

## **Oldfield Academy Resource Base Admissions**

### **Introduction**

Oldfield School is a stand alone Academy and mainstream secondary school. It has a Specialist Resource Base (SRB) for children and young people with a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and who are able to access a mainstream education with the additional wrap around support the SRB provides.

The Academy is based in Bath. Students seeking a place at the Oldfield SRB are referred by the B&NES SEND Team and Oldfield will then decide on whether a place at the SRB can meet the student's needs.

The primary aim of the SRB is to support students to access education in the wider school community with their peers. Through this inclusive approach, where students are taught by subject specialists, with their peers, is where they will receive the most complete education possible. Whilst the SRB will be able to support students it will not be able to educate them outside of the whole school.

All students attend mainstream lessons, supported by a specialist Teaching Assistant, where needed. When students are not in lessons, they are within the SRB receiving additional individualised support. All of our staff have extensive knowledge and training on ASC and inclusion. The vision of our SRB is for all students to feel included and accepted, which will empower them to participate and make progress alongside their peers.

We encourage our students to be as big a part of the mainstream school as possible, and want the provision to be an emotionally secure place for our students at times where they may find aspects of mainstream school demanding.

### **Admission Criteria:**

In considering the parental request for a placement within Oldfield SRB, for students with ASC, the Local Authority must have regard to the following admission Criteria:

- In all cases the young person will have an EHC plan which clearly outlines their needs and the support required.
- The student will have the academic and cognitive ability to learn with peers of their own age group and have the potential to progress to further education.
- Students admitted to the base, with the support it offers, will be able to attend most lessons in the main school.
- Students whose needs are not compatible with that of their peers already in attendance, either in the SRB or the whole school may not be offered a place.
- The Resource Base will cater for KS3, KS4 and KS5 students.

### **Process for Placement**

- After the Headteacher and SENCO have reviewed the EHC plan of a referred student and responded to the Local Authority's consultation within the legal time frame of 15 calendar days the student and their parents/carers are invited for a tour of the school and a meeting with the Headteacher or SENCO.
- The young person's parent/carer(s) will engage in supporting the school policies on behaviour, uniform and learning and to celebrate the young person's achievements. The young person's parent/carer(s) understand that they must attend regular meetings at the school to review the young person's progress, engagement and achievement.
- If all parties agree that the placement is appropriate, arrangements will be put in place by Oldfield School and BANES and an agreed Transition Plan will be put in place.

### **Starting Oldfield School**

- Once the placement is agreed, the student and parents/carers are invited for a further meeting where the admission process is completed and a written Pupil Passport of the student is created with input from the parent and the student. This is referred to as a SEND Support Plan and is reviewed at least three times each year.
- A staged integration into the SRB may be used to support a smooth transition and once this has been successful a staged transition into the mainstream will be used.
- The SRB will work closely with a range of agencies and specialist teachers to create a personalised provision to meet individual's needs documented in the student's EHCP.
- The parents/carers will agree to fortnightly meetings with their child's Key Worker for at least the first term whilst they are settling into the Resource Base.

### **Placement Review**

- A review of the young person's progress takes place between six to eight weeks after the admission. This allows parents and staff to assess areas of concern and areas of success, which is then used to develop a SEND Support Plan
- In most cases an early annual review will be implemented to review the placement and ensure its continued success.

### **Assistance with travel to school**

- Assistance with travel can be applied for if parents/carers feel there is a need for support with home to school travel for the young person. Guidance on this can be obtained from BANES SEN travel team during the admission process.