



ADDITIONAL NEEDS AT SVC

PARENT HANDBOOK



What is The Hub?

The Hub is a specialist area offering support to students with a wide variety of additional needs. We pride ourselves on also offering flexible support to any student in the school. The building is in the heart of the school providing students a safe, calming and ultimately caring environment. We use the 2 teaching rooms and 4 smaller sized rooms to deliver targeted interventions in small groups or on an individual basis.

Our two Hub managers are here from 8am to 4pm. They are often the link between home, outside agencies and the classroom. The specialist support of the students is divided between two SENCos. Inge Tucker is the SENCo who helps to ensure the transition from primary to secondary is as smooth as possible. Lorna Kirk is the SENCo who manages the transition of students through to Post 16 placements.

The Hub is also the base for our team of over 20 Teaching Assistants. Our TAs have a huge range of skills ensuring that we can cater for a wide variety of needs. They are often specialists within subjects, which means that the TAs know the curriculum almost as well as the teachers.

Due to the structure of our subject-specific teaching assistants, the students will not have the same TA with them during the day. Although this can sound daunting, the students soon get to know their TAs and vice-versa.



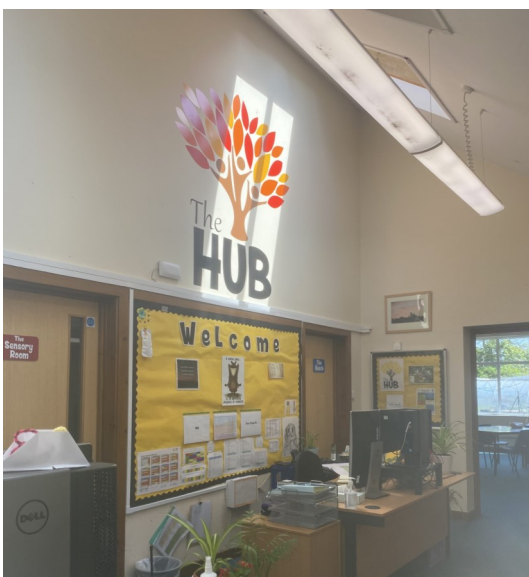
How we support our students

When your child starts at SVC they are tested on arrival to identify baselines and determine who would benefit from additional support or interventions. Every student is an individual and therefore what we put in place differs depending on need.

All students with an Educational, Health and Care Plan have access to support throughout the school day. The provision varies depending on the need of the child. We pride ourselves on the flexible program of support on offer. The students are regularly monitored and their progress is tracked to ensure that the most appropriate and beneficial help is offered. Although still being supported, we try to encourage our students to build resilience and independence during their time at SVC. By the time they leave, they will have had the guidance to ensure they can access the curriculum while learning how to use their own initiative.

What support is offered:

- ◆ Lesson based support from Teaching Assistants
- ◆ Early morning English and maths interventions
- ◆ Dyslexia support
- ◆ Speech, Language and Communication Needs support
- ◆ Wellbeing Support
- ◆ Counselling and Anger Management
- ◆ Physical skills support
- ◆ We also offer clubs during break and lunchtimes to encourage friendships
- ◆ Homework support



Frequently Asked Questions

◆ Will my child have the same Teaching Assistant for all their lessons?

No, the TAs tend to stay within their subject specialisms. Like with their teachers, students soon get to know their TAs.

◆ How do students find their way around?

On the first day they will get a map and take a tour of the school. They can always ask their teacher or another student for directions too. It's amazing how quickly they will find their way.

◆ Where can they get help with their homework?

We run a homework club in the Hub each break and lunchtime and after school in the library, which are all supported by our TAs. Students can always access computers in the resource centre.

◆ How is bullying dealt with?

We take all allegations of bullying very seriously at SVC. Students can report it at Student Services, online using the link from the school website or they can talk to their form tutor. This will then be investigated by their Head of Year.

◆ Who helps the students get through the first few days?

On the transition day in July, students will have peer mentors in their tutor group who will be ready to answer any questions they have. Their form tutor will usually be their first port of call for help. There is always access to the Hub at break or lunchtime where they can ask help from other students or our brilliant Hub managers.

◆ What happens if they can't understand the work?

They should always ask their teacher or the TA (if available). We want to ensure students learn to ask for help, if needed. They can also attend Homework Club in the Hub at break and lunch and in the Library after school.

◆ What happens if homework is forgotten?

It is up to the teacher to decide what to do about homework being forgotten but students would normally expect to get a negative point on Go4Schools and a detention, which is at break or lunchtime. We encourage parents to help prevent this by checking Go4Schools regularly to help their child manage the tasks. Parents will be able to see all homework that is set on their Go4Schools app. Over time this will become the responsibility of the student.

Contact Us

The Hub

Tel: 01353 724100 (ext 5104)

Email: thehub@soham-college.org.uk

Inge Tucker – SENCo

Lorna Kirk – SENCo

Lisa Murfitt – Hub Manager

Jo Trubshaw – Hub Manager

Julie MacIntyre – Deputy Headteacher

