



Sandwell
Learning Centre

School Prospectus
2023 - 2024

Proprietor details

Witherslack Group

Lupton Tower

Lupton

Cumbria

LA6 2PR

Tel: 015395 66081

Email: admin@witherslackgroup.co.uk

Head Teacher's name and contact details

Mr Andrew Southwell

Andrew.Southwell@witherslackgroup.co.uk

Holiday contact details

Sandwell@witherslackgroup.co.uk

Ethos

Sandwell Learning Centre is an independent school, which delivers a differentiated curriculum for children and young people aged between 8 and 19 years who have communication, emotional, social, behavioural and learning difficulties.

The specialist curriculum, secure in national curriculum requirements is tailored to our pupils' individual needs. There is an underlying focus on learning and consolidating the skills that the pupils need in order for them to lead independent and fulfilled lives through employment and positive community engagement.

We offer a bespoke curriculum for each pupil. Our curriculum planning reflects this and each pupil will have success criteria and individual learning objectives shared with them for each lesson based on their individual targets. Drawing upon the interests of the pupils, we facilitate learning opportunities through our engagement curriculum and through intervention sessions such as music lessons and horse riding.

Every pupil is unique and their personal development, EHCP and academic needs are at the forefront of our delivery and expectation. Our approach is child-centered, with high expectations for each pupil with a curriculum offer after baseline assessments are completed that is broad, balanced and highly relevant. The qualification choice is based on age, aptitude and individual needs.

Many of our pupils may have had adverse childhood experiences (ACE's) or experienced trauma; we use trauma informed practice across our setting. We adopt a 'Why this? Why now?' approach so that the building blocks of their knowledge can promote and embed lifelong learning.

Details regarding admission process

The Sandwell site is an Integrated Therapeutic Provision, that can cater for co-educational, specialist 52 week fully integrated, therapeutic, education and care facility situated on a 7 acre site near Burford.

The provision meets the needs of young people aged 8-19 exhibiting a diverse range of social, emotional and behavioural difficulties, alongside other associated conditions.

Applications are considered by our admissions panel and a non-prejudicial visit will then be arranged. Following this visit a place may be offered to pupils whose needs can be fully addressed by the school. Fees and NASS approved contracts will then be agreed with local authorities.

Referrals can be made throughout the academic year. If you wish to discuss making a referral please contact Witherslack Group Placement Team.

Details for consideration of pupils/ parents whose first language is not English

On admission, a child's need for additional support is identified. Appropriate provision is then established prior to the pupil's start date. One to one support from a bi-lingual support assistant will be provided if this is an identified requirement.

Details of complaints procedure

In accordance with the Children's Act 1989, all students at Sandwell Learning Centre have access to a Complaints Procedure. Informal complaints or concerns will be initially addressed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Formal complaints directly from the child or via a parent/carer or member of staff should be reported directly to the Head Teacher.

Complaints or concerns arising from adults also follow set procedures. Firstly the concern should be addressed informally with the Learning Centre. Any complaints would be taken extremely seriously.

Copies of these policies and procedures are available on request.

Statement regarding accessing exam results

Exam results are accessed in accordance with to the Awarding Body Policies and Procedures. Dates are published annually by Awarding bodies and we are compliant with their processes. Examination results can be obtained by contacting the Learning Centre's Head Teacher.

Safeguarding Mission Statement

Sandwell Learning Centre is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our students. We believe in the importance of working with partner agencies to ensure that students are kept safe, happy and healthy. All staff working here are made aware of the need of protection and how to respond to these concerns.

Where we suspect that a child has been abused or neglected, we have a statutory duty to make a referral to relevant agencies. Where local procedures allow, we will inform the parent[s] of the referral. The school will share any information relevant to the referral with those agencies and will contribute to any assessments being undertaken.

We have a Safeguarding Policy and all staff are supported by our designated Safeguarding Leads:-

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ashley Winn

Deputy DSLs: Gemma Watkins

If you require further support on safeguarding matters you can contact

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH): 0345 050 7666
(8.30am – 5pm, Monday to Thursday, 8.30am – 4pm, Friday)

Out of Hours Team: 0800 833 408

Promoting General Welfare

Anti-Bullying

We pride ourselves on our warm and caring atmosphere. All members of our community are entitled to safety and protection and therefore bullying will not be tolerated. We have clear policies and guidelines raising awareness in staff, children and young people to signs of bullying.

Health and Safety

At Sandwell Learning Centre Health and Safety is co-ordinated by Callum Kaye. The whole site has internal health and safety checks in place for the maintenance staff to complete, with an action plan put in place to rectify any faults. The Witherslack Group's Management and Risk Assessment Teams visit and audit the school each term.

First Aid/Medical Care

All staff as part of their induction training complete a one-day Basic First Aid course for children's services. All First Aid training is followed up with refresher training every three years.

Staff in the Learning Centre are trained in the administration of medication should they be required. All medication is recorded and kept in a locked medical cupboard.

Details regarding staffing and recruitment

Sandwell Learning Centre follows a rigorous recruitment process in order to recruit high quality staff and ensure that children and young people are kept safe. Senior Leaders involved in the recruitment process undertake Safer Recruitment training and all staff employed within the school are subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Within the Learning Centre we have a Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher, Assistant Head Teacher, 5 full time Teachers, 6 full time Teaching Assistants, 1 cook, 2 maintenance staff, a domestic assistant, a Pastoral Manager, a Pastoral Deputy Manager and 1 Pastoral Assistant.

Attendance Data

We expect a high attendance rate here at Sandwell Learning Centre and will make sure that support is put in place in order to achieve this.



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