



NORTHGATE
High School

Learning Support Information



From September 2022, the Learning Support Department will consist of an Assistant Headteacher/SENCO, part-time SENCO, a Head of Foundation Learning and over 20 support staff, mostly teaching assistants. It is a department rich in experience of special educational needs and supporting students who are vulnerable to underachievement or low wellbeing.

At Northgate, we aim to give students a sense of belonging and to equip them with the skills and strategies to help them contribute to the community, to learn and to fulfil their potential. We support the work of the wider curriculum, and we also teach and undertake interventions such as Accelerated Reader, Beat Dyslexia, speech and language, ELSA and Thrive. We have developed a Foundation Learning programme which aims to narrow the gaps in identified students, teaching techniques to unpick questions and structures to scaffold, all with the fundamental aim of creating independent learners. We have a strong focus on social and cultural awareness, and a holistic view of what contributes to a happy school life.

We teach Foundation Learning across Key Stage 3 and 4, with two lessons per week focusing mostly on literacy skills to underpin access in the classroom. There are opportunities to develop programmes to respond to emerging gaps and we have a flexible approach to respond to the needs of our students.