



# Britain is open for business

## How the Priory Group supports International Students with Special Educational Needs



A REAL AND LASTING DIFFERENCE FOR EVERYONE WE SUPPORT

# Why Great Britain?

- World leader in education, at all levels from primary education through to university
- Well respected and widely accepted educational accreditation and curriculum
- A leader in special education interventions and support
- Acceptance and understanding SEN children - Fully inclusive education, all children have had the right to a full education for over 70 years
- Proven track record embracing overseas students and working with agents
- After the Brexit announcement, currency exchange is favourable for overseas placements

# Workshop overview

- Introduction to Priory Education and Children's Services
- What do we mean by Special Educational Needs (SEN)?
- Identifying needs - The assessment process
- Global incidence of SEN
- Identifying and assessing children
- Special education for special children
- Supporting parents and carers
- Outcomes for young people
- The child's journey



# Introducing Priory Education and Children's Services

- Established for over 25 years, comprising of over 30 specialist schools and colleges across the UK
- Market leader within the independent specialist need education sector in the UK, with continued growth including registering 6 new schools in 2015 alone
- Meeting the educational needs of children who have a range of learning difficulties
- Offering flexible and bespoke options for parents struggling to find an effective school for their child
- Providing young people with excellent provision so that they are happy, safe and well-prepared for adult life, and the challenges in their future

# Introducing Priory Education and Children's Services

- A range of accreditation routes including GCSE's and A Levels
- Delivering the best possible outcomes for each child through bespoke learning in small classrooms, offering a high level of support
- Investing in processes and robust structures that ensure all our young people are safe and have high quality experiences



# Our schools and colleges





# Special educational needs

We specifically work with children who are affected by:

- **Autism**  
Often non-verbal with severe communication needs who want to maintain the sameness of the world around them and are isolated
- **High functioning autism and Asperger's syndrome**  
Difficulties understanding the social world around them and struggle to function within conventional settings
- **Dyslexia**  
Difficulties with spelling and memory problems, and also difficulties in reading
- **Social, emotional and behavioural difficulties**  
Affected by family trauma or emotional problems resulting in challenging behaviour
- **Mental health problems**  
Mental health problems including personality disorders, eating disorders, harmful behaviour, self-harm or issues with alcohol and drugs addiction.

# Identifying young people who need specialist support

- Behaviours that don't follow the milestone level of development for that age
- Parents who instinctively know something is 'wrong' but don't know what to do
- Children who are struggling to make progress
- Children who are inward focussed, poor at play and socialising
- Challenging behaviour or appearing 'rude' and uncaring
- Often failed in conventional schools
- Poor levels of academic achievement and/or social understanding
- Environmental factors appearing to impact the young person's senses





# A global need for young people with specialist needs

**65**

65 cases of autism per 10,000 in UK, US, Japan and Scandinavia

**1%**

Studies in autism show that globally, autism affects approximately 1% of the population

**1**

1 educational Psychologist to every 1m young people in Middle East and Africa

**44**

44 new Special Educational Needs schools opened in past 5 years in Kuwait

**500%**

Increase of 500% of young people into Priory Group in past 2 years

**1.1m**

1.1m young people diagnosed with autism in China and 2m in India

# The assessment process

- Our assessments are undertaken by a range of professionals including psychologists, teachers and therapists to sensitively identify each child's needs, set goals and appropriate intervention programmes
- Sensitive assessments to the needs of the child, always carried out in the least obtrusive way for the young person
- Ensuring place matching for children through looking at a range of environments across academic, emotional, social needs and peer group
- The whole family is heavily involved in the process
- Some countries do not necessarily have access to the expertise required to assess young people with special needs, this is where Priory can offer support and help.

# How is a special school different?

- Highly trained specialist teachers and learning support staff who empathise and understand the special needs of the children
- Small classes, typically 6-8 children with at least a teacher and support assistant per class
- Predictable, structured environments wrapped around the needs of the children with high levels of support
- A focus on a broader curriculum. Life skills and social skills designed to support independent living and employability



## How is a special school different?

- A range of specialist programmes to help reduce anxiety, support communication and social understanding or to address challenging behaviours
- Specialist support through speech and language, occupational art and drama therapists. Access also to an educational psychologist
- Tailored, bespoke access to the British curriculum to support best possible outcomes
- Schools that are designed to reduce anxiety and stimulation, specialist environments

# How do we support parents and carers?

- A wide range of flexible boarding and care options
- Support with Tier 4 licensing through specialist lawyers
- Support for the child with travel to and from home
- Access to guardianships where required
- Specialist support materials and resources, guidance and support for behavioural support and management beyond school
- Individual staff liaising and reporting to parents back home via a single point of contact to keep parents informed and involved
- Specialist diets for children where required
- Support to help young people back into mainstream schools where possible



# Additional services

- **Visa**

We have a dedicated team that are up-to-date with government changes and will be able to guide you about the Child Tier 4 visa and Tier 4 visa requirements.

Parents can accompany their children under the 'Parent of a Child at School' visa if they are under 12 years old.

- **English as an additional language**

In case English is not the main language, we offer tailored English classes.

- **Being away from home**

Our schools and accommodation is designed for the student to feel at home. Our teachers, administrators, and councillors are there for them 24/7 if needed.

- **Cultural issues**

We have students from different cultures, religions and backgrounds. Students will study in an English environment but will also be able to freely practice their own faith and beliefs.



# Educational and learning outcomes

## Learning outcomes in 2015

At sites where students are entered for GCSEs:

- **94%** gained one or more GCSE at A\* - G
- **46%** gained one or more GCSE at A\* - C

Priory is also proud to report that in 2015, **98.4%** of leavers successfully moved onto employment, education, training and/or independent supported living arrangements.

## Regulatory outcomes in 2015

- In 2015, all our specialist FE colleges inspected were graded as 'Good'
- In 2015, seven of our schools were judged to be 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted



# Summary

- Understand and assess the needs of children who are otherwise struggling and failing in mainstream settings
- Support children to achieve good outcomes through high levels of support
- Flexible education and boarding options
- Support for the child and parent through specialist programmes
- Help with Tier 4 licensing

***"Britain is open for business"***  
Teresa May, Prime Minister (September 2016)

# Priory children's learning journey

## Needs

"My learning difficulties means attending school is hard for me."

"I get worried about being made fun of and failing."

"I have never been able to attend school, teachers just don't understand me."

## Care, education and empathy

"A flagship school that is designed to enable our child to learn and succeed."

"A professional team that really understands special children."

"A school which really knows how to get the best out of the students."

## Partnerships

"The school involves us at every stage and keeps us informed about my child's progress."

"They make learning enjoyable and relevant."

"It's easy to drop him off and catch up with his tutor and other parents."

## Outcomes

"I have proper qualifications and I want to carry on learning."

"I have studied some great new subjects."

"I understand more about me and I am proud of who I am."

# Get in touch

For more information about how our specialist schools and colleges could help young people you know:

Call us today on

**+44 (0)208 108 5170**

Alternatively, email us at

**[Educationenquiries@priorygroup.com](mailto:Educationenquiries@priorygroup.com)**

