

# Arbour House Sixth Form



## Sixth Form Prospectus

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## Welcome to Arbour House Sixth Form

Arbour House Sixth Form provides a bespoke education for students aged 16-18 years with a range of complex needs, including SLD, MLD, ADHD, ASD and related social and communication difficulties.

The Sixth Form has its own suite of rooms, furnished and equipped to a high standard.



We offer all students the opportunity to engage in their local community and to develop positive and trusting relationships with their peers and staff. We give students choices, the ability to contribute with confidence, to be heard, and to feel valued.

We want students to have a positive experience in a safe and nurturing environment where they can achieve to the very best of their ability.

We take into account individual strengths and interests and support students to work towards their own goals and aspirations.

We believe every student is special and our experienced staff team support them on their unique journey with care, commitment and empathy.

### Our Aims

- To adopt a student-centred approach and empower students to contribute to their own learning experience.
- To tailor our provision to meet the education, care, health and well-being needs of our students.
- To inspire learning in creative ways to promote students' engagement, progress and personal development.
- To work with families, professionals, and other relevant partners to ensure Sixth Form transitions are as seamless as possible.

## What Do We Offer? – Our Bespoke Provision

All students follow a core curriculum to support the acquisition of basic skills for life. They access weekly 'Creative Curriculum' sessions, providing them with the opportunity to explore wider topics or interests alongside pupils in the main school. This enhances their own Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development and their understanding of Fundamental British Values in a creative, collegiate and fun way!



Their Core Curriculum provision is enhanced with wider opportunities for learning to ensure they develop greater independence, prepare for post 6<sup>th</sup> Form transitions, and are equipped with the confidence and skills to take their place as contributing and valued members of their community.

Within this overarching framework students' timetables are bespoke to meet their individual special educational needs and Education, Health and Care Plans. Students also have their own Thrive Action Plan and related activities to support the development of their social and emotional resilience and well-being.

## Our Personalised Approach

Some students require additional sensory integration time, a specific sensory diet, further opportunities for occupational therapy, or speech and language support.



Others may need visual timetables, PEC's, use of a breakout room, a quiet space, or an individualised learning environment.



We promote equality and diversity and appreciate the value that each student brings. We ensure that each student's unique requirements are embedded into their individual learning programmes and that they are provided with what they need to experience personal growth, success and a sense of well-being.

We work in a multi-agency way and where appropriate utilise the input of other professionals to ensure that support for students is robust and cohesive.

All students have a Positive Behaviour Support Plan. This details what works well for individuals, what their triggers may be, and how best to support them in times of anxiety, stress or difficulty.

These are written together with our Positive Behaviour Support Facilitator, students, their parents/carers and any associated professionals. They are reviewed regularly to ensure they best meet students' needs.

## Our Qualifications and Extended Learning Opportunities

Our English and Maths qualifications are accredited through Edexcel and are available at a range of learning levels, from Functional Skills Entry Level 1 to GCSE's. ICT qualifications are also available for suitably skilled and interested students.

Our Life and Living Skills curriculum is accredited through OCR and offers a comprehensive range of versatile and adaptable qualifications, with no minimum entry requirements.

Students can choose from over 150 bite-sized units across a wide range of skill areas, including pre-employability, personal and social skills. There are no mandatory units or barred combinations at any level, allowing for varied personalised learning programmes with a completely flexible structure.



We offer a range of academic and vocational learning opportunities via links with Weymouth College, Employ My Ability, Dorset Abilities, Rylands Farm, Dorset Wildlife Trust, RSPB and other local community and business partnerships.



All Programmes of Study are planned and delivered at a learning level appropriate to each student's own needs and abilities.

Individualised programmes take into account students' aspirations and particular interests. Students' timetables can include special interest time, volunteering, social enterprise and personal study for example.

## Learning in the Community

All students are supported to access the local community regularly - to visit shops, use the library or leisure facilities like the gym, swimming pool and outdoor education centre, participate in local services, classes or events, volunteer, or simply to benefit from our coastal location!

We aim to make our learning enjoyable and relevant to students' lives and we take full advantage of opportunities to learn outside the classroom.



This ensures that learning is purposeful, functional and can be applied to real life situations.



Learning in the community also supports the development of travel training skills and students' progression towards independent living.

## Other Useful Information

The school day is 9.00 am to 3.00 pm.

Morning break is at 11.00 am and offers time for a drink and a healthy snack.

Lunch is at 12.30 to 1.15 pm. The school provide school meals, but Sixth Formers have their own kitchen and can make their own lunch if they prefer to. They may also act as 'Buddy' to the younger pupils.

Students in the Sixth Form do not have to wear the school uniform. They can wear their own choice of sensible clothes.

Students may be taught in small groups of up to 3-4 or taught individually, depending on the activity and their own learning needs.