

# SEN Information

Local Offer

Person with overall responsibility for SEN within school / college / organisation:	<b>Stuart Heron</b>
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**Name of Education Provider: Devon Studio School**

## 1. What special education provision is available at our setting?



**What do we do here to meet your needs?**

Devon Studio School is fully committed to an inclusive education for all students and our unique features enable us to support progress, personal development, attainment and achievement for all. The school operates with class sizes of around 15 students and every young person is allocated a personal coach to monitor and support academic, vocational and personal development.

The SENCO at Devon Studio School has completed the National Award for SEN Coordination and the team have a huge amount of experience in teaching students with SEN.

Devon Studio School is committed to personalised learning for every student and we work closely with a range of partners, in a number of different sectors, to support our offer for students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13.

## 2. What criteria must be satisfied before children and young people can access this provision/service?



**What sort of needs would you have for us to be able to help you?**

Devon Studio School is an inclusive provider and will consider placements for any young person (age 14 -16) whose parents/carers wish them to access our provision. We follow the guidance laid out in the Equalities Act 2010 and will support applications for any SEN type provided that the school can offer an excellent service. We work closely with parents/carers and Torbay to ensure that our provision can meet the needs of the young person without disadvantaging any other student in the school. The school is committed to providing excellent training and resources to enable our staff to appropriately support every student with SEN.

For entries to Devon Studio School Post 16 (Yr 12) students and their parents/carers can find the admissions policy and process at:  
<http://devonstudioschool.co.uk/apply-now/>

### 3. How do we identify the particular special educational needs of a child or young person?



How do we work out what your needs are and how can we help?

Devon Studio School draws student starters at the end of Yr 9 (into Yr 10) and Yr 11 (into Yr 12). Assessments of SEN are likely to have taken place in previous schools and we use this information, alongside our own diagnostics, to create personalised learning programmes. Continual assessment occurs to ensure that students who may have SEN (hitherto unverified) are identified as quickly as possible to create appropriate support programmes. Students transferring from other schools in year will have needs assessed and support programmes created as quickly as possible.

Devon Studio School follows the guidance laid out in the **SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years (2015)**

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### 4. How do we consult with parents and/or children and young people about their needs?



How do we find out about what you and your parents think you need help with?

Devon Studio School has a parental consultation process that occurs 3 times per year. Students undertake formative assessment review tasks (mock exams), teachers write reports around progress against targets. Then teachers, parents and students come together on our 'Triangle Meetings' to discuss student development. Concerns about progress and SEN interventions can be addressed to the SENCO who will be happy to meet to discuss questions or concerns. The school undertakes regular parental and student feedback surveys around targeted questions – SEN provision is part of this.

### 5. What is our approach to teaching children and young people with special educational needs?



How will we teach you?

Devon Studio School is firmly committed to equal opportunities for every student and has developed an inclusive accessibility plan:

<http://devonstudioschool.co.uk/school-policies/>

Teachers (Learning Coaches) at Devon Studio School have rich and varied experiences in SEN and are completely driven to the best possible progress and outcomes for all students. Our small class sizes (15), 1:2:1 personal coaching and highly skilled Learning Support Coaches have a huge impact on the quality of our provision for SEN.

6. How can we adapt our curriculum for children and young people with special educational needs?



What sort of things will you learn here?

Devon Studio School has an academic and vocational focus on Health, Social Care and Early Years education. Students choose us to enable them to develop the skills, knowledge, dispositions and qualifications in these 3 sectors, learning and working at the same time. Students work closely with personal coaches and the teaching team to develop a personalised curriculum and explore a range of vocational opportunities. Subject choices are wide and varied but all feed neatly into the healthcare sector. Alongside our academic and vocational offer students at Devon Studio School are encouraged to participate in a vast array of enrichment activities that develop wider skills. The following is not exhaustive:

Ten Tors, DoE Award, Gym, Swimming, Music, Outdoor Pursuits, Table tennis, Crafting, Geo-cashing, Team games and Music...

7. How will we ensure we get the services, provision and equipment that children and young people need?



How will we make sure that you get all of the help that you need from different people?

Devon Studio School is committed to personal, academic and vocational development for all and we work closely with a wide range of organisations to make student learning, and development, our complete focus. Additional needs will be supported by highly qualified professionals who place our students' progress and development at the centre of everything that they do.

8. How is this provision funded?



Who pays for this?

Devon Studio School receives funding from the Education Funding Agency (EFA) as an Academy. The school can apply for additional funding if it is identified that extra support is required beyond what we can provide as part of our normal ratios.

9. What additional learning support is available for children and young people with special educational needs and how do they access it?



What else will we do to help you learn and how will this happen?

Every student at Devon Studio School is assigned a Coach and allotted 1:2:1 time on a weekly basis (more if required) to discuss personal, academic and vocational development. Students are supported in class by Learning Support Coaches with expertise in Core Subject development and enhancement of literacy and numeracy. The school has invested heavily in IT to support learning and teaching and all students develop skills in ICT as part of their general studies. The school has an extensive **Thrive** programme.

10. How do we support and improve the emotional and social development of children and young people with special educational needs?



How can we help you learn about your feelings and relationships?

Devon Studio School is committed to holistic student development and encourages students to grow personally as well as academically and vocationally. The school builds on the fundamental tenets of the healthcare sector's values and our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum is nurturing and highly thought provoking. The school is run, at every level, with a solution focussed coaching approach and students are trained and encouraged to develop personal strength, reflection and forward planning as part of their daily activity.

11. How do we support children and young people with special educational needs moving between phases of education and preparing for adulthood?



How can we help you to get ready to change to a different place or to leave here?

Devon Studio School works very closely with Torbay and Devon to ensure that every student has a smooth and seamless transition from Yr 9 into Yr 10 and Yr 11 into Yr 12. The school's SENCO will meet with the SENCO of the transfer school to gain a full understanding of each student's needs and their ultimate potential. Triangle Meetings (School, Student and Parent/Carer) will take place as part of the transition process to ensure excellent lines of communication are established and maintained.

**12. What other support is available for children and young people with special educational needs and how can they access it?**



**What other help can we give you or help you to get?**

Devon Studio School is firmly committed to personal, academic and vocational development for every student and we will ensure that all our students are nurtured to increase confidence, skills and knowledge in lots of different areas. Our focus on vocational development means that students will be supported in work placements and amass a great deal of experience, and hours, in the world of work.

**13. What extra-curricular activities are available for children and young people with special educational needs?**



**What other activities can you do here?**

Devon Studio School has a firm commitment to holistic development, above and beyond exam data, and all of our students are encouraged to participate in our enrichment offer. This year student were able to participate in some of the following (not exhaustive): Moorland walking, kayaking, team sports, theatre visits, teaching practice, public speaking, university seminars and workshops, university open events, swimming, baking, crafting, needle work, camping and clinical practice at Torbay Hospital.

**14. How do we assess and review progress towards agreed outcomes, and how are parents, children and young people involved in this process?**



**How do we know that the help we are giving you is working?**



**How can you and your family tell us what you think?**

At Devon Studio School students, parents/carers and staff (coaches) have the chance to meet formally at 3, termly, 'Triangle Meetings'. Parents/carers will be informed of progress through reports which follow assessments. Students and parents/carers are able to make 'needs based' appointments with the SENCO to discuss any issues. The school has regular parental consultation surveys around specific areas of focus throughout the year.

Students with SEN at Devon Studio School are able to assess their progress towards the goals in their personal development plans, on a half-termly basis, with their personal coach and learning support coaches.

**15. How do we assess the effectiveness of our special needs provision and how are parents, children and young people involved in this assessment?**



**How do we make sure that we are being the best that we can be?**



**How can you and your family tell us what you think?**

Devon Studio School is committed to developing an outstanding provision for all students and, within this, an outstanding provision for students with SEN. We regularly self-evaluate our provision against nationally recognised standards and make changes that might be required. We are also committed to external scrutiny to ensure that we are providing the very best for everyone. Devon Studio School governors also take feedback on school performance on a regular basis.

**16. How do we ensure that teaching staff and other staff have the expertise needed to support children and young people with special educational needs?**



**How do we make sure that everyone that works with you has the right skills and can do the right things to help you?**

Devon Studio School is completely committed to the continuing professional development of all its staff. All teaching staff have qualified teacher status and personal and learning support coaches have specific training and qualifications in their areas. The school is responsive to needs based training and if staff require expertise in a particular type of SEN they will be trained. The SENCO at Devon Studio School has the National SEN Co-ordinators Award (Bath Spa University).

**17. How do we keep parents informed where children and young people have special educational provision but do not have an Education Health and Care Plan?**



**How do we make sure that your parents know how we can help them?**

Devon Studio School takes home-school communications very seriously and is fully committed to open lines of communications about any issues. Parents/carers are invited into school to discuss personalised provision and are encouraged and supported to be fully involved in all aspects of the SEN support provided to the students.

**18. How can parents, children and young people make a complaint about our provision?**



**What can you do if you are not happy about something that has happened here?**

Devon Studio School is completely open to constructive feedback about all aspects of our service, at any time. If these informal processes do not provide the desired outcome we have a complaints process available:

<http://devonstudioschool.co.uk/school-policies/>

Hard copies are available from the school reception.

**19. How can parents, children and young people get more information about the setting?**



How can you find out more about us?

To find out more about Devon Studio School please:

Call – 01803 617694

Email – [enquiries@devonstudioschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@devonstudioschool.co.uk)

Email – [sheron@devonstudioschool.co.uk](mailto:sheron@devonstudioschool.co.uk)

Web – [www.devonstudioschool.co.uk](http://www.devonstudioschool.co.uk)

Visit – Devon Studio School, 187 Newton Road, Torquay, Devon, TQ2 7FT

**20. How the school involves other bodies, including health and social care bodies, local authority support services and voluntary sector organisations, in meeting children and young people's SEN and supporting their families?**



How do we work with everyone else to help you?

Devon Studio School works in partnership with external agencies to support our students with SEN. In the past we have developed support packages with CAMHS, Occupational Therapy and Clinical Psychology. Outside the health sector we have developed work placement packages with schools, care homes and charities. Students are encouraged to take full advantage of all the support and opportunities available through the school.

**21. Arrangements for supporting children who are looked after by the local authority and have SEN**



How do we help children who are looked after by Torbay Council?



**Looked After students with SEN are supported at Devon Studio School with close liaison between placement, social worker and school. At the regular PEP meetings discussions about SEN specific targets are a high priority and pupil premium plus money can be attributed to these if appropriate. Regular reviews of progress take place with open communication between the CLA, Social Care, Torbay SEN team and the school SEN team.**