



SEND Inclusion Award (SENDIA) Reassessment Report

School name:	New College Leicester
School address and postcode:	Glenfield Road, Leicester LE3 6DN
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School website:	Newcollege.leicester.sch.uk
Head teacher:	Jane Brown
Award coordinator:	Karen Simpson
Award verifier:	Hannah Hall
Date of reassessment:	25.3.22

Commentary on the mini-portfolio of evidence:

The Award Co-ordinator has uploaded a thorough and robust portfolio of material to evidence the implementation, progress and impact of the work the Team at New College have done. There is clear evidence that not only have the standards & KPIs towards each objective of the award been met, but that there has been considerable development of practice and approaches. The portfolio of evidence (in conjunction with my meeting with Jane Brown, Karen Simpson and other stakeholders) demonstrates that New College engages in current research, is reflective of their successes and areas for development, and has the highest aspirations, in all areas, for their Learners and the community as a whole.

New College is an inspiring place to be.

Commentary on the tour of the school:

I was given the opportunity to visit classrooms, intervention spaces & social areas. The school is fully accessible for all Learners, for example, the consistent template expected for all powerpoints, to the behaviour policy and the high expectations for all, and also evidenced in the successful transition of a Learner who is visually impaired and the differentiation and personalisation to ensure her full immersion into every aspect of life at New College. The school embodies equity at the heart of its approach.

Commentary on discussions with stakeholders:

During the reassessment at New College I met with a Student panel, the SEND Governor, staff members informally, and the Senior Educational Psychologist.

Developments in provision and practice since their achievement of the SENDIA include the targeted and successful employment and deployment of their Senior Ed Psych. In my meeting with her she was effusive about the planned use of her time and the impact it is having for Learners at New College. Equally she cited how much a part of the team she felt/was. This relational approach to every part of New College underpins Inclusion.

The Learners on the panel, and those who were part of the Student Parliament, were eloquent and enthusiastic in their discussion around their needs and the provision provided by New College. It was clear, student voice isn't just paid lip service to to tick a box. Their opinions and decisions drive change and develop the inclusive ethos.

It was particularly moving to hear the recorded testimony from a Learner who hadn't been able to attend on the day. Several of us were in tears!

Strengths identified during reassessment:

Despite the disruption from the Covid pandemic, New College have made some impressive progress and further strengthened their inclusivity, systems and approaches. These include:

- *Proactive work with outside agencies eg. Senior Educational Psychologist & Connexions
- *The maintained high aspirations and expectations of all. The development of the curriculum with the focus on skills and attributes Learners will need when they leave New College
- * Deployment of TAs - both in terms of training for Teaching staff, but also into more lessons.
- *Further training of Staff and targeted CPD and their role within SEND. The development of the whole school provision map to include interventions and experiences across the wider school.
- *Specialisms for TAs to build capacity within the team. Succession planning for the SENCo role.
- *The focus, drive and response of the Inclusion Team during the pandemic. A focus on the wellbeing of the whole community.
- *New College has IQM flagship status and has achieved this for two years running. This award has showcased and further enhanced the practice at the school. For example, the Student Parliament and their role in decision making, representing a voice for their peers, and feeding into policy and practice.

Impact:

The impact of the SENDIA at New College can be evidence on several levels.

A culture of relational practice and high expectations and aspirations for all has resulted in happy, confident, and successful Learners. They are proud of their school and appreciative of the opportunities the staff afford them and the “over and above” attitude to all initiatives implemented. An example of the kindness and high esteem modelled between staff and the learners came as I was leaving the reassessment. Some of the Learners had created Mother’s Day gifts for staff with personalised messages inside. A very touching moment to witness.

The development of the curriculum, with a focus on skills and attributes, alongside high expectations, aspirations and holistic approaches, has meant Learners are successful and acknowledge a sense of belonging and pride in themselves and in being at New College.

Every member of staff understands their responsibility to meeting the need of every Learner and is able to implement this as a result of quality CPD, clear systems, information and capacity within the team.

Areas for development:

To continue to build on the impact and success of their inclusive approaches New College identified further development of Parental engagement and partnership as a focus for development. All of the Team discussed this in my meetings with them, including the SEND Governor and Senior Educational Psychologist.

Further use of the Senior Educational Psychologist in proactive interventions and community links.

Focus on the attendance of Learners identified as SEND and ensuring every Teacher understands their role and responsibility towards this.

To build on cultural capital opportunities for all Learners to broaden their skills and aspirations and empower them towards independence.

Verifier recommendation:

It was a pleasure to have the opportunity to revisit New College and experience all they have developed and achieved since their verification – despite the disruption caused by the pandemic.

New College have successfully passed their reassessment and thoroughly deserve to maintain the SEND & Inclusion Award.

**Head teacher comments:**

The last 2 years has been significantly challenging and difficult for all, especially those involved in education. We at NCL have strived to maintain our high standards and expectations with regards to SEND and Inclusion for all. Difficult as this has been the whole staff team have pulled together, even more so than prior to the pandemic, to ensure students felt safe, secure and included in their educational journey.

Our school mantra of *#ThisIsUs*, and our core values of Respect, Resilience, Resourcefulness and Responsibility shines through in this report. This is something we are all incredibly proud of. When faced with daily challenges and external agencies enter our school and tell us we are fully inclusive and continually strive to meet the needs of the whole community, makes us incredibly proud.

We are absolutely thrilled that our staff, students, parents/carers and governors have achieved this fantastic accolade again for the recognition of the outstanding support, provision, care and attention shown to all of our students – proving that our students are at the heart of our school.

May we use your comment for website/marketing purposes? **Yes**