**Learning Support – Department Information**

The Learning Support department has a high profile in the school and students who benefit from its expertise make very good progress. The school is committed to Inclusion.

The Learning Support Department comprises of a friendly, professional team of SENCo and 8 Learning Support Assistants.

The LSAs are currently deployed to support individual and small groups of students across the entire curriculum. This may be via “hover support” and flexible targeted “drop in” support which helps promote independence of the students. In addition to in-class-based support, LSAs deliver the ReadWrite Inc. Fresh Start Phonics programme to identified students in small groups, mentor individual students, provide a lunchtime ‘club’ for students with SEN, support the work of teachers by helping to make resources to enable students with SEN to access the curriculum, keep records on student progress and contribute to the assessment and monitoring process. The SENCO is the line manager for all the LSAs and responsible for performance management and training of all these members of staff. Training opportunities are offered to all LSAs to ensure they are kept updated on current ideas in SEN and to maintain their professional development.

LSAs are given opportunities to support students in specific areas of the curriculum which enables them to become specialists within their field.

The SEN department consists of a suite of three rooms: a teaching room, a smaller room used for LSA preparation and some 1:1 support and a department office.

The SENCo and LSAs liaise closely through daily briefings and regular meetings. The Department enjoys a positive working environment which works towards maximising student opportunities.