



SUPPORTING ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS (ALN) 2021/22



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Welcome to NPTC Group of Colleges

We are a caring college, and we welcome all students into our community. We always put students at the heart of everything we do. It is important to us that our students have a voice, and they are involved in decisions made about them.

Our team have lots of experience and they will always strive to get the best outcomes for all students.

Our aim is to **'nurture students to achieve greater independence'**

CONTACT US

If you would like to discuss any additional support needs, please contact the ALN team:

ALN@nptcgroup.ac.uk



BEFORE YOU START COLLEGE

Our Transition Officers work with students, parents/carers, and schools to plan for college, and will work with students throughout their studies.

College staff may attend school annual reviews to discuss additional learning needs and individual development plans (IDP)

The college will work closely with all those involved in the students care and learning to make sure that the transition from school to college runs smoothly.

What happens before students start college?

- An invite to attend a college taster day or an arranged visit over the summer holidays if needed
- Discussions with our student support team about things like, career options, travelling to college and transition plans
- An invite to a 'coffee morning' to find out about the college, meet staff and ask questions
- Access to lots of helpful virtual tours and videos on our college website
- Support with completing the application form and applying to college
- Help with finance and funding
- Support during induction days to help settle in
- A designated Well-Being Officer who is a point of contact for any concerns.

Our student support team will work with lecturers and staff to make sure they are aware of and understand students' needs before and whilst in college.



ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

We can offer lots of different types of software and equipment to help with learning, such as:

- Immersive reader software
- Speech to text software
- Electronic Reading Pens
- Microsoft learning tools
- Immersive Reader
- Mind map and note taking software.

We use online resources to help students with communication. We can offer access to:

- Widget Online
- Makaton Online
- Touch Type Software
- Apps for Learning.

We have new state of the art 60-inch touch screen televisions, with lots of added learning tools.

We can offer support for sensory impairments. We have a range of equipment for students to loan for hearing and visual impairments, including:

- Radio Aids and Receivers
- Laptops and iPads
- Magnifying equipment.



SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES (SPLD)

Our SpLD Assessors will work with students and lecturers to make sure they have the right tools for their learning.

Online Screening Tools

We can offer online screening assessments for SpLD (Specific Learning Difficulties) and Exam Access Arrangements. We will meet with the student to discuss the outcome of the screener and agree a support plan with them.

Exam Access Assessments

If a student has a learning difficulty our assessor may arrange to meet with them to carry out some short tests to apply for exam access arrangements. The college will also work with schools and lecturers to gather information.

Needs Assessments

All students that disclose a Specific Learning Difficulty at enrolment will have a needs assessment by a member of our Student Support team. Here support will be discussed, and a plan agreed to help the student progress with their studies.

1:1 Study Skills Support

Students can access weekly support with our Student Support team where they can focus on specific strategies for learning and lots more.

Equipment Loan

We can loan equipment, such as:

- Coloured overlays and paper
- Access to read and write software
- iPads and Laptops
- Reading pens

Disabled Student Allowance (DSA)

The Student Support Team can refer students for an SpLD diagnostic assessment to support a DSA application. Please make an appointment with the college ALNCo (Additional Learning Needs Coordinator) to discuss further.



AUTISM SPECTRUM CONDITIONS

Our specialist Autism Coordinator will work with students, parents/carers, and schools to agree a transition plan before college starts.

The ASD Coordinator will be the students point of contact when they are in college and will answer and deal with any concerns or worries, they may have.

We have a committed group of staff and student ASD Champions available to work with students throughout their time at college. They can support with lots of topics such as:

- Friendships
- Puberty
- Adulthood
- Sensory difficulties
- Sleep, diet and health
- Communication skills
- Organisation and college work

Our college staff have received Autism Awareness training with Autism Wales and are working towards accredited 'Autism Friendly Status' across all our campuses.

We have a dedicated group of staff qualified at Postgraduate Level 7 in Autism Spectrum Conditions who can offer more personalised and bespoke support.



PERSONALISED SUPPORT

Our Study Support Assistants can offer personal care support for students. We have specialised equipment on all our main campuses, including:

- Hoisting facilities
- Personal care changing bed.

All our staff are trained with manual handling, hoisting and personal care. Our team are experienced, and student dignity and care are very important to us. All staff work in pairs when carrying out any personal care under the college safeguarding policy. All students requiring personal care will receive an individualised care plan.

Our Support staff can:

- Help and supervise students during lunch and break times
- Assist students with dietary needs and feeding
- Help students develop their personal care and independent living skills
- Offer help with medication and storing of medication
- Provide mobility support for wheelchair users.

Support Staff are trained to offer:

- Emergency first aid
- Epilepsy support
- Diabetes support and use of monitoring equipment
- Manual handling and Personal Care.



STUDY SUPPORT

Many students, for a variety of reasons, need extra help to succeed with their studies and achieve their potential. All full-time students are given an informal assessment of support needs at the start of the course or at the interview.

Our Study Support Coaches can offer help with anything from writing skills, exam revision to group and one-to-one workshops.

The Study Support Team is located throughout all our campus' Student Zones and is available to offer advice, guidance, and support to all students.

STUDY SUPPORT

Each of main campuses has a designated discrete 'Student Zone.' These areas have a quiet space for students to work, study, or relax.

WELL-BEING SUPPORT

Our Well-Being team are available to offer one-to-one help for students who need emotional support. All students identified as vulnerable will have a designated Well-Being Officer, who will be a point of contact throughout their studies. They will work with students to develop:

- resilience
- self-awareness
- communication skills
- confidence
- assertiveness

The college also offer a counselling service for students needing more specialist support. Students can be referred for up to 6 sessions with a qualified counsellor.