

Hedgeway School

Pilning, Nr. Bristol



Welcome to Hedgeway School

Aurora Hedgeway School provides flexible specialist education and residential care for children and young people aged 8-19 years old with communication and associated difficulties. Students may be on the autistic spectrum, have Asperger's Syndrome or other difficulties that impact their emotional health and wellbeing and create barriers to learning.



About our School

At Aurora Hedgeway School we put students' needs first, because we know that once we understand their personal needs and individual learning styles we can provide the right level of support to enable them to learn more effectively and achieve their full potential. We work with students to prepare them for adulthood, whether that be further education, training or employment.

Hedgeway is a positive, vibrant and collaborative learning community where every young person is given the care, support and levels of challenge needed to develop not just their academic abilities, but also their self-confidence, life skills and independence.

The school provides day placements for 38 weeks of the year and the children's home offers flexible residential placements for up to 52 weeks of the year.



Set in two acres, the former farmhouse which is now the school, is undergoing a significant refurbishment and upgrade to provide a modern and enabling learning environment that meets the complex needs of our students.

The children's home is being relocated in the community with two new houses in Pilning and in north Bristol which will be ready for October 2017 and provide 6 and 4 beds.

Students develop their culinary skills in our teaching kitchen, learning how to make snacks, bake cakes and cook simple, nutritious meals. There is a thriving vegetable patch in the horticulture garden and a Forest School area used for structured outdoor learning sessions and particularly beneficial for those needing time out of the classroom. The school regularly accesses sports, leisure and cultural facilities in the busy, diverse city of Bristol and surrounding areas.

Our service and facilities include:

- Small classes of up to five students
- High staff ratios
- Integrated therapy
- Sensory Room
- Music Room
- Individual Learning areas
- Therapy spaces
- Horticultural Garden
- Hardcourt and playground area
- Food Technology room
- Library
- Forest School area

Education

All students have a personalised curriculum following the National Curriculum at Key Stages 2, 3 and 4, and we are currently developing our post 16 provision. At Hedgeway School we offer a 'stage' rather than 'age' provision where students learn alongside others with similar attainment levels in core subjects.

Focus is placed on social-emotional aspects of learning and student progress is carefully monitored to enable us to adjust programmes as needed to maximise their chances of success. There are a range of learning opportunities available and students benefit from an enhanced curriculum which includes life skills as well as accessing subjects such as Horticulture, Food Technology and languages.

Core subjects include English, Maths, Science, PSHE and Computing and students can also study Geography, History, Music and Art. As a registered Exam Centre, we offer GCSEs and ASDAN accreditation. Students can also study for a range of vocational qualifications.

Each class group has a maximum of five children who are grouped according to their age and compatibility. Class teachers create age appropriate and differentiated learning opportunities which take into account the group dynamics. Some students will have tailored learning programmes and may benefit from individual learning spaces at times with access to group sessions. Our aim is to include all students in group activities which support positive interaction and social skills development.

Students are encouraged to participate with group work and also to spend time in other parts of the school. Some older students support others in their lessons and each week everyone meets for Pupil Parliament, where achievements are celebrated and any concerns shared and talked through.



Residential Living

Two new children's homes will support a total of 10 residents, each with their own room. The houses have a mix of en-suite and shared bathroom facilities. There are communal spaces for socialising and dining, which give young people space to meet and get involved in daily activities or to simply relax.

Each house has a large kitchen and choosing, preparing and cooking meals is part of the daily routine to develop independence and daily living skills. This includes shopping at nearby supermarkets and shops, visiting cafés and getting involved in the many leisure activities on offer in the local community and Bristol City.

Young people and staff plan evening activities together for the week ahead. These might be going out, taking a shopping trip, helping to make the evening meal, attending an after school club or simply enjoying some down-time and spending time with housemates.

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