



## Wightwick Hall Special School Local Offer

'Working Together We Will Succeed'

Wightwick Hall School is situated in an old stately home with extensive landscaped grounds, on the border of Staffordshire and Wolverhampton.

All students who attend Wightwick Hall have an Education, Health and Care Plan or a Statement of Educational Needs.

It is a generic secondary special school, educating students with a wide range of individual needs from the ages of 11-19. We have students with a combination of SEN which range from Autism (ASD), Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD), Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD), Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties (SEMH), Physical Difficulties (PI), Hearing Impairment (HI) and associated behavioural difficulties and complex health needs.

The Governing Body believes that all children regardless of ability and behaviour are valued equally and behaviour, are valued equally at the school. In order to meet the needs of all the students we have achieved Dyslexia Friendly Enhanced Status. We believe that this not only benefits the students with dyslexia tendencies but has a positive impact on the learning for all of our students.

The school comprises of three departments: Bannatyne, Gates and Roddick.

Bannatyne department is located in a separate single-story building and follows a secondary school model. The students are tutored in year groups, Year 7 to Year 11, and move between the classrooms to different subject teachers.

Gates department is located on the first floor of the main building and comprises of two classes (Class 3 and Class 4) and follows a primary model. These two classes have a high staff/student ratio and students remain within the class for the majority of their curriculum. A high level of structure is maintained (following TEACCH philosophy) within both classes to meet the needs of the students.

Roddick department includes three 6th form classes comprising of a mixture of year 12 to year 14 students. Two classes are located on the ground floor of the main building and follow a secondary model. The third class is based on the first floor of the main building and predominantly follows a primary model.

Classes are small and have a good staff/student ratio to meet the needs of our students. We encourage a classroom environment that fosters equality, diversity, respect and positive relationships.

Our curriculum is based on the National Curriculum, modified to enable all students to access each subject in a meaningful and purposeful way. We place great emphasis on our vocational and life skills curriculum, and partnership work. Students are able to achieve a wide range of qualifications, from EL1 to GCSE, to support them with future challenges and help prepare them for adult life. The school curriculum and all aspects of school life promoting fundamental British values and gives students the opportunity to practice the skills and attitudes required for them to participate fully in modern Britain.

All students are given the opportunity to take an active role in the leadership of the school, encouraging them to value themselves and recognise their own abilities and challenges.

We encourage, support and challenge all pupils to achieve their full potential, embracing individual needs and promoting their self-esteem.

We provide a caring, safe and secure environment where children and young adults are taught to understand their own place in their wider community.

We promote working partnerships and teamwork with parents, carers and external agencies, providing invaluable professionals such as Educational Psychologists, Careers Service, Speech and Language Therapists, and the School Nurse.

We utilise the school grounds, on-site coffee shop and local community to enhance the learning curriculum and to support students to practice and extend their social, life and vocational skills. We develop students' self-esteem, confidence and independence in preparation for adult life.

Progress is monitored and reported to parents/carers three times a year. All students have an annual review which provides another opportunity to evaluate progress. Parents/ Carers are welcomed and encouraged to contact the school to discuss any worries or concerns. Students have a home/school diary which enables and encourages regular communication between home and school.

All staff are highly skilled in meeting the individual learning, medical, behavioural and social needs of our students. Staff receive comprehensive and on-going training in meeting the students' needs. There is a continuous programme of training to develop and extend staff expertise.

Strong relationships have been formed with other education providers and the school is used to its full capacity. These links are used to enable students to access courses that are not offered at Wightwick Hall conversely, students from other schools attend Wightwick Hall to access the vocational course (construction) offered on our site. Our partnership work with other establishments and organisations enhances the range and quality of provision offered to our students.

Wightwick Hall School is part of the South Staffs School network in which very strong, supportive links have been established with six other secondary schools in the area benefiting our professional and curriculum development.

Wightwick Hall School welcomes visitors. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a visit, please do not hesitate to contact us.