Kent Special Schools Statement of assessment for children and young people of all abilities

In Kent Special Schools there will be a continuum of assessment to cover the age range 0-25 of all abilities (incorporating the EYFS). The continuum will encompass a broad range of accreditations and programmes of study so that schools can demonstrate the impact of their curriculum on students' ability to gain appropriate skills, acquire knowledge and develop understanding for the next stages of life. The continuum will measure progress and determine where progress is inadequate so that appropriate intervention can be provided swiftly.

Kent Special Schools Principles of assessment:

1. Assessment is at the heart of teaching and learning

At The Beacon School this means that we will use the principles of assessment for learning to enable students to know what they have achieved, and to talk about what they feel they have achieved and what they hope to achieve next. Assessment for Learning will be used to plan the next steps of learning for each individual pupil.

2. Analysis of assessment information will improve the quality of teaching

At The Beacon School this means that pupil progress will be recorded and analysed on a regular basis. (Teachers will meet three times per year with the Senior Leadership Team to have a professional discussion about rates of progress and how to improve them further.) All teachers and Teaching Assistants will know which pupils are making good progress and which are making less than good progress so that appropriate support can be planned.

3. Assessment will be accurate, consistent, reliable, free from bias, understood by all and increase parental confidence

At The Beacon School this means that teaching staff will be trained to assess progress accurately and support will be offered where necessary. Where there are doubts about a pupil's attainment, work will be moderated within the school.

4. Assessment will draw a wide range of evidence to provide a complete picture of student achievement over time

At The Beacon School this means that a combination of written evidence, photographic evidence, video evidence and staff observations will be used to inform the assessment process.

5. Assessment will be used to set high expectations for all students, to celebrate achievement and to inform the next steps for students, their families and teachers

At The Beacon School this means that planning will reflect high expectations within the learning intentions and an indication of the type and level of support needed for individual pupils. The learning intentions and success criteria will be conveyed appropriately to pupils so that they are involved in their own learning journey.

6. The reliability of teacher assessment will be achieved through rigorous moderation

At The Beacon School this means that pieces of work or other evidence will be regularly submitted for moderation within the school, among other Kent Special Schools and among other mainstream schools. In this way, we will be confident of our judgements.

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