



*"This school has given my child, and my family, our lives back. Thank you."
March 2020*

All different, All equal, All achieving together



Heads Welcome

Welcome to Notton House Academy. We are a Residential Academy with 50 pupils on roll, situated in leafy Wiltshire. We accommodate a wide range of young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). This includes Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH), Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) and Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). The residential aspect of the Academy enables pupils to access an extensive range of extra-curricular experiences, stability, and opportunities to build confidence and independence skills, in a supportive and nurturing environment.



Notton House Academy is part of a specialist Multi Academy Trust that launched in September 2017. We continue to work with Bristol, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire and Somerset Local Authorities, as well as the other schools within Learn@MAT, in order to secure a longer-term, sustainable future for specialist provision that meets the needs of children and young people with Social, Emotional and Mental Health in the South West of England. As an Academy, we offer a bespoke, aspirational, residential educational experience for our young people, their families and carers.

Warm regards,

Mrs Michelle Reysenn
Headteacher

Our Ethos

As an Academy we:

- Ensure that all young people have access to good or outstanding teaching
- Provide a differentiated curriculum in order to meet the needs of the learners at Notton House
- Check on the progress of the young people and identify, plan for and deliver any additional support the young people may need
- Provide personalised learning, which may include using additional providers, personalised timetables and use of specialist advice
- Work closely with multi-agencies in order to be able to support the young people

Aims

We aim that all students will;

- Have the opportunity to achieve qualifications that reflect their potential
- Learn to take responsibility for their own learning and be successful in further education, training or employment
- Be able to take their place within a society, to respect themselves, others and their environment

Notton House Academy Core Values



Safety – Kindness – Respect



Our Curriculum

Day/ Time		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	9.20-10.00	Travel	Mental and Physical Health and Well-being			Celebration
2	10.00-10.40		Culture/ Citizenship	Communication	Community/ Careers	
10.40-11.00		Check-In/ Tutor	BREAK			
3	11.00-11.40	Character				
4	11.40-12.20					
12.20-1.00		LUNCH/ BREAK				
5	1.00-1.40					HOME
6	1.40-2.20					
2.20-2.40		BREAK				
7	2.40-3.00	TUTOR				

Notton House Academy provides an environment in which the development and growth of the whole person is encouraged. We deliver the highest possible standards in curriculum and communication, all centred on the individual child. Students are encouraged and supported to develop all their talents; academically, imaginatively, physically, emotionally and socially. Our aim is for students to grow into young adults who contribute positively to the different communities they become part of, and to become effective learners, beyond, as well as, in the classroom.

We want all pupils to experience a broad and balanced values-based curriculum, which allows our young people to develop their skills and knowledge and enable them to be successful in whatever they choose to do. Our values centre on **Safety; Kindness; Respect**. These are embraced in all areas of the academy, within the school day and on residential houses.

TERM/ DAY	<u>Character</u> PIXL Them and Us	<u>Culture and Citizenship</u> SMSC The Global Arts Project	<u>Communication</u> SLCN/ DEAR	<u>Community and Careers</u> PSHE/ SRE PIXL Futures			<u>Celebration</u> Assembly and Rewards
	MONDAY 11.20-12.00	TUESDAY 10.00-10.40	WEDNESDAY 10.00-10.40	THURSDAY 10.00-10.40			FRIDAY 9.20-10.00
1	Acts of Kindness	Africa	Books chosen by each group from the library – developing vocabulary and comprehension	Themed Days	Statutory Coverage (Timetabled separately)	Careers Focus	Green tokens, Daily Points. Excellent Attendance by term, and Subject Winners by term. Weekly Assembly, Celebration Days
2	Showing Respect	The Middle East		World Forgiveness Day, World Literacy Day, World Mental Health Day, Black History Month	Health and Well-Being	Retail, Hospitality and Sport	
3	Living Without Harm	Europe		Diwali, Anti-Bullying Week, St Andrew's Day, World Aids Day, World Kindness Day	Relationships	The Armed Forces	
4	Acts of Kindness	Asia		New Year, National Army Day, Holocaust Remembrance, Against FGM Day, Darwin Day	Living in The Wider World		
5	Showing Respect	Australasia/ Oceania		Chinese New Year, St David's Day, World Maths Day, St Patrick's Day, Autism Awareness Month	Health and Well-Being	Education, Health Care	
6	Living Without Harm	The Americas		World Book Day, Shakespeare Day, St George's Day, Red Cross Day, International Nurses Day, Ramadan	Relationships		
				World Environment Day, D-Day, World Music Day, Nelson Mandela Day, Outdoor Classroom Day	Living in The Wider World		

School Overview

The Lower School is designed to cater primarily for Key Stage 2 students (although some Key Stage 3 students attend here) as it is a small, safe and nurturing environment. This space enables a student's transition to Notton House to be determined by their personal and social development rather than age. Lower School is split into 2 classes with a teacher and teaching assistant in each one. Daily, we practise our Literacy and Numeracy skills through play, kinaesthetic activities and written work. We also aim to develop skills to cope with emotional challenges through a number of PSHE based games, crafts and group activities. We are learning to build relationships to enable us to access the secondary curriculum.



The class teacher teaches the core subjects including: Literacy, Numeracy, Science, Humanities, PSHE, and SMSC. Students visit other specialist teachers around the school for Art, Food Technology, and P.E. The values of Safety, Kindness, and Respect are embraced in all areas of the academy, within the school day and on residential houses.

At KS3, pupils are taught in half a primary model, and they begin to spend more time with other teachers, so that the transition to KS4 isn't too daunting. Whereas, in KS4, pupils can choose a range of subjects to study; some on-site, and others off-site, such as Motor Vehicles, Construction, and Performing Arts.

After the education day, students are greeted by our care team. Showing the academy values determines the activity students are offered during the evenings. We want all students to be safe, to be kind, and to show respect.

The Student Council

The student council meets every term. The pupils are at the heart of all we do, from the designing of care areas, what equipment and resources are needed in classrooms, specialist support, end of term events, and all work related to anti-bullying. They created a new American themed diner!



Residential Overview

Our dedicated residential care team are committed to enriching our young people's lives during their time at Notton House Academy, whilst also supporting them pastorally during the education part of the day. Through key working sessions and the running of activities and trips, they help pupils become more confident, considerate and caring young people.



Ways in which our care team can help support your child are:

- Creating positive attachments
- Learning to positively communicate with peers and adults
- Helping to increase confidence and self-esteem
- Establishing, negotiating and maintaining fair rules and boundaries
- Allowing teenagers the room to become more independent
- Positive discipline for teenagers
- Managing and resolving conflicts positively
- Working together to solve problems



Each week, during care time, we organise different activities that take place before and after the young people have their evening meals. These include on site activities using our own facilities such as:

- Football on our AstroTurf
- Sports in the gymnasium
- A choice of electronic activities such as games consoles and DVDs
- Mountain Biking around the surrounding area
- Nerf guns
- Outdoor walks/hikes
- The use of Canoes and Kayaks



We often arrange offsite activities using businesses from the Wiltshire area such as:

- Oasis Leisure Centre
- Reel Cinema Astoria
- Freedog Trampolining
- Laser Quest



As the pupils progress through their time at Notton and they develop maturity, they will have the opportunity to move into one of the two independent living houses on-site, which the young people will take responsibility for and learn how to cook their own meals, be able to clean and maintain their living area, go shopping and manage a budget.

Pupil Well-Being

The role of the Thrive team, first and foremost, is to provide support and nurture for our pupils around the areas of their social and emotional barriers to learning. This encompasses a wide range of support from supporting pupils on a 1-1 basis, and in small nurture groups, but also identifying areas of need from each pupil's EHCP and from this supporting colleagues with strategies to aid pupil engagement and attainment. The mentors work closely with the pupils in their relaxed and nurturing environment, supporting them in a range of areas, but predominantly around the areas of emotional literacy and self-regulation.



Mentors will visit pupils and parents/carers before they start at Notton House to introduce themselves, offer information and answer questions about the school. The home visit provides an opportunity to meet with the pupil before they start with us and to hear their voice about how they feel we could best support them with their educational needs.

When a pupil joins Notton House Academy, they will initially be given a Thrive session once a week. This session provides the pupil with an opportunity to discuss how they are settling in at Notton House. Their timetable will be discussed and it provides the pupil with an opportunity to talk about any concerns or anxieties they might have. Should a pupil have any concerns, the mentor will endeavour to alleviate and support them through discussion and play, and if required by consulting with colleagues from the Education and Care team.

The Thrive team process and review all safeguarding and child protection concerns via the Signs of Safety approach and, along with the SENDCo, and Senior Leadership team, are the primary conduit for the information that is exchanged between Notton House and any other agencies that are supporting our pupils and their families. The mentors work closely with all support service agencies ranging from Social Services, YOT, Educational Psychology, and Primary Mental Health Specialist (PMHS).

Family Support

At Notton House we offer family support on a one to one basis, helping parents and carers to support themselves and their child whilst at Notton House. Within these sessions, families are sign posted to external agencies such as our Primary Mental Health Specialist, ADHD nurse, and parenting courses, such as Parent Plus Adolescence Programme. Some of the ways that our family support worker can help you to support your family are;

- Getting to know and connecting with your teenager
- Communicating positively and effectively
- Building your teenager's self-esteem and confidence
- Negotiating expectations
- Teaching teenagers responsibility
- Positive discipline for teenagers
- Managing conflict
- Solving problems together

We also hold termly coffee mornings for parents; this is a chance for families to get together and share their knowledge and experience. Coffee mornings are themed around relevant pupil needs.



Suzie Sylvester is a Family Support Worker at Notton House Academy. Suzie works closely with many of our families at Notton and is always on hand to answer questions and offer support.