



Portland  
Place  
School

# SEN and EAL Offering at Portland Place School

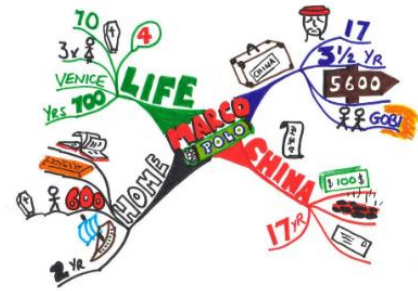
Alternative Learning



Because learning knows no bounds

# LEARNING LAB

The Learning Lab provision starts with establishing a clear understanding of each student's learning needs. We find out how they learn most effectively, and work from this point to support our Key Stages 3 and 4 cohort to achieve their highest potential.



Learning Lab's philosophy is that providing specialist teaching, delivered by our highly trained SEN teachers, focusing on pupils' growth of self-esteem, independent thinking, and key literacy skills will equip students with the tools they need to succeed in school life.

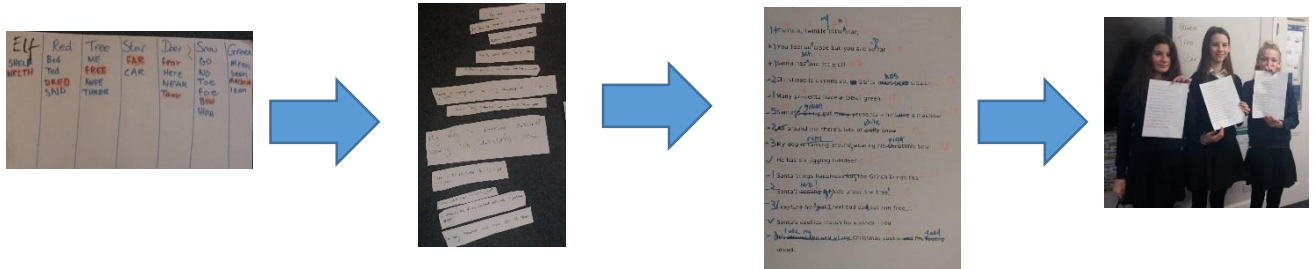
Students are offered two lessons a week in small group settings, giving them the opportunity to be part of a multisensory environment that promotes reflective learning.

We work in collaboration with other departments in the school to ensure we equip our students with the key skills and strategies they need across the subject range with the main emphasis on skills and strategies for reading, writing and revision. In parallel with that, we encourage students using assistive technology such as iPads and laptops as part of their learning. A flavour of what we do:

- teach how to link new information with prior knowledge through drawing, concept mapping, writing and verbal reflection
- use visual, audio resources and discussion as preparation for writing and reading
- personalise the lessons based on each student's current curriculum
- explore metacognition - helping students to learn more about how they learn
- teach planning, drafting and editing skills
- teach exam skills and techniques
- teach literacy skills such as skimming, scanning and close reading, and the creation of mind maps, diagrams and flowcharts



We help students to improve their literacy skills through a range of multisensory activities, such as this creative writing session that resulted in a group poem and included signing, cutting and swapping around, maths skills and a final performance.



# EAL (ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE)

At Portland Place School we celebrate the diversity of different languages, cultures and religions represented by our students and their families. We encourage the students to be proud of their identity and language skills, have a Growth Mindset and achieve their full potential. Our EAL students are offered two lessons a week in small group settings, giving them the opportunity to be part of a multisensory environment that promotes reflective learning. There is constant collaboration between EAL and the other departments in the school to ensure we equip our students with the key skills and strategies they need across the curriculum. The learning is extremely personalised and the main emphasis is on skills for speaking, listening, reading and writing. In addition, we thoroughly encourage our students to use assistive technology such as iPads and laptops as part of their learning.



In the EAL lessons, the students:

- Develop literacy skills such as skimming, scanning and close reading
- Build resilience and a positive mindset to enable them to achieve highly
- Learn how to create mind maps and diagrams
- Improve their exam skills and techniques
- Use discussion as preparation for writing and reading
- Learn how to plan, draft and edit their work through specific and personalised feedback

## LINK

Link is a program for KS4 students only. Similar to Learning Lab’s philosophy, this bespoke program, delivered by our highly trained SEN teachers, equips students with tools they need to succeed in school life.

It provides specialist support in the following areas:

- study and organisation skills
- exam techniques
- consolidation of learning and academic writing



Students are offered two lessons a week in a small group setting. Working in collaboration with other departments we ensure that students have the time and the opportunity to become organised learners in order to fulfil their recognised potential.

Autumn	1	Preparing and setting goals
	2	Revision Techniques
Winter	1	Exam techniques
	2	Memory techniques
Spring	1	Getting and working with information
	2	Improving writing, reading and listening skills