

## **The Learning Support Policy**

### **Aim**

To develop appropriate provision where students have the opportunity to achieve their academic potential and personal and social goals.

### **Objectives**

To encourage a culture of openness where students with learning difficulties and or disabilities feel able to disclose their disability to the College whereby appropriate reasonable adjustments can be anticipated and/or made during recruitment, assessment, on their programme and in the progression process.

To develop and maintain links with external agencies eg. Wirral schools (including the partner high schools and Joseph Paxton Campus) Wirral Children's Services Department, Wirral Health Authority, Social Services and Connexions to ensure a rigorous assessment is undertaken.

To identify progression opportunities for students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities to training, employment, Further and Higher Education in conjunction with the specialist careers adviser.

To assist in promoting the college's Disability Equality Scheme.

### **Processes**

To ensure students are supported through the application procedure to disclose their disability and provide appropriate support while in college to meet the needs of the student. To request permission from students to pass on information to staff about their disability and to advise them of the consequences of not disclosing their disability

To ensure the College Handbook and website are accessible and informative to students with learning difficulties and or disabilities

To circulate to staff a Student Support Plan for each student which will provide background information, details of the support required by the student and the impact on learning of the disability. To review the SSP with the student, tutors, Learning Support Assistants (and parents/carers if appropriate) on a regular basis.

To raise awareness of staff about the specialist support available from the Learning Support Team and through appropriate staff development.

To link potential students into the College environment and sessions to smooth the transition process

To liaise with the College Health and Safety and Facilities teams to ensure the college is accessible for students

To update the College's Disability Statement and circulate to interested parties

To manage an annual screening of literacy and numeracy and implement the appropriate support

To liaise with the College Examinations Officer to support exam concessions

To undertake diagnostic assessments for students identified as possibly having a specific learning difficulty

To continue to work with the Wirral 16-19 Mental Health team to develop the support for students with mental health problems

To evaluate the Learning Support provision and respond to subsequent issues

**This document is available in alternative formats if required.**