



# SHAPWICK SCHOOL

## **Shapwick School SEN Information Report 2016**

This SEN Information Report will be updated annually to reflect changes and plans within the school. The report states the current provision within Shapwick School and Sixth Form.

### **What are the kinds of special educational needs for which provision is made at Shapwick School?**

Shapwick School is an independent day and boarding school for children aged 8 - 18 years who have a diagnosis of SpLD (Specific Learning Difficulties). Children will be provided with an appropriately paced and differentiated curriculum. The school also has a sixth form provision that works in partnership with Strode and Bridgwater Colleges to provide a wide range of Further Education courses.

Admissions to both the school and sixth form are within the admissions policies on the website [www.shapwickschool.com](http://www.shapwickschool.com)

In Shapwick School - the pupil's identified needs will be defined by SpLD but they may also have associated needs in the areas of communication, interaction and/or speech and language difficulties. In addition pupils may have sensory difficulties.

More detail on our commitment to high quality educational provision for all our children is detailed in our Teaching and Learning Policy.

### **What are the school's policies for the identification and assessment of students attending the school?**

All pupils who attend Shapwick School will be under assessment by the therapeutic and teaching teams or have a statement of special educational needs or an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

We continue to work along the national guidelines of transferring all our pupils' statements of special educational needs to Education, Health and Care Plans.

Further information on the admissions and assessment processes to our school can be found on our website.

## **What is the provision for students at Shapwick School and how is it evaluated?**

All local authority placed students attending Shapwick School will have a Statement of SEN or an EHC Plan. Privately placed students will generally have a recent Educational Psychologist's Report accompanied by a range of independent reports from Speech and Language Therapists and/or Occupational Therapists.

Our provision has five Core Values:

Communication

Achievement

Respect

Empathy

Our vision is to travel the same road to success as mainstream schools but use different steps.

We believe that all staff have a responsibility to meet the needs of all the students at Shapwick School. Underlying the vision are strong values which have been compiled by the staff with input from parents and the Advisory Board.

Our key purpose is the construction, delivery and constant improvement of quality learning experiences appropriate to the needs of all our students.

To achieve our vision we aim to:

- Create a happy and secure learning environment where all students' needs are met and where achievements and success are recognised and praised.
- Ensure that all the National Curriculum/statutory curriculum guidance is delivered to all students.
- Ensure that ICT is an essential vehicle to access and enhance the curriculum and communication for pupils.
- Ensure that e-safeguarding is paramount in keeping all members of the school community safe.
- Provide all staff with training and development opportunities to enable effective practice.
- Promote the students' spiritual, physical and emotional well-being so that they are secure, confident and well-motivated.
- Help students acquire the knowledge, skills and confidence which enable them to lead as full, interesting and independent lives as possible.
- Develop in students, personal responsibility and encourage decision-making and choice.
- Provide a wide range of age-appropriate learning experiences, which are both exciting and challenging.

- Offer opportunities of working co-operatively alongside others, developing friendships and respect for others.
- Provide students with experiences of their own and other religious and cultural backgrounds and values.
- Foster relationships with parents and other professionals.

Further details of all areas of our school curriculum and assessment processes can be found on our website.

Students are usually taught in classes of up to 8 with one teacher.

We have a school self-evaluation document and improvement plan and evaluate this through-out the year. There are link advisors for all aspects of the plan and this supports the evaluation of our progress towards any aims. We also have a school evaluation each year to highlight progress and achievements. This is managed by The Advisory Board.

### **What training do staff have in relation to the needs of students at Shapwick School?**

Shapwick School is highly committed to ongoing training of staff. Training information is held on the Training Matrix and this is used to highlight any training that is due for renewal for individual members of staff.

All staff have clear job descriptions which detail the required qualifications for each post in school. Training is specifically related to the needs of children in our school and also as required by statutory guidance.

Some staff continue to gain a range of certificates to mark their commitment to courses such as Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care, First Aid and Outward Bound related activities including D of E, Climbing, Potholing, Archery and Kayaking.

We have a Facilities Manager who is responsible for Health and Safety across the school site. The Deputy Head who delivers PREVENT training. Somerset Local Safeguarding Children's Board deliver Safeguarding training to the staff team.

We always look for opportunities to bring highly regarded national/international speakers to Shapwick School for staff to be inspired and supported by in their work with our pupils.

### **How will equipment and facilities be provided to support students at Shapwick School?**

Shapwick School is a specialist provision and as such is responsive to individual student needs. The school adopts an holistic approach and teachers, therapy staff and residential staff combine to ensure that there is a personalised programme in place for each student.

We have reviewed and enhanced curriculum resources this year including the introduction of Accelerated Reader.

Our SEN policy details the wide range of provision for our students including the range of approaches for students with different needs. This policy can be found on our website and is reviewed annually.

All parents and families are welcome to visit the school prior to their child or young person attending the school.

### **What are the arrangements for consulting parents of children/young people at Shapwick School and involving them in the education of their child?**

At Shapwick School - parents are fully included in the process of working with their children/young adults.

This includes:

- Initial visits to school
- Introductory meetings
- Trial periods
- Tutor and teacher feedback
- Half-termly reports
- Annual Review meeting and report
- Parent - Teacher meetings
- Parent involvement in changes in school through informal and formal consultations

### **What are the arrangements for consulting young people at Shapwick School about, and involving them in, their education?**

All children and young people in our school are treated with dignity and respect. There is full personalisation for the curriculum for each student in order that they can access and experience success through-out their school life.

The School Council involves students to contribute and decide on aspects of school life relating to their needs.

The Food Focus Group influences the provision of food across the school day.

The assessment and annual review process of statements of SEN and EHC Plans includes the choices and views of students.

### **What are the arrangements made by the Advisory Board for dealing with complaints from parents/carers of students in relation to the provision made at Shapwick School?**

The process for all complaints is made available in the Compliments and Complaints Policy available on the website. This is updated annually.

**How does the Advisory Board involve others - including health, social services, local authority services and voluntary organisations, in meeting the needs of students at Shapwick School and in supporting their families.**

The Advisory Board are aware of the wide range of staff working together within the school to support the children, young people and their families. The staff team includes teachers, therapists, residential staff, catering staff, maintenance staff and a range of ancillary workers including drivers and cleaners.

The Advisory Board consists of some professionals with backgrounds in Care Services, Education, Health and Safety, HR and Finance. There is consistent monitoring of practice to ensure that Students' needs are met through meetings and reports.

Most staff including therapists are employed directly by the school. We have some peripatetic tuition in dance, trumpet and singing.

Transport – the school has four minibuses and a car. Students are transported to and from their Boarding Houses and to and from College.

**What are the school's arrangements for supporting pupils/students in transferring between phases of education or in preparing for adulthood?**

All transitions are well planned for through-out school as students move from class to class and phase to phase. Parents/carers always have the opportunity to meet the new teacher and the wider team.

Students are increasingly supported in planning for their transition from school to college and on into adult life.