood.