



Learning Support at Our Lady's Abingdon



OLA
OUR LADY'S
ABINGDON

“I just wanted to say a heartfelt thank you for your time with our child. They have expressed that they are feeling supported and reassured since your interventions.”



Welcome

The Learning Support team at OLA recognises support each individual according to our Foundress Catherine McAuley's ethos 'To each according to their needs'.

We work very closely with the pastoral team and teaching staff, to ensure our pupils with specific learning differences are offered the highest level of support enabling them to access lessons and have extra tuition when appropriate. Where a pupil is highlighted as having difficulty accessing their learning, we will gather information and put support in place.

Our team supports those with English as an additional language and those pupils who will need exam access arrangements.

The School follows a Wave system of support as detailed within this leaflet incorporating English as an Additional language (EAL) and Study Skills.

English as an Additional language (EAL)

Pupils with English as an Additional language are supported through bespoke 1:1 sessions, preparation for IELTS. Sessions may focus on conversational skills, specific support parallel to GCSE English or support with any subject or area of need.

Study Skills

Effective study skills are essential for learning. Pupils learn techniques for revision, enhancing working memory and organisation. There may also be subject specific support.

Emotional Literacy Support (ELS)

Our Emotional Literacy Support Assistant has an open door policy for pupils struggling with any aspect of their emotions be it exam anxiety, friendships or day to day life.

The Wave Support System

Wave 1

Wave 1 support is delivered within the classroom or in a small group. When a pupil is identified as having difficulties with learning a Pupil Passport is created detailing the individual strengths and areas of difficulty. Occasionally, a pupil may need a little more support with Literacy and/or Math's so instead of attending Latin or MFL language lessons pupils may attend small group sessions to support Literacy & Numeracy.

Wave 2

Wave 2 support involves short one-to-one or small group sessions. Some pupils require more support with organising their workload and developing academic study skills. Study skills covers areas such as interpretation of text and questions, planning answers and covering exam and revision techniques.

This may take the form of weekly 30 minute one-to-one or small group sessions. Sessions are reviewed each term and pupils may attend throughout the year, or for one block of sessions for a term looking at particular skills. The termly fee for this wave of support is £250.

Wave 3

Wave 3 support is given on a one-to-one basis offering sessions to cover any aspect of academic support as well as EAL support.

Pupils may receive subject specific support and/or bespoke interventions for study skills including organisation. Wave 3 support is often arranged for those pupils with EAL.

Wave 3 support involves weekly 50 minute one-to-one sessions. The termly fee for this wave of support is £650.



Our graduated approach to Learning Support follows a Wave System of three tiers.

Wave 1 support is delivered within the classroom or in a small group.

Wave 2 support involves one-to-one sessions or small group sessions.

Wave 3 support involves a longer session on a one-to-one basis, this may be for those pupils who have English as an additional language (EAL).

Emotional Literacy Support

Mel is our Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA). ELSA's are specialist teaching assistants with a wealth of experience of working with children and young adults. They are trained and regularly supervised by Educational Psychologists.

The aim of sessions is to build your child's emotional development and help them cope with life's challenges.

The sessions are planned for the individual child's needs and treated with the strictest of confidentiality, unless the child or anyone around them could be in danger.

Mel can be contacted through email Mjohn@ola.org.uk

Frequently asked questions

Please make an appointment to speak to either Clare, Polly, Mel or Lornie (*details on the reverse*) about your child if you feel they would benefit from our support at any time.

My child has an existing diagnosis, how will they be supported at Our Lady's School?

Prior to commencing at OLA, the Learning Support Team will gather information on your child and form a Pupil Passport. This will include strategies for effective teaching and learning which will be shared with all teaching staff.

What can I expect from sessions in Learning Support?

Our staff will support your child with all aspects of school life. Every session will be bespoke to ensure progress for each individual be it academic, emotional or social.

“Sessions have been very useful so we'd like to continue with them and the support in the GCSE year.”



Staffing within Academic Support

Clare Roberts | SENDCo

Lornie Wright | Assistant SENDCo

Polly Koeman | Learning Support Assistant Lower School

Vanessa Clark | EAL tutor

Mel John | Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA)

Please direct enquiries to:

Lornie Wright | lwright@ola.org.uk



Radley Road | Abingdon-on-Thames | Oxfordshire | OX14 3PS | 01235 544808
admissions@ola.org.uk | www.ola.org.uk