



Arbour House College

Prospectus 2017 - 2018

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WELCOME TO ARBOUR HOUSE COLLEGE

Arbour House College is an independent specialist college for young people over the age of 16 years with complex social and communication needs. It is based in Weymouth, Dorset in the heart of a small seaside town.

This location gives the college an ideal place to learn Independent Living Skills. Arbour House College is supported by a range of additional services which enables young people to develop skills within their community, work placements, family unit and supported living environments giving students the best possible outcomes.

We offer a bespoke practical vocational education based on individual strengths and interests with a focus on independent living skills, self-determination, interpersonal skills and employment opportunities. Additional services to support education including a short breaks and residential service and a buddying system to enable young people to build on skills learnt at the college. Please look on our website for a list of all services offered to young people and their families.

Our approach ensures that every individual young person has a bespoke outcome focused curriculum to support life-long learning.

About our College

At Arbour House College we provide an inclusive and bespoke curriculum which is tailored to the student. We are dedicated to ensuring a safe and supportive environment in which everyone is able to learn and develop sustainable life skills.

The College is committed to promoting the vocational education, personal and social development of students with complex social and communication needs.

Our qualified teaching staff team have the expertise to ensure that each learning opportunity is fully personalised and unique to each student.

Our support staff are also highly committed to ensuring the development of skills to ensure students achieve their long term goals.



Aims

To provide young people with the skills needed to transition successfully into adulthood by providing a bespoke further education based on individual strengths and skills to enable our students' greater independence and where appropriate employment opportunities within their local communities.

We do this by:

Accurately assessing strengths and areas for learning to enable targeted, outcome focused interventions

Continue an intensive travel training programme to enable young people to move around their community independently

Working in partnership with other educational providers and employers to ensure young people can access appropriate accredited courses and work placements

Giving young people the opportunity to develop hobbies and interests which enables them to make good use of their leisure time

Providing work related opportunities to give young people greater opportunity to make a contribution to work and employment

Using TEACCH approach and methodologies to acquire work related skills and job coaching

Further developing communication skills and functional literacy, numeracy and ICT skills

Multi disciplinary approach

The staffing team at the College consists of a number of roles each with its own professional discipline. We use Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) to help our students acquire new skills and participate in every day life.



Community

Arbour House College aims to be inclusive and values the links that we have established with the local community and those we intend to develop. It is important that students have the opportunity to access their community as part of daily life. We believe that developing social skills is intrinsic to every day learning and prepares young people for adulthood.

Equality, diversity & Inclusion

Arbour House College is committed to eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and other conduct under the Equality Act 2010.

Inclusive learning is central to our values and principles, personalised support programmes and curriculum offer demonstrates our focus on understanding and responding to the individual's learning requirements.

At Arbour House College we believe that students should be empowered, involved and at the centre of the decisions about their learning experiences.

We will work with students and their families to listen to the view of students in order to develop an individual curriculum which meets the individual needs and makes sense to them.

Working with parents and carers

At Arbour House College we believe that working in partnership with parents, carers and advocates in regards to the student's education is paramount to achieving success, and strong links are encouraged.

Effective and consistent communication between school and the home are important in developing positive relationships with benefit the students.

Arbour House actively encourages parents, carers and advocates to come into the college for informal discussions and meetings throughout the term, and more formally at termly parents meetings and annual person centred reviews.



Progress, Partnership & Participation

<p>PROGRESS</p>	<p>At Arbour House we aim to support individuals by developing positive behaviour strategies in a bespoke and nurturing environment. Enabling pupils to develop academic, social and emotional skills needed to progress into mainstream or other settings including college.</p>
<p>PARTNERSHIPS</p>	<p>At Arbour House School we work in partnership with other schools and the community to provide individualised education, either as a full time placement or as part of a specific and targeted piece of work which will assist in supporting pupils to progress into a wider setting and placements within the community.</p>
<p>PARTICIPATION</p>	<p>It is important for pupils to develop skills that will support them to participate in their local community. Within the individualised curriculum programme there is an emphasis on life based learning through participation in shopping, going to the bank, meeting peers, going to cafes, attending other college facilities, vocational opportunities and work experience.</p>

The Curriculum offer

The study programmes

Arbour House College delivers individualised programmes of learning which follow the four pathways developed by the Preparing for Adulthood framework.



www.preparingforadulthood.co.uk

Good Health

Within our PHSE curriculum we will work with students to develop skills and understanding around their health, self awareness, forming friendships and staying healthy.

Employment

There is a strong emphasis on supporting young people to develop employable skills. For some young people this may mean on independence skills, communication or staying safe. All students will have the opportunity to undertake work experience.

Independent living and housing

A large amount of the curriculum is delivered in the community through practical learning. Activities such as cooking, shopping and accessing the community is intrinsic to what we offer.

Friends, relationships & community

We recognise that communication and social understanding maybe a challenge and are conscious that forming relationships are part of everyday family life. The College is committed to a total communication approach to ensure students are able to communicate effectively in all aspects of their lives.

Referrals

It is important that parents and carers make the local authority aware that they are considering Arbour House College.

Parents are encouraged to visit the College, and we ask that professionals complete a pre-assessment form. Any supporting paperwork such as Education, Health and Care Plans are also required.

When the local authority consults with us for a placement we follow the guidelines set out in the SEN code of practice.



Our admissions policy is available to download from www.potens/young-people/college

Assessment

Once we have received the pre-assessment information and made a decision on whether Arbour House can meet the young person's needs we will then proceed to assessment.

When we have completed the assessment visit(s) we will complete an assessment form and we then discuss at our admissions meeting to a decision on offering a place. We will inform parents and carers of the outcome.

Placements

The student's local authority will make the final decision on placement and should always take into account the views of the parents and carers.

Under the Children and Families Act 2014, a parent or student can name a preferred college in an Education, Health and Care Plan.

Safeguarding & PREVENT

Arbour House College gives the highest priority to safeguarding the welfare of all young people. It recognises its responsibility to take all reasonable steps to promote safe practice and to protect and prevent children from harm, abuse and exploitation.

All Arbour House staff and volunteers will endeavour to work together through our policies, practices and procedures to encourage the development of an ethos which embraces difference and diversity and respects the rights of young people and adults in its care.

The College works in partnership with parents/carers, advocates, the local safeguarding board and all staff that there is clarity and understanding of the organisation's robust and comprehensive safeguarding policy including its whistle blowing procedures.

Staying Safe

Arbour House College recognises the importance of staying safe within the college, in the community and in all aspects of life, including staying safe online.



Each student at Arbour House College has a detailed risk assessment which is reflective and based upon their individual needs. Risk assessments complement the changing the needs of each student are updated to recognise a change in their needs or the relevant success of students ability to recognise, control and manage their own personal development.

The designated lead for safeguarding is the Executive Head Teacher

Our Structure

Arbour House College is led by the Executive Head Teacher and the Headteacher. The quality of teaching and learning is the most important aspect of the students' experience and this is overseen by the Headteacher.

In addition, Potens has a Behaviour Specialist whose role is to provide high quality support for learning both in classroom settings and in the community.

All staff undergo robust training and on-going review and development to ensure that they have the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to carry out their work to a high standard in all environments.

Governance

Arbour House School and College is an independent provision privately owned by Potensial Ltd t/a Potens

The Board of Proprietor's role (The Board) is to support the Senior Leadership Team, to ensure effective oversight of Arbour House College through the monitoring and review of agreed specific responsibilities.

There is an Advisory Board of professionals who are volunteers who are drawn from community and key stakeholders. They are involved in the monitoring, review and evaluation of the college, student progress and development.

www.potens-uk.com

Life After College

Each student works towards a transition outcome. This may be to live more independently, to gain full or part-time employment or move on to supported living. Whatever the long term outcome may be, and it may change during their time with us, we support the student by teaching the key skills needed to help to make their goals a reality. The transition process begins during the student's first year and often includes discussion and collaboration with other agencies.



After College, students can benefit from a one to two year placement within Potens transition house. These highly individualised services provide a stepping stone towards a more independent life. Potens Domiciliary Care Agency also provides support to individuals living in their own or family home to achieve greater independence and a lifestyle that enables them to enjoy their rights as citizens.

Contact Information

The following information is available on our website:

- Admissions policy
- Behaviour policy
- Curriculum policy
- Health & Safety
- Complaints and compliments
- Safeguarding adults
- Safeguarding children and young people
- Safer recruitment

Chairman of Proprietors Board

John Farragher

Chief Operating Officer

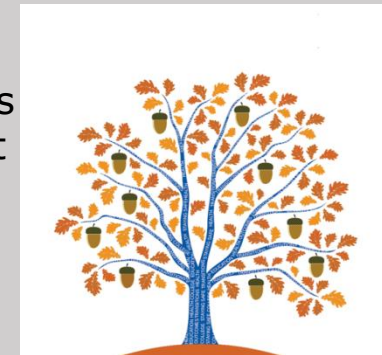
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