



Secondary School HUB supporting those with a Vision Impairment at Arthur Mellows Village College

What is a Hub?

Peterborough City Council and a number of primary, secondary and special schools are working together to create a network of specialist hubs in schools across the city. These Hubs are developing to become 'centres of expertise' to help improve the support for all children with special educational needs and disabilities in all schools in the Peterborough area. The primary focus of a Hub is to equip themselves and other schools to support students with specific SEND. Some of these Hubs have a limited number of places for students.

You can find out more about the network of Hubs at

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/residents/special-educational-needs/local-offer/early-years-education-and-training/education/>



Improving support for Peterborough Schools

The key role of the hub will be as a centre of excellence, modelling excellent practice that break down barriers to learning for those with Vision Impairment (VI). It will assist schools across Peterborough through the sharing of good practice, ideas for a range of teaching methods and the showcasing of materials and equipment to support and meet the learning needs of those who are visually impaired. The aim of this support will be to improve the outcomes for students with VI in these individual schools and settings across Peterborough.

For further information, please see the Peterborough Local Offer:

www.peterborough.gov.uk/localoffer or contact the

Secondary VI HUB Lead: Bernie Harrison BA(Hons) MA, MEd, PGCE

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What does the Hub for Visual Impairment offer?

- For two students, the Hub offers bespoke provision based on their individual visual needs and EHC Plan provisions. The provision for each student will be bespoke and based on individual requirements for accessing learning within a mainstream classroom.
- The curriculum will be tailored dependent to the overall SEND needs of the individual and delivered through a personalised timetable.
- This will be based mainly in main school lessons with adaptation, resources and support provided to enable access as applicable.
- Hub-based lessons will be delivered through bespoke programmes depending upon each individual student's need. These may include: focus on individual needs and include specialist skills such as touch typing, Braille, mobility, life and independence skills as well as support in developing other skills for their classroom learning, and revision and examination needs strategies.

Specialist Support

The VI Hub Lead, working closely with specialist support services from Peterborough Local Authority, will develop materials and resources to enable access to a broad and balanced curriculum.

All teaching and support staff will have access to a minimum level of training in order to support their work with those with a Visual Impairment. Key Learning Support Assistants will be further trained with more in-depth training and if applicable further with Sensory Support qualifications.

What difference does the Hub make?

We intend our Hub to make a difference by offering:

- Termly Hub sessions for teachers;
- Drop-in sessions to share the modelling of approaches and showcase resources, with the key aim to show how these can be used across whole schools to build inclusive culture and practice;
- In collaboration with Peterborough Local Authority Specialist Teaching Services deliver training on VI related topics

How do I get a place at the Hub for VI?

Admissions to the Hub for those with a significant Visual Impairment at Arthur Mellows Village College are via Peterborough Local Authority SEND Panel.

In order to be considered for a place in the VI Hub, students must have a significant Visual Impairment identified as the primary need within their Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan.

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