

Support Statement

Additional Learning Support (ALS)



Supporting Success Through Inclusion

Oldham College is committed to creating an inclusive learning environment where all students can thrive. We recognise individual strengths and are committed to removing barriers to learning, participation and achievement.

In line with the Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND Code of Practice (0–25 years), we work collaboratively with students, families, schools and external professionals to identify and meet individual support needs, enabling students to achieve their aspirations and prepare for adulthood.

Additional Learning Support

Our experienced Additional Learning Support team provides a range of personalised support to help students access all aspects of college life and their chosen programme of study.

Support is available for students with a wide range of needs, including:

- Specific learning difficulties such as Dyslexia and Dyspraxia
- Neurodivergent conditions, including ADHD and Autism
- Speech, language and communication needs
- Social, emotional and mental health needs
- Physical disabilities and medical conditions
- Sensory impairments, including hearing and visual impairments.

Support may be delivered through Learning Support Officers, Communication Support Workers, specialist practitioners, assistive technology, study skills support and reasonable adjustments tailored to individual needs.

The Inclusion Hub

The Inclusion Hub is a central part of our commitment to ensuring every student feels valued, supported and able to succeed. It provides a welcoming and inclusive environment where students can access support, build confidence, develop independence and strengthen their sense of belonging within the college community.

The Inclusion Hub offers:

- A safe and supportive space for students who may require additional support during the college day
- Opportunities to develop social, emotional and self-advocacy skills
- Access to wellbeing and pastoral support
- Support with transition, attendance, engagement and barriers to learning
- Guidance on assistive technology and study skills
- A calm environment for students who may find busy college spaces overwhelming
- Opportunities to connect with peers and participate in enrichment activities.

The Inclusion Hub works closely with curriculum teams, support staff, families, carers and external agencies to ensure students receive coordinated and person-centred support.

Study Skills Support

Students can access specialist study skills support designed to develop confidence, independence and academic success. Areas of support may include:

- Organisation and time management
- Developing effective learning strategies
- Reading and understanding academic texts
- Note-taking techniques
- Assignment planning and report writing
- Spelling, grammar and proofreading
- Presentation skills
- Revision techniques and examination preparation.

Exam Access Arrangements

Students who may require examination access arrangements can be referred to the Exam Access Arrangements (EAA) co-ordination team either by the student or their tutor.

Where appropriate, assessments will be completed and applications submitted to the relevant awarding organisations to ensure students can access examinations fairly and equitably.

Transition to College

We understand that moving from school to college is a significant step. Our team works closely with schools, students, families, carers and professionals throughout the year to support a smooth and successful transition.

Transition support may include:

- School visits and liaison meetings
- Personalised transition plans
- Enhanced interview arrangements
- Familiarisation visits and taster sessions
- Early enrolment and transition events
- Early identification of support needs.

Students who disclose a learning difficulty, disability or additional support need are invited to meet with a member of the Additional Learning Support team to discuss how we can support them to succeed.

Wellbeing and Safe Spaces

We recognise that college environments can sometimes feel overwhelming. Through the Inclusion Hub, students have access to dedicated quiet spaces that provide a calm and supportive environment during unstructured times throughout the day.

These spaces offer opportunities for students to:

- Regulate and recharge
- Access support when needed
- Build friendships and social connections
- Take time away from busy college environments
- Develop confidence and independence in a supportive setting.

Contact us

For further information about Additional Learning Support or the Inclusion Hub, please contact the team.

Email: alsenquiries@oldham.ac.uk