



5. Training of school staff

5.1 What SEND training is provided for teachers in your school?

At The Castle School run a very rigorous training programme for our staff which runs for 2 evenings each week. The training will look at many aspects of learning and interventions and is delivered by expert school staff and other professionals and examples will include the following:

- Differentiation
- Assessment for Learning
- Makaton
- PROACT SCiPr behaviour support
- Phonics and reading development
- Guided Reading
- Maths intervention
- Therapy training
- Autistic Spectrum Conditions
- Speech and Language Support~
HI/VI sensory impairment support
- ELKLAN (Communication Training)
- Metacognition

All staff new to the school undertake a comprehensive induction programme. Different needs of pupils require different modes of delivery and therefore certain class teams will have training very specific to their needs. Specific training may include:

- TEACCH (a programme for supporting young people with autism).
- MOVE programme for pupils in our classes for pupils with more profound and multiple needs.
- PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System)
- Shallow Water Training (For staff who need to supervise our Hydrotherapy sessions)
- REAL PE (a PE programme to enable all young people to be actively involved in sport)

5.2 What SEND training is provided for teaching assistants and other staff in your school?

The staff at the Castle School have a wide range of skills and qualifications ranging from Masters to NVQ and QCF level certificates and diplomas. We are very keen on encouraging our staff to engage in continuous training for their own professional development and we have a very high uptake on voluntary courses.

Teacher Assistants must possess or be working towards near completion of a Level 3 qualification. We encourage all our Support Assistants to train towards QCF recognised qualifications and we support them to achieve this through local providers.

5.3 Do teachers have any specific qualifications in SEND?

All our teachers have experience and skills in various areas of special needs. Examples of qualifications that teachers hold include:

- TEACCH
- Masters in Education
- Specific Learning Difficulties Identification and Assessment
- AMBDA
- Sensory Integration
- Regional Makaton Training Tutor
- PROACT SCiPr trainer
- ADCE (Advanced Diploma in Care in Education)
- Nursery Education
- Life Long Learning

5.4 Do teaching assistants have any specific qualifications in SEND?

All Teacher Assistants at The Castle School must have or be working towards completion of a Level 3 qualification. We encourage all our Support Assistants to work towards recognised QCF qualifications through our own QCF Qualification Training Centre.

In addition many teacher and support assistants will take part in other qualifications relating to the classes and teams they work with to improve their professional practice.