

# Elmhurst School for Dance

## Special Educational Needs Policy

### Philosophy

As Elmhurst selects its students solely on vocational grounds, there is always likely to be a very wide range of ability, including some students with special educational needs.

Students at Elmhurst may have a special need as a result of one or more of the following:

- General learning difficulties
- Particular difficulties with literacy/numeracy/basic skills
- A sensory difficulty
- Speech/language difficulties

We recognise that the needs of very able students and students with English as an additional language may be met through similar strategies to those outlined in our special needs policy. A similar process of intervention, planning and recording will be implemented for these students outside the limit of this policy.

### Aims

At Elmhurst we believe that ‘...all pupils should receive a broad and balanced curriculum, relevant to their individual needs...’ Circular 5/89 D.E.S.

To this end all pupils should:

- Follow a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum (with special help given to those pupils who have particular difficulties)
- Demonstrate their full potential; recognising strengths as well as weaknesses
- Fully participate in all school activities
- Be offered equal opportunities
- Be involved in decision making

### Identification

A range of methods are used to identify pupils with special educational needs as follows:

- Information from previous schools
- Reports from educational psychologists and/or specialist teachers
- Base line testing on entry
- Information from parents
- Informal observation by teachers and tutors in a variety of situations

### Provision

Elmhurst has adopted a staged response to meeting the needs of students with special educational needs as recommended by the SEN Code of Practice and as follows:

- All students identified with special educational needs will have an appropriate IEP (Individual Education Plan).
- Some pupils will have access to individual tuition where this is considered appropriate.
- The SENCO is responsible for any special arrangements for public examinations that may be considered appropriate.

D.C. Moreton  
Learning Support Teacher