

Student Learning Support/Pastoral Policy

Open Academy London is committed to creating a supportive learning environment for all our students. We aim to provide an appropriate level of support that will allow individuals to access Academy, achieve their courses and reach their full potential.

Open Academy London aims to do this by:

- A. identifying and responding to the needs of our students and by actively promoting and working within the organisation's commitment to promote equality for all and working confidentially and treating students with respect.
- B. supporting curriculum staff to enable them to meet individual needs
- C. encouraging students to take advantage of the support offered to them and to help them become independent and successful.
- D. regularly reviewing and evaluating the effectiveness of the support and student progress. (Personal targets are set for students by the end of induction and these are reviewed three times in the year.
- E. regularly reviewing and evaluating the effectiveness of the agreed support and increasing, changing or removing the support as appropriate.

This is achieved by:

1. encouraging applications from those with physical or learning difficulties and disabilities.
2. assessing an applicant's suitability for their chosen course based on their potential to achieve.
3. providing staff and students with information and training on equality and diversity related matters needed for an inclusive environment within the Academy.
4. effective transition planning e.g. visits to Academy by applicants.
5. effective use of pre-entry information such as interview records and assessment reports.
6. effective initial screening and assessment of need (Maths & English BKSB).
7. offering a varied, inclusive and accessible curriculum.
8. effective and differentiated teaching and learning.
9. supporting literacy, language and numeracy through specialist 1:1 tuition if required.
10. supporting students with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities as per their requirements.
11. supporting students at risk, such as those struggling to attend classes regularly.
12. sharing information with the curriculum staff i.e. teachers and managers.

Support is available to students in a variety of ways:

Physical support:

1. adjustable height tables, work benches and accessible classrooms and workshops.

Bespoke Support:

2. offer additional 1:1 or small group sessions for students who have an additional learning need.

External Support:

3. retention, achievement and progress are closely monitored by the teaching staff. We aim to work in partnership with other third party agencies to provide more effective support where required.

Support is communicated in a variety of ways:

1. retention, achievement and progress are monitored by support staff whether or not the students have a learning difficulty or disability.
2. a review is carried out at the end of induction which looks at how the student has settled into Academy and whether the level of support that has been provided is correct.

3. further reviews are carried out to ensure that the student is on track to achieve and looks at their progression plans.