

## **Individual Needs Faculty Information**

The Individual Needs faculty at Wren Academy currently consists of six full time Teaching Assistants, one Higher Level Teaching Assistant and two Cover Supervisors who have a dual role as Teaching Assistants. From September there will also be a part time IN teacher joining the team.

At Key Stage 3 most of the work of the Individual Needs faculty is done through supporting students in their lessons. Teaching Assistants work in conjunction with the curriculum staff to differentiate and support the students who are on the Individual Needs profile. In addition to the in-class support the faculty run a variety of programmes to ensure that students on the IN profile make progress with their learning.

Upon entry to the Academy in Year 7, students are all tested to ascertain their reading and spelling age. These standardised scores in conjunction with their Key Stage 2 and CATs scores are used to identify those students who need extra input to be able to access the curriculum successfully.

The Individual Needs faculty runs an extremely successful key skills programme in Year 7 which focuses on literacy and numeracy. In keeping with the whole Academy's focus on Building Learning Power, students are expected to reflect on their capabilities as learners, and to develop strategies to overcome obstacles in these Key Skills sessions too. Sessions are delivered by a combination of IN teachers and teaching assistants. In addition spelling groups are identified through the use of this data and are delivered through our Breakfast Club. Comprehension strategies are taught to identified students twice a week too. The Individual Needs faculty also contributes significantly to the enrichment programme, providing support for students with their home learning and by providing social skills and motor skills programmes.

This is a unique opportunity for a creative and ambitious curriculum specialist to build a successful Individual Needs faculty by working collaboratively with the team to develop provision for students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. We are seeking an experienced Individual Needs teacher who has a proven record in innovative planning, is highly organised and has the ability to lead on the management of issues relating to your people who temporarily or permanently have difficulty accessing the curriculum at an appropriate level.

The Academy opened in September 2008 in a suite of newly refurbished and well equipped classrooms, complete with interactive whiteboards, laptops and visualisers. The Academy buildings are in the process of being completed and the Individual Needs faculty will have access to brand new facilities, from September 2010.