

CLOUGHWOOD ACADEMY

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

*'Together Success,
Aiming for the Best'*



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WELCOME TO CLOUGHWOOD ACADEMY

Cloughwood Academy is an 'outstanding' purpose-built Residential School situated in the heart of Cheshire. The role of Cloughwood Academy is to provide education and support for boys who have a Statement of Special Educational Needs / Educational Health Care Plan. Our students have Social, Emotional or Mental Health issues (SEMH) and often have associated difficulties such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Asperger's Syndrome, Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) and Oppositional Defiance Disorder (ODD) as well as learning difficulties.

As a special school we have a responsibility for the children in our care not only to provide them with a solid academic foundation, but also to ensure that our students learn to grow and develop their social and emotional skills. Through our rich and varied curriculum, we support and encourage each student to focus on developing positive attitudes and behaviour, enabling them to become independent and self-aware. To provide further support, our 'Special Educational Needs Disability and Inclusion Team' (SENDIT) helps to develop the learning and emotional growth of the students, as well as to assess students' needs and provide targeted support to help each student fulfil their potential.

At Cloughwood Academy we are very proud of our inclusive ethos. We find the vast majority of students, as they continue to attend school, find themselves achieving better with time. We believe that students are only able to achieve their full potential if they attend well and are not excluded. With 0% exclusion and high attendance levels, we are able to work effectively with our students and build solid relationships based on trust, accountability and a strong community spirit.

"A day away from school is a day of learning gone to waste."

Cloughwood Academy Trust: a company limited by guarantee

Registered in England: Company Number: 08604799

Registered Office: Cloughwood Academy, Stones Manor Lane, Hartford, Northwich, Cheshire, United Kingdom, CW8 1NU

Company Directors: H Madeley, R Haffenden, R Orme, D Snowden, D Glenn, J Swaffield, J Szostek, P Young

"The school provides pupils with many experiences which complement their academic learning and help them develop into well-rounded individuals."

"Throughout their time here, students make outstanding gains in their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. They learn how to get on with others. These advances enable them to take part in a wide range of activities inside and outside of school."

Ofsted 2016

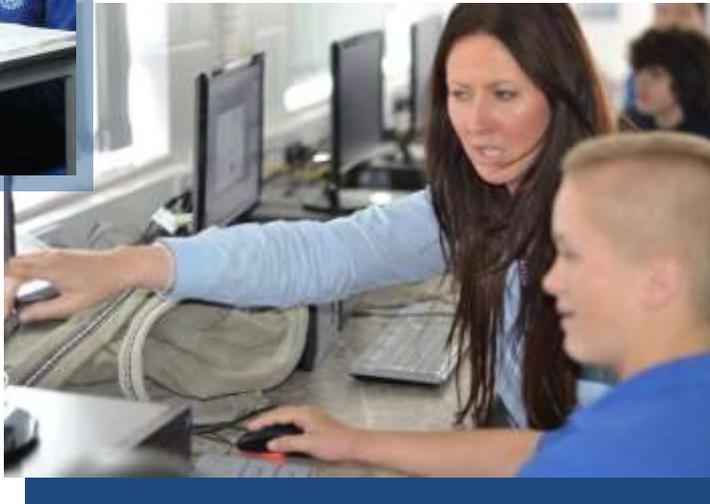


TEACHING & LEARNING

The educational department broadly follows the national curriculum; with a Primary unit which supports students at Key Stage 2, and the main school catering for Key Stage 3 and 4. Each subject area has a fully qualified Subject Teacher as well as a subject-specific Teaching Assistant, ensuring that each lesson delivered is challenging, engaging and tailored to students' needs.



Cloughwood Academy delivers a broad range of curriculum subjects including; Maths, English, Science, ICT/Computer Science, Humanities, Art, PE and Employability Skills. Each half-term educational visits are planned for every year group to coincide with their studies, providing students with a rich and varied timetable. Students have experienced how control-systems are implemented at theme parks for ICT, seen Shakespeare performances across the country to support their English studies, visited a variety of museums and visitors centres for Maths and Science, gone mountain biking, abseiling and rock climbing for PE and visited castles, country homes and centres of faith for Humanities – to name but a few!



From Year 9 students begin working towards GCSEs and other vocational training and qualifications. Having a combination of examinations, coursework and controlled assessments, the mixture of qualifications caters for all students' needs.

Cloughwood Academy supports students in preparing to move on to college or employment by providing a range of activities including work experience and motivational work placements.

Cloughwood Academy also delivers Careers Fairs and Employability Skills Days as well as visits to local employers and Further Education colleges, which allows students to explore their interests and the options available to them.

Cloughwood Academy also prepares students for life outside school by providing valuable skills including how to complete application forms, CV writing and interview techniques. Before leaving school staff support students in completing college applications or provide guidance on apprenticeships. So, by the end of their time at Cloughwood Academy, students feel better prepared for the world of work and their chosen career path.

PRIMARY PROVISION

Cloughwood Academy's Primary provision was established in 2013 as a result of demand for more specialist support for children in Key Stage 2 with a range of social, emotional and mental health issues. Smaller class sizes and specialist staff mean that students have the ability to access the national curriculum which may otherwise have been difficult in a mainstream primary school. Our students have high attendance and enjoy their learning, both in and out of the classroom.

Primary pupils are fully integrated into the Cloughwood community, with some lessons being delivered by subject teachers in the main school building. Students take part in a variety of learning experiences including art, humanities, drama, mathematics and science. This not only broadens and enriches the primary curriculum, but also enables students to become fully integrated into the school community and supports their transition to Key Stage 3.

The rich and varied timetable enables students to learn a variety of subjects and skills. As well as academic learning, staff also support students in developing their confidence, resilience, social interactions and communication skills, thus preparing them adequately for life as a fully integrated citizen.



SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITY INCLUSION TEAM (SENDIT)

We believe that it is the intrinsic right of every student to receive the best education possible and part of this process involves understanding each student's strengths and weaknesses so that tailored support can be provided. The purpose of the SENDIT is to create an environment where those pupils who are struggling to make the progress expected can have regular interventions enabling them to recover lost ground or gaps in learning.

Testing takes place at the centre to identify areas of need for each student. These tests include; Pass Tests, LUCID tests, dyslexia screening and Cognitive Abilities Tests (CAT). This allows the SENDIT to establish bespoke learning plans to aid each student's progress and development and subsequently enables teachers to set improved targets containing the right degree of challenge.

The centre has a well-stocked library with levelled books catering for a variety of interests, as well as materials to aid reading comprehension and equipment for numeracy interventions. Activities are developed to engage students and develop their confidence and improve their abilities.

The vast majority of SENDIT work is carried out with Key Stage 2 and 3 pupils to enable them to become more independent, functional and competent when they reach KS4. Each year Key Stage 4 pupils will have interventions during the first half term of the academic year which should enable those who have dropped back over the holiday period to catch up with basic skills. After October half term there will be no additional withdrawal intervention for KS4 bar in exceptional circumstances.

OUTDOOR & MOTIVATIONAL LEARNING

At Cloughwood Academy we have two dedicated Outdoor and Motivational Learning Instructors who are responsible for co-ordinating learning experiences outside of the classroom and motivating disaffected pupils to re-engage in school and curriculum activities. Learning Outside the Classroom (LOTC) is a central component of the Academy's mission to develop pro-social, inter-personal and independence skills for all pupils. At Cloughwood we emphasise the growth and development of the whole person and strive to enable all our pupils to build the skills and attitudes which actively promote school and community engagement. We see these types of engagement as key to the production of well-rounded, confident and actively participating future citizens. During year 11, students participate in the Duke of Edinburgh award programme which provides recognition for the work that they have done.

As well as co-ordinating and leading on outdoor educational activities, instructors are also responsible for the guidance and support of identified pupils in a range of educational contexts and assist the SENCO and other colleagues within the SENDIT in their efforts to provide tailored interventions for pupils at risk. This includes classroom support, individual support and mentoring for those pupils with individual plans. Each instructor is responsible for devising plans and working with colleagues to deliver interventions whilst monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the work.



PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION

At Cloughwood Academy, as well as having a strong academic focus, we also aim to instil the skills necessary to become positive citizens, helping students to understand the impact they have on their community and environment. PSHEE supports pupils' spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. Cloughwood Academy ensures that PSHEE is an integral part of our curriculum and covered in all subjects, from exploring and understanding different faiths and cultures in Humanities, to debating moral issues in English.



To support the PSHEE curriculum, students work towards the BTEC Level 1 Award/Certificate in Personal and Social Development. This is an excellent qualification which recognises students' achievements. Students learn how to develop their personal skills and set achievable goals as well as learning how to manage relationships and working with others. Students gain an understanding of living in the wider community, rights and responsibilities and community action; and life skills such as healthy living, budgeting.

RESIDENTIAL PROVISION

The Residential Provision is an integral part of the 24-hour curriculum offered at Cloughwood Academy. There are 17 en-suite bedrooms spread over four dormitories, with each dormitory being run by a highly motivated and qualified member of the care team. The residential experience offers planned residential places where there is an identified need; either academic, social or behavioural. These placements can be for one night to four nights and either on an extended day (until 8pm) or overnight basis. The extended days allow students to access all the activities and then go home later in the evening. These can act as taster sessions to gradually build up to an overnight stay.



The Residential Provision offers excellent pastoral care where young people are given the confidence to ask for help and guidance. With the help of the residential provision young people are able to overcome their barriers to learning, for example poor attendance or difficulty socialising, and help make a positive contribution to their school life and personal confidence and wellbeing. The care team are highly qualified and skilled in their approach to the residential pupils. Individual placement and care plans are produced for each child and parents/carers are invited to the residence once a year for an informal parents evening where they discuss their son's progress and work with the care team to produce relevant targets and update placement plans.



The residential staff and parents/carers work in partnership to make sure the residential pupils are safe, lead healthy lifestyles, enjoy learning, achieve and are prepared for leaving school. The care team have a positive regard for the pupils and are extremely proud of their achievements. Residential pupils are treated as individuals with differing needs, tastes and interests and activities are developed with this in mind.



The team support each student's health needs; providing medication, attending appointments and providing a weekly drop in with the school nurse. Students are encouraged to take an interest in their own health needs for example attending a smoking cessation clinic at the local pharmacy. The safety of the young people is paramount and we have a safeguarding committee made up of the Head of Care, a Senior Childcare Associate, a Director and the school nurse. One of the residential pupils is the Safeguarding representative for the school voted by the students.



PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS/CARERS

We are committed to working with parents/carers positively, openly and honestly. We ensure that parents/carers are treated with respect, dignity and courtesy. We respect privacy and confidentiality and will not share sensitive information unless we have permission to do so or it is necessary to do so in order to protect a child.

Cloughwood Academy will share with parents/carers any concerns we may have about their child unless to do so may place a child at risk of harm. We encourage parents/carers to discuss any concerns they may have with either the Principal, Head of Care or a member of staff they feel comfortable talking to.

SAFEGUARDING

Cloughwood Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its students and we fully acknowledge the contribution we can make to protect all children and support pupils in school. At Cloughwood we recognise that high self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends and clear lines of communication with a trusted adult helps all children to feel safe and cared for. Our aim is to provide a supportive environment where students feel able to communicate any issues or worries they have.



Cloughwood recognises that it is essential to establish positive and effective working relationships with other agencies who are involved in the safeguarding of our students including; the Local Authority, Social Care, Police, Health professionals, Local Safeguarding Children's Board. There is a joint responsibility on all these agencies to share information to ensure the safeguarding of the children in our care.