



WODENSBOROUGH DEAF ACADEMY



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Welcome

We are an additionally-resourced provision for up to 12 deaf students in a mainstream secondary academy.

Our learners have access to both hearing and D/deaf professionals. It is the intention that our deaf learners attend the majority of mainstream lessons where appropriate; support is however, tailored to individual needs. Lessons can also be taught in the Deaf Academy or as part of the SEND department, as necessary.

A team of highly qualified and experienced Communication Support Workers work alongside the Deaf teacher and Teacher of the Deaf in promoting the all-round development of our deaf learners. We strongly believe that deaf learners need to become resilient, resourceful and independent, so that they are well-prepared for life when they finish school.

In addition to lessons as part of the mainstream school the Wodensborough Deaf Academy can offer sessions in Functional Skills, additional English and communication sessions, the Ruth Miskin Fresh Start programme, ASDAN courses and discrete PSE. Students may also access the NDCS Healthy Minds programme, British Sign Language, elements of driving theory practise and travel training.

What the Parents Say

"He loves school and enjoys going and is especially pleased about his after-school activities, which he loves."

"The school doesn't just stop at the school; they help to move you forward. They will go with you, get involved and make you feel relaxed."

"The school has helped my daughter build up confidence in doing things independently."

"We feel the school is fantastic in keeping us informed so we work together to help our child. He is well supported and looked after in his subjects as well as after school."

Transition

We aim to ensure that the move from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3 is a smooth one. The academy offers all children the opportunity to attend a number of full day transition and taster events, in the final half term, where they can meet other new students and some of the teachers they will have in September. In addition to this, deaf students



are offered additional sessions in our SEN department where all SEN learners come in for several afternoons. They get the chance to meet the Wodensborough Deaf Academy staff and existing deaf students. We are able to provide bespoke transition programmes where needed in order to meet the individual requirements of each child.

Deaf students who are leaving Wodensborough Ormiston Academy are fully supported in the transitions to their next step in life. Wodensborough Deaf Academy staff assist students in their Connexions interviews where needed; follow-up sessions are provided where staff work with students in looking at their options and completing any research directed by Connexions. Many students choose to continue their education and move on to FE providers. Transition is facilitated through attending open days, information sessions, taster days and interviews. Just to make sure our leavers are confident and ready to make their journey to their chosen destination, we also provide independent travel training.

Links with Other Agencies

The Wodensborough Deaf Academy has strong relationships with many outside professionals including: the Sandwell Audiology Department, Educational Psychologists, Deaf CAMHS, Birmingham Cochlear Implant Team, Connexions and local colleges. A qualified speech and language therapist visits the academy in order to assess pupils, identify targets and set programmes for students to follow.

"It's refreshing to hear a parent speak so positively about a school and the support they have received."

Trainee Ed. Psych