

SEN and Oastlers Local Offer

The changes in the Children and Families Bill affect the way children with special educational needs (SEN) are supported in school. The new approach begins in September 2014 and places learners at the centre of planning. The key principles of the new legislation are:

1. Young people and their families should be involved in discussion about the support they need, so they can share their knowledge and feed back to the school on the young person's progress.
2. Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) will replace statements of special education needs. New assessments for additional education needs will follow from September 2014 (existing statements will remain in force until all children & young people have completed the transition, which will be within three years).

At Oastlers School we believe we are well placed to adopt these changes and look forward to working with our parents/carers to bring about the reforms.

Oastlers is a school for children with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties aged between 11 to 18 years. Learners at Oastlers are usually within Range 5 to 7, as defined in the schools [Threshold of Need Matrix](#). Oastlers admits children from across the Bradford district.

Oastlers School upholds children's right to education. We recognise the child as an individual and acknowledge that children's needs change over time and require flexibility in our approach. Our offer, therefore, is designed to ensure that barriers to equal access in our school are removed or overcome. We have brought about an offer that will provide opportunities for successful outcomes but one which provides support, encouragement and flexible resources to keep our community safe. Our school motto is 'Safe, Secure, Successful'. We welcome engagement from our parents/carers and wider support agencies to bring about safe, secure and successful learners of Oastlers so that they are well prepared for the future both as learners and citizens.

The Oastlers School offer is broadly defined as:

How we support learners across the curriculum

- Robust baseline assessments so that clear targets are identified that match individual learner need.
- Regular progress meetings
- Accurate data analysis to support early identification of additional need
- Robust risk assessments
- A stimulating learning environment
- High levels of adult support and intervention
- Well-resourced classrooms and specialist equipment
- Access to bespoke intervention programmes for children with additional learning difficulties or gaps in learning
- Access to a range of therapeutic interventions to support the development of self-esteem, confidence and emotional well-being.
- A highly committed staff team who know our children well
- Access to peripatetic music lessons (guitar, percussion)

Supporting Literacy and Numeracy

We have a wide range of strategies and interventions to support the development of literacy and numeracy, including the use of specialist resources and access to the schools 'literacy and numeracy workshop' for bespoke interventions. Learners will develop literacy and numeracy skills to access public examinations at an appropriate level.

Promoting Positive Attitudes to Learning

Learners work is valued and marked regularly with personalised comments and suggestions for improvement by their teachers. Pieces of work are rewarded with points that go towards end of terms rewards. The use of ICT is promoted across the curriculum and work is displayed around the school to encourage pride in achievement. The emphasis in school is on positive achievement so that learners are well prepared for the next stage in education, training or employment.

Supporting Positive Behaviour

The schools ['Behaviour Policy'](#) is key to outlining the ethos and expectations of behaviour in and around school. We also adhere to our [Physical Intervention Policy](#) to keep everyone safe and our [Child Protection policy](#) ensures the community adopts a highly vigilant safeguarding ethos.

Supporting Emotional Well-Being

The school is able to offer additional support for times when specialist intervention is required to resolve particular difficulties.

The school has a sensory room, therapeutic sanctuary and support from the schools Education Psychologist to provide:

- 1-1 counselling
- Play Therapy
- Hypnotherapy (April 2015)
- Anger Management
- Individual, paired and group activities, specifically to develop confidence and self-esteem
- Restorative Justice

Supporting Physical Well-Being

The school offers extensive sport and recreational activities including:

- Indoor activities
- Outdoor activities
- Outdoor physical education
- Swimming
- Residential opportunities
- healthy, homemade hot meals provided on site daily

Supporting Unstructured Parts of the Day

All our learners are fully supported throughout the day with access to clubs and structured activities.

Clubs currently on offer are:

- Cinema club
- Outdoor sport (football, volleyball, badminton, tennis)
- Weekly disco
- Music club (samba, guitar, singing, rock band, percussion)
- Chill out zone
- Art club
- Radio Oastlers
- Computer Games
- Fun Time Learning

Partnership with Other Agencies

The schools Education Psychologist plays a vital role in all aspects of the school but we work closely with a number of linked agencies including:

- West Yorkshire Police
- School Nursing Service
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
- Other education/vocation providers
- Voluntary Sector Organisations
- Children's Social Care
- Youth Offending Team
- Careers/Connexions Service

Partnerships with Parents/Carers

Our families are an important part of our community and we recognise that the success of the school lies entirely with its relationships with our families. We hold regular events in school where parents/carers are invited and encouraged to join our developing 'Parent Forum'.

The Curriculum Offer

To see our curriculum offer [click here](#).

Additional Support From Pupil Premium

Learners entitled to free school meals or who are Looked After access additional funding called Pupil Premium to further support learning in schools. [Click here](#) for further information about Pupil Premium.

Support From Governors

The school has a highly ambitious Governing Body, having responsibility for the strategic direction of the school. Your link Governor for SEND is: Mr Robert Fairbairn.

Policies

A range of policies underpin our SEND offer, including:

- [Anti-bullying Policy](#)
- [Attendance Policy](#)
- [Child Protection Policy](#)
- [Equity and Diversity Policy](#)
- [Health and Safety Policy](#)
- [Inclusion Policy](#)
- [Behaviour Policy](#)
- [Positive Handling Policy](#)
- [Race Equality Policy](#)
- [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- [Special Educational Needs Policy](#)
- [Teaching and Learning Policy](#)

Click on the policy name to view.