



PARENT/CARER INFORMATION FOR SIDESTRAND HALL SCHOOL

To start the process for a Specialist school referral you will need to speak to the EHCP Co-Ordinator in the first instance. The EHCP Co-Ordinator will then complete a pupil placement form for any child to be considered for a Special School place. These referrals are then discussed at Admission meetings (3 times a year) between the Local Authority & each individual Complex Needs school.

Sidestrand Hall School has some unique features and as such has become a highly sought-after School. We are a complex needs school for ages 7-19 with the School day starting at 8.45am - and finishing at 3pm.

Sidestrand Hall School is a specialist provision for pupils with complex special educational needs (SEN). The School offers a staffing ratio of at least one adult to five children and the more complex classes around three children to one adult. The classroom staff are not allocated to named children, with teaching assistants being directed by the class teacher. This means that whilst ratios are high, pupils are expected to work independently in order to promote the development of learning to learn skills and independence.

Areas of Need that the School caters for:-

- communication and interaction needs,
- Speech language and Communication
- Global Developmental Delay
- Cognition and learning needs,
- Autism
- Downs syndrome,
- ADHD
- Sensory and Mild Physical needs.
- (SEMH needs associated with any of the above) – Not SEMH as a primary need.

The School site unfortunately is not accessible for students with complex physical difficulties although the School is part of the Department for Education re-furbish and rebuild programme.

Some Students at Sidestrand Hall School may have more than one of these Special Educational Needs

Our students are typically 4-5 years delayed in their learning and usually fall below the 5th percentile and frequently below the 1st percentile.

The School offers curriculums based on the Early Years Foundation Stage and National curriculum but it is not age appropriate but based on levels of attainment.

Therefore generally our

- Year 3 and 4 curriculum is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage
- Year 5 and 6 curriculum is based on Key Stage 1 National Curriculum
- Year 7 and 8 curriculum is based on Key Stage 2 National Curriculum
- Year 9 and 10/11 curriculum is based on Key Stage 3 National Curriculum
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The School offers accreditation courses from Year 10. These focus on independence, life skills, skills for work and English, Maths and Science. The School does not offer GCSE's.

Sixth Form

The Sixth Form was purpose built for approximately 30 Students. The curriculum offer is designed to be a stepping stone onto an appropriate college course of their choice.

Pupils study a range of accredited courses including maths, English and PSHE, independent living, vocational options and employability.

Our more complex needs students are supported in applications to other Complex needs schools or Post16 settings.