



**Sheridan**  
**School**



# Sheridan School

Sheridan School is an independent, specialist day school for boys and girls aged 8 to 16 years who have complex needs which may include social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) difficulties, an autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) including Asperger syndrome or other specific learning difficulties.

Many of our young people have experienced considerable disruption to their education as a result of their difficulties and may lack confidence in their own abilities. We aim to nurture and develop academic skills and self-belief through an integrated holistic approach, centred on individual education and therapy, to help our young people to thrive effectively in an ever-demanding and complex society. This is achieved through personalised multidisciplinary assessments and highly individual education programmes.

Our ethos is grounded in valuing individuals, in order to develop an appropriate profile of personal qualities and values. This includes reflective thinking, self-belief and through engagement in a positive and appropriate curriculum to ensure that positive outcomes are achieved.

## Services offered

- A framework where students can learn to take responsibility for the control of their own behaviours
- A unique environment where students can thrive
- High staff to pupil ratios
- Small teaching groups
- A culture in which students feel safe, secure, respected and valued
- Individualised programmes for education and therapy
- A positive and respectful ethos which celebrates and rewards success and progress
- A multidisciplinary approach integrating education and therapy programmes







## Admissions criteria

- Girls and boys aged 8 to 16 years with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) difficulties and an autistic spectrum disorder (ASD)
- An education, health and care plan
- Other difficulties including specific learning difficulties, attention deficit disorder (ADD) and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)

## Safe and supportive community living

The physical environment of Sheridan School plays an important part in the holistic experience of our young people.

All meals are well-balanced, nutritious and reflect the cultural diversity and needs of our young people. In addition, the school is fully-approved by the DfE and offers the full national curriculum with GCSEs and other nationally accredited qualifications.

## Holistic approach

- Access to an Occupational Therapist, Clinical Psychologist, and a Speech and Language Therapist
- Access to a Music Therapist
- Therapeutic input

## Case study: Sam's story

Sam\* arrived at Sheridan school in May 2017 at the age of nine. In his review paperwork, Sam was described as having behaviour that had 'deteriorated to the point where his peers were frightened of him – he had recently attacked peers with a branch of a tree', and was unable to enter any classroom and needed on-going out of classroom activities. After a slow transition through the Nurture Unit, Sam transitioned into one of the primary classes. Read more about his story below.

"I joined the secondary department of Sheridan School in 2019 and I was finding my time at school difficult. I often found it difficult to engage in my learning and I would sometimes get angry and find it hard to control my behaviour. Staff would often have to help me with my behaviour by physically supporting me.

When I first joined my new class in secondary, I found it difficult to adjust to some of the changes and make new friends. I had a part time transition timetable to allow me to settle into the secondary department in a way that I felt comfortable. After a few weeks, I was able to build some good relationships with my Teachers and Teaching Assistants, and was coming to school every day on a full time basis. I have made some good friends in my class and we really like playing outside together at break and lunch times.

I really like it at Sheridan School because I have the same staff all through the day and this is good for me because I have autism and I don't like change. When I go to other subjects that I enjoy like PE or Food Technology, my Teaching Assistants always come with me so I always have an adult I have a good relationship with in the room with me.

I used to hate writing but it was okay because my Teacher helped me to find new ways to record my work such as taking photographs, drawing and using a computer to type up my ideas.

I have been having one-to-one weekly music therapy sessions and this has really helped me to communicate my feelings in a different way. My Therapist always speaks to my Teacher and they can talk about the different things that I am struggling with and help me to learn new ways to deal with these.

I really like the school shop where I can pick things that I would like to buy with my tokens. I love going to the shops with my class and picking different Hot Wheels cars that I can exchange for the token that I earn each day in class for making good choices.

My Teacher will speak to my mum every day and explain to her what sort of day I have had. I really like this because then mum knows what I have been learning about at school and I can get rewards at school and home when I make good choices."

## Contact us

For information on our specialist education and care services, please contact us today.

**Call: 01366 726 040**

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