

PRIORY

EDUCATION AND
CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Priory Telford School



A REAL AND LASTING DIFFERENCE FOR EVERYONE WE SUPPORT

Introduction

Priory Telford School is an independent day school, located in a rural setting within a former old forge. The building is Grade 2 listed and near to the historical Shropshire town of Ironbridge.

The school specialises in providing education services to 18 young people between the ages of 11 and 18 years, with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs. Our aim is to build the resilience and skills of the young people we support, to enable an independent, fulfilled life beyond education.

A bespoke package of learning support

Every element of the educational programme at Priory Telford School centres around the individual needs of the young people that we support.

These include:

- **A broad and balanced curriculum with individualised learning programmes in small groups**
- **Modern and well-equipped facilities designed to meet young people's holistic needs**
- **A bespoke package of community based learning and individualised classroom based activities**
- **The development of functional skills and national qualifications, including GCSEs, A Levels and BTECs**
- **An experienced and dedicated staff team, with high staff to pupil ratios**
- **An emphasis on individual achievement and personal development**
- **Preparation for further/higher education and employment**
- **A culture in which pupils feel safe, secure and valued**



Our aims and personalised curriculum

All of the young people that attend our school have complex and diverse needs. They will have often experienced a number of previous educational breakdowns before arriving, which means that we have to be creative in order to re-engage them in learning. The curriculum model that best suits their needs will be agreed on entry to the school, and a personalised package will be put together.

There is a focus on preparing the young people for life beyond Priory Telford School and developing their academic, vocational, social, emotional and life skills, to prepare them for their individual pathway, and preparing them for life beyond their educational career.

The main purpose of the curriculum at Priory Telford School is to:

- **Provide the young people with the necessary skills, knowledge and qualifications that will prepare them in their future transitions into further education, employment or training**
- **Ensure at the core of the curriculum, that there is a focus on developing social and emotional skills, so that the young people are increasingly more able to manage themselves, and interact beyond the school community and into the wider community**

The Priory Telford School curriculum will inspire and challenge all learners and prepare them for the future. The curriculum specifically helps the young people we support to:

- **Achieve high standards and make good progress**
- **More easily progress by ensuring that their access to the curriculum is relevant to ability, not age**
- **Have and be able to use social skills, and understand and manage their emotions**
- **Support each young person to progress in-line with their individual Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) objectives**

Achieving positive outcomes

Priory Telford School's curriculum is designed to achieve positive outcomes for the young people that we support. We ensure that all pupils receive a minimum of 25 hours of education and are taught in small class groups. The outcomes include:

- Developing linguistic abilities
- Developing individual literacy skills, including functional literacy, where appropriate
- Developing individual mathematical ability, including functional numeracy, where appropriate
- Empowering young people to become confident, responsible, healthy, safe learners and citizens
- Developing learning and metacognitive skills
- Building self-reliant and problem solving learners
- Developing young peoples' identity, sense of self-worth and promoting positive self-esteem
- Supporting young people to self-regulate and manage their emotions
- Achieving qualifications that are valued by employers and meet the requirements for entry to further and higher education
- Preparing young people to make appropriate choices
- Ensuring continuity and progression within the school and between phases of education
- Fostering teaching styles which will offer and encourage a variety of relevant learning opportunities
- Helping young people to develop social, moral, cultural and spiritual values
- Helping young people to learn about fundamental British values, as well as learning about other religious, cultural beliefs and ways of life
- Understanding the risks associated with living in the 21st Century digital world



A safe and supportive learning environment

Priory Telford School is situated in a tranquil, rural setting, surrounded by woodland. There is a grassed lawn area providing suitable space for pupils to play outside.

The building was previously an old forge that has been converted to provide a range of modern facilities, including two classrooms and a large open plan multi-purpose space, which incorporates a kitchen.





Recent quotes from Ofsted

Priory Telford School has been rated as 'Good' overall and in all of the assessment categories by Ofsted, following its first inspection. Please find below quotes from our recent inspection report.

In the Ofsted report for Priory Telford School, inspectors said: **"The headteacher's and lead teacher's commitment to improving the lives of their pupils is admirable."**

The report continued: **"This is a small school where pupils feel 'safe and comfortable'... Pupils behave well because they know that the staff care for them and want them to do well... On arrival at this school, the anxieties from their previous schools begin to diminish. Pupils say that it is easier to work hard if you know everyone around you cares."**

Throughout the report, inspectors praised the teaching and curriculum: **"Pupils here enjoy their learning."** And: **"Pupils do well because teachers create a personalised and well-ordered learning plan for each pupil that provides a broad and rich curriculum. They find exciting and motivating ways of teaching their subjects."**

The experiences available to the young people are also highlighted in the report: **"Lots of worthwhile experiences help pupils to develop personally and socially. For example, pupils have opportunities to raise money for charities such as Comic Relief. Pupils also volunteer to help at The Dog's Trust that focuses on re-homing dogs."**



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