

The Learning Centre at The Oldershaw Academy

The Oldershaw Academy fosters an atmosphere in which pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) feel safe, valued and enjoy learning. We have high expectations of all of our students and work in partnership with parents, carers and external agencies to ensure the best outcomes for all of our young people.

We are extremely proud of our Resourced Provision Base that serves to integrate children and young people with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) into a mainstream school setting. The Resourced Provision is typically catered for through our Learning Centre, where students with Special Educational Needs, disabilities and other additional needs can access individualised curricula and specialist teaching. We have Nurture Groups in Years 7 – 9, where children can access personalised learning in a small class with additional adult support. In Years 10 and 11, pupils access our Enhanced Curriculum provision, a highly successful combination of academic and vocational qualifications, led by Mrs Gill Alleyne.

This is an exciting period for The Learning Centre at Oldershaw as its provision evolves to adapt the changing needs of our pupils, local community and wider Wirral area. The Enhanced Curriculum has recently expanded into Year 12 allowing pupils with significant additional needs to continue their progression at Oldershaw. In September 2018, the Academy will further expand its MLD provision to offer a primary-style curriculum model for a small number of children with significant learning difficulties, once again putting inclusion at the heart of Oldershaw's ethos.

The Learning Centre has a suite of rooms and is used to support learning as well as allowing all students a place they feel they can belong to if they are feeling anxious or in need of additional support. The Learning Centre has many clubs that run at break, lunch time and after the school day to support both academic and social progress.

The Learning Centre has a strong and committed team of Curriculum Support Workers who support learning in both our specialist teaching groups and in mainstream lessons. We liaise closely with a range of professionals to support children such as Hearing Support, Community Paediatrics and the Educational Psychology Team.

In 2015 we were awarded the Inclusion Quality Mark and the Children's Food Trust Golden Spoon Award.

In February 2014, Ofsted said, "The Learning Centre is outstanding. It is well led and highly valued by students. Staff here provide support that enables students to achieve success, both academically and socially".