



Shrewsbury School

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY ACT (SENDA)

Admissions and special needs

We are an academically selective school and we welcome all pupils who can make the most of the opportunities that we offer and who can flourish in the caring environment of Shrewsbury. Treating every pupil as an individual is central to our philosophy and ethos, and we welcome pupils with special educational needs, including medical or physical disabilities, provided that they achieve our academic qualifications for entry, that they can cope with the physical demands of the school site and that our Learning Support Department can provide them with the support they require.

We advise the parents of children with special educational needs, including medical or physical disabilities, to discuss their child's requirements with Shrewsbury before he or she sits our entrance examinations. This will enable us to discuss the position and make adequate provision for him or her. The school's Learning Support Policy can be downloaded from our website.

Parents should provide a copy of an Educational Psychologist's report or a medical report to support their request, for example for extra time in examinations or for other special arrangements.

On entry

Each pupil with a special educational need, including medical or physical disabilities, requires special consideration and treatment. If appropriate, adjustments will need to be put into place. We will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisers the adjustments that can reasonably be made for their child once they have accepted the offer of a place and before he or she becomes a pupil at Shrewsbury.

Our Learning Support Department is staffed by fully qualified specialists. The work of the department is primarily geared to helping pupils whose academic progress is informed by dyslexia or a specific learning difficulty (usually associated with dyslexia).

Learning support - monitoring and review

It is essential for pupils with identified or suspected learning difficulties to have been assessed by a specialist so that we can identify the areas requiring support. It is also essential that parents considering entering their child for Shrewsbury share fully with the school any concerns they may have with regard to their child's identified or suspected learning difficulties.

As is made clear in our Learning Support Policy, we offer specialist, one-to-one lessons and support with study skills outside the normal curriculum. We work closely with any pupil receiving such lessons, in order to help him or her overcome the barriers presented by his or her difficulties.

Other adjustments

We are able, depending on need, to arrange for pupils to use laptop computers in lessons and (in accordance with public examination regulations) in examinations.

Physical accessibility

Parents and prospective parents of children with a physical disability can download from our website the school's Accessibility Plan. This shows the ways in which we have made our buildings progressively more accessible to disabled pupils, parents and visitors and what is planned in this regard over the coming period.

It is important that prospective parents of a physically disabled child should spend some time at Shrewsbury, in order to get a clear understanding of the scope and topography of the school site, and the nature and disposition of its historic buildings.

Medical support

Shrewsbury School has a fully staffed medical centre, 'The Sanatorium', which is open twenty-four hours a day during term-time, so that, in addition to the House Matron (of which there is one in every House), qualified medical help can be summoned immediately. The school doctor holds surgery every weekday morning and he or a member of his practice is readily available. Members of the medical team are always happy to discuss with parents any concerns they may have about their child's health or the management of any medical condition.

Staff training

Our teaching staff receive training on the learning needs of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, and they are kept closely informed, by the head of Learning Support, of the needs of each individual pupil receiving specialist learning support, including any particular requirements with regard to the use and provision of written information, including enlarged script if deemed appropriate.

In addition, other staff, such as those in the catering department, are made fully aware of individual pupil conditions, such as food allergies.

All First Aiders receive basic training, including the use of epipens.

English as an additional language

In order to cope with the academic and social demands of Shrewsbury, it is important that pupils are competent English speakers. For those for whom English is not their first language and for whom extra tuition in the use of English would be helpful, we can offer specialist tuition in English as an additional language. The school's English as an Additional Language Policy can be downloaded from the website.

SHREWSBURY SCHOOL ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

This document should be read in conjunction with our SENDA (Special Educational Needs and Disability Act) Policy

Albeit necessarily restricted by the topography of an extensive school site and the size and internal structure of historic buildings, it is our aim to ensure that any prospective pupil, who fulfils Shrewsbury's admissions requirements, is able to come to the school irrespective of personal disability or special educational need.

Access to the curriculum

Pupils with identified or suspected specific learning difficulties are supported by our specialist Learning Support team. Shrewsbury's Learning Support Policy can be downloaded from the website.

Most pre-sixth-form academic subjects are taught in sets of pupils of comparable ability, in order to enable each individual to progress at an appropriate pace and receive the right level of tuition.

Pupils for whom English is not their first language can receive specialist help with English as an Additional Language. Shrewsbury's English as an Additional Language Policy can be downloaded from the website.

Care is taken to attempt to locate on ground or first floors the lessons of pupils with physical conditions for whom climbing stairs may be difficult.

All pupils are welcomed into our sports, games and extra-curricular programmes, with special attention paid and allowance made to any who have any form of disability.

Physical access

Since 2003 substantial work has been undertaken at Shrewsbury to improve physical access for any pupils, parents, staff or visitors with disabilities.

Prior to April 2009, the following were completed, among other more routine alterations to give access to the disabled:

- A new music school, with a lift, galleries for wheelchair access and WC for the disabled.
- A new House for sixth form boarding and day girls, including lift, WC for the disabled, bedsit accommodation for disabled pupils, corridor widths to allow access for two wheelchairs side-by-side.
- An indoor cricket school, with wheelchair access and WC for the disabled.
- Two completely refurbished boys' boarding Houses, each including a bath and WC for the disabled and ground floor bedsit accommodation.
- Wheelchair access into the school chapel, Oldham's Hall, the science faculty, Kingsland Hall and the Main School Building.

- Newly-installed WC (for the disabled) in the 18th century Main School Building.
- New 25m six-lane swimming pool, including disabled access, WC for the disabled, deck-level pool entry and a hoist for disabled swimmers.
- New sixth form common room, including WC for the disabled.
- The refurbishment of other boys' boarding Houses, to include ground-floor bedsit accommodation where possible and secure.
- Construction of new WC suite in Kingsland Hall (the school dining hall), including new WC provision for the disabled.

In the three-year period, April 2009 – March 2012, the following is currently actioned or planned:

Sept 2009 – Sept 2010	Complete refurbishment of Fives courts, including new lighting and smoothing out of all playing surfaces, including the run-off, thus making the game accessible to those with physical disability.
2010 onwards	Phased refurbishment of all physics laboratories, all with ground floor access and compliant with requirements regarding access for the disabled.
Jan 2010 – Sept 2011	Construction of a second new House for sixth form boarding and day girls, including close attention to all requirements relating to access for the disabled.
July 2010	Refurbishment of two existing boarding Houses, with attention paid, wherever possible, to accessibility for disabled pupils. (NB Some boys' boarding Houses are naturally more accessible to the physically disabled than are others. This being so, any pupils with physical disabilities would be entered for a House suited to their needs.)
July 2011	The boys' boarding House refurbishment programme continues, as above.
Between Sept 2010 and March 2012	Construction of a new boathouse and training room, including close attention to all requirements relating to access for the disabled.
Between Sept 2010 and March 2012	Refurbishment of the school theatre foyer, the assembly hall and Kingsland Hall will be under planning consideration, including access for the disabled and associated facilities.

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