

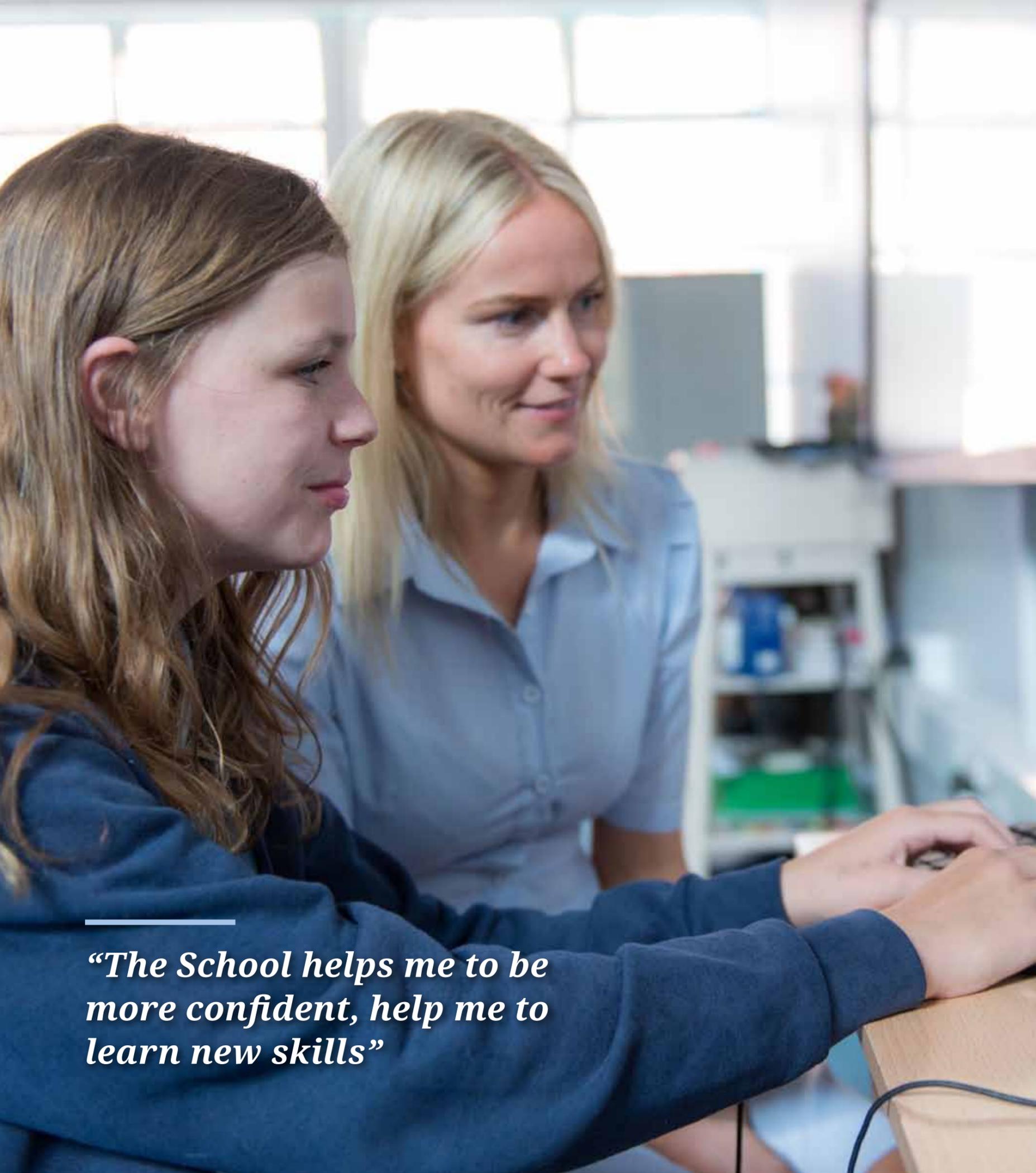


Archers Brook

Targeting success



School Prospectus



“The School helps me to be more confident, help me to learn new skills”

FIRSTLY **THANK YOU** FOR CONSIDERING US!

Welcome to Archers Brook School

Pupils Achieve Outstanding Outcomes

Foreword: Samantha Myers-Whittaker, Headteacher

May I warmly welcome you to Archers Brook School on behalf of all in our positive and dynamic community.

Specialist SEMH School

We are a specialist school for children and young people aged 8 to 16 years with a range of complex social, emotional and communication needs and learning difficulties, that can impact on mental health and wellbeing of both child and family.

Our pupils are able to learn and grow into their potential. We believe it is our responsibility to work with parents and carers to maximise life chances for all of our pupils. We have strong expectations of behaviour in order to develop a strong sense of community and wellbeing in all of our pupils. Community sense and pride in our school is a driver for all that we do.

Staff at Archers Brook ensure that pupils are nurtured as individuals and prepared for adult life, giving them plenty of opportunities to build a strong skills base with which to become the successful adults they deserve to be; through bespoke access to a broad and balanced curriculum as well as providing the best access to therapies such as speech and language therapy, art or holistic therapy and counselling.

Our School Vision

“We are learning today to be successful tomorrow” by:

- Planning for the future
- Learning to express ourselves and understand others' feelings
- Having confidence and self-belief
- Being resilient and always looking for a positive way forward
- Maintaining self-respect and accepting the consequences of our actions

Ofsted Report, 2018

‘During their time in the school, pupils grow in confidence and develop key skills which help them to achieve outstanding outcomes’.

‘This school is not only preparing pupils for life in modern Britain, it is preparing modern Britain for the specific needs of these students’.

‘Conduct in lessons is consistently exemplary’.

S J Myers-Whittaker

Headteacher - Archers Brook SEMH Residential School

Personal Social Development at Archers Brook

The Aims of Our School Curriculum are:

- To enable all children to learn and develop their skills to the best of their ability;
- To promote a positive attitude towards learning, so that children enjoy coming to school, and acquire a solid basis for lifelong learning;
- To enable children to be creative and to develop their own thinking;
- To teach children about their developing world, including how their environment and society have changed over time;
- To help children understand Britain's cultural heritage;
- To enable children to be positive citizens in society;
- To help children understand the importance of truth and fairness, so that they grow up committed to equal opportunities for all;
- To enable children to have respect for themselves and high self-esteem, and to be able to live and work co-operatively with others.

Every school has a statutory responsibility to safeguard pupils, support their spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development and prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. We use our PSD programme to meet these changing needs of today's pupils focusing on three flexible and overlapping areas;

- Becoming confident individuals who are physically, emotionally and socially healthy;
- Being responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society and embrace change;
- Managing risk together with their own wellbeing.

Nurture Group

The aim of the Nurture Base is to work with identified pupils to:

- Improve engagement and achievement in lessons and school as a whole;
- Improve self-esteem and develop a more positive attitude towards school and peers;
- Support learning and well-being;
- Improve specific areas of weakness identified in the Boxall profile;
- Improve relationships with others;
- Develop new skills.

Main session activities can be practical, creative or discussion based. We have sessions based around the Nurture Group Network 's publications "Nurturing Talk" and "Nurturing Social and Emotional Development".

Staff have undergone training to use Lego as a resource in sessions as either "Lego Therapy" or "Lego Build to Express".



Therapy Team

The school counselling service provides confidential one-to-one counselling for pupils. The service aims to help pupils to resolve personal difficulties and develop emotional health and wellbeing, so they feel happy at school, are engaged with their learning, and can work towards achieving their potential.

Holistic Therapy sessions at Archers Brook aim to provide quiet, relaxing and calming time away from the school environment to receive relaxation treatments to help de-stress and fulfil a positive sense of well-being.

Art Therapy is a service provided to the pupils within the school. The service provides a safe space whereby the young people can express their thoughts and feelings. The aim is to promote emotional wellbeing and support the pupils within education.

The Mentoring scheme aims to support the emotional wellbeing of pupils as well as encourage them to help and learn from each other and develop important life skills, such as empathy, commitment to others, and teamwork.

Parent comments:

"We can now see our child will achieve his full potential, thank you"

Parent, 2018

"The staff are so supportive and helpful"

Parent, June 2018





“Teachers don’t try to make you do it: they encourage you to believe you can do it”



The Link

The Link is a bespoke provision at Archers Brook for pupils with ASC and communication needs who present challenging behaviours often linked (but not exclusively) to ADHD and ODD.

The Link is an integration provision meaning that we aim to support pupil's working towards a transition into our main school. Pupils are taught practical subjects in school to prepare them for moving around school as well as familiarise them with their peers and other teaching staff.

Social Needs

In the Link's small group setting, pupils have the opportunity to engage with one another in a controlled environment.

Social stories and PSD sessions are a key tool in encouraging their social development.

Our pupils typically have their own social target as set in the EHCP.

“Teachers are great and I learn something new every day”

Communication Needs

To support our pupil's communication needs we have various strategies in place to support them individually. Pupils are supported whether it's through visual aids, prompts or staff scribing, our key tool is using visual reminders, timetables and rules. Our pupils typically have their own communication target as set in the EHCP.

Curriculum at Archers Brook

Key Stage 2 Curriculum

We provide a broad and rich Curriculum for Year 5 and 6 pupils to enable them to become successful and confident learners.

We follow the National Curriculum for Primary Schools in England but adapt it to suit each pupils' individual needs.

The pupils are integrated into our whole school community which allows them to access specialist and highly trained staff as well as specialist teaching areas, such as the science laboratory.

We provide a wide range of learning experiences both in and out of the classroom which are highly structured and carefully planned to break down any barriers to learning and to promote the personal development of each individual to ensure they reach their maximum potential.

Key Stage 3 Curriculum

Pupils in Key Stage 3 follow a timetable that is very similar to many local schools within the CH postcode. This enables new pupils who enter into the school and any pupils who are returning to a main stream school a more supportive and easier transition. The majority of lessons are in 30 minute sessions; these are doubled for the more practical subjects.

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

The Curriculum comprises of 3 main areas:-

Core

- Qualifications are taken in Literacy, Numeracy, ICT and Science
- Vocational / Optional Qualifications
- In Year 9 following a comprehensive option programme of events, pupils can choose from a suite of qualifications. This has meant that those in year 10 could choose 2 from 5 subjects.

Personal and Social Development

- PSD is taught in discrete blocks by the PSD/Careers teacher. This allows it to be easier for groups of pupils to attend other planned activities and visits (e.g. employment fairs, work place visits and work experience) which also promote spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development. This is then recorded towards their ASDAN PSD Award. Along the PSD Curriculum, pupils are able to access outdoor education and academic trips.

All pupils are taught PE.

At KS4, all pupils can therefore gain the following qualifications:

Subject	Qualification
English Language	GCSE
English Literature	GCSE
Mathematics	Entry Level, GCSE
ICT	ECDL and E. Safety
Combined Science	GCSE

Through our option block, pupils can gain qualifications in 2 or 3 of the subjects below, some of which are equivalent to more than one GCSE.

- Level 2 Sport
- Level 2 GCSE Art
- Construction
- GCSE Spanish
- Level 2 Hospitality
- Level 1 BTEC
- Level 1 Horticulture
- Level 2 Music



*“Staff help with
any problems”*

Ofsted Report, 2018

Residential at Archers Brook

At Archers Brook School we offer a 24 hour curriculum that adds fun, along with a variety of activities and opportunities to enhance the learning experience for our pupils.

Our purpose is to provide a well managed and structured facility to meet the nurturing, social, emotional, behavioural and moral needs of pupils who access our onsite provision.

We do this by providing a safe, secure, stimulating environment where our pupils can develop, grow and have the opportunity to experience a vast array of activities (some of which are externally accredited) which challenge and encourage their personal development.

Young people are encouraged to develop positive relationships with staff and hopefully with each other in order to provide emotional building blocks for personal and social development.

Pupils in residence are nominated a keyworker, who will work closely with them during their time in residence, they will communicate successes, progress made and achievements with Parents/ Carers and other Para professionals' as well as completing reports and setting targets, ultimately our aim is to help pupils achieve goals and express their feelings and wishes.

'The House' is open for 4 nights a week, from Monday to Thursday. Pupils can access the residential provision for up to 2 nights, following consultation with pupil, parents/carers and professionals if involved.

Some pupils choose to stay just 1 night a week, or even just for evening clubs and this is fine too. Staying is entirely voluntary and is always an offer that is designed to have a positive impact on a skill or strategy that pupils will use during the day and so improve their wellbeing and attainment.



*“Staff attitude
towards learning
is always
positive, children
engage in fun
and creative
lessons”*



Archers Brook

Targeting success

Archers Brook SEMH Residential School

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