WHITE HOUSE SCHOOL

Prospectus 2026-27

Healthy Minds, Happy Hearts

Welcome

It is a pleasure to welcome you to our wonderful school...

I am exceptionally proud to be the Headteacher of our small, nurturing community, where children, parents, and staff come together in a supportive and engaged environment. With sixteen years of experience in special educational needs education, I am delighted to lead a values based school that fosters a holistic, mindful approach to learning, ensuring a unique, memorable, and successful educational journey for all our pupils.

As thought leaders in special educational needs and mindful education, we offer a curriculum that balances academic achievement with personal growth. Our specialist provision focuses on developing core academic understanding while encouraging creativity, celebrating outdoor learning, and fostering essential life skills. This dedicated academic focus is complemented by consistent, specialist pastoral and therapeutic support, which nurtures self-esteem, emotional wellbeing, and social growth. Our commitment to each child's holistic development ensures that they reach their full potential, both academically and personally.

To maintain the close-knit, family-oriented atmosphere of our school, we pride ourselves on small class sizes. This allows us to tailor our teaching to meet the individual needs of each child, creating an environment where they can thrive and succeed. If you believe that our school would be a fulfilling and supportive setting for your child, please don't hesitate to contact me or a member of our team. We look forward to the possibility of welcoming you and your child to our community.

Headteacher
Miss Vinall

Miss Vinall is a dynamic and visionary school leader, formerly at one of London's highest-performing independent specialist settings. Her innovative curriculum programmes were featured in the national press, and she has consulted internationally on special school development. Renowned for her forward-thinking approach, she is dedicated to transforming education and inspiring meaningful change.

Our Ethos

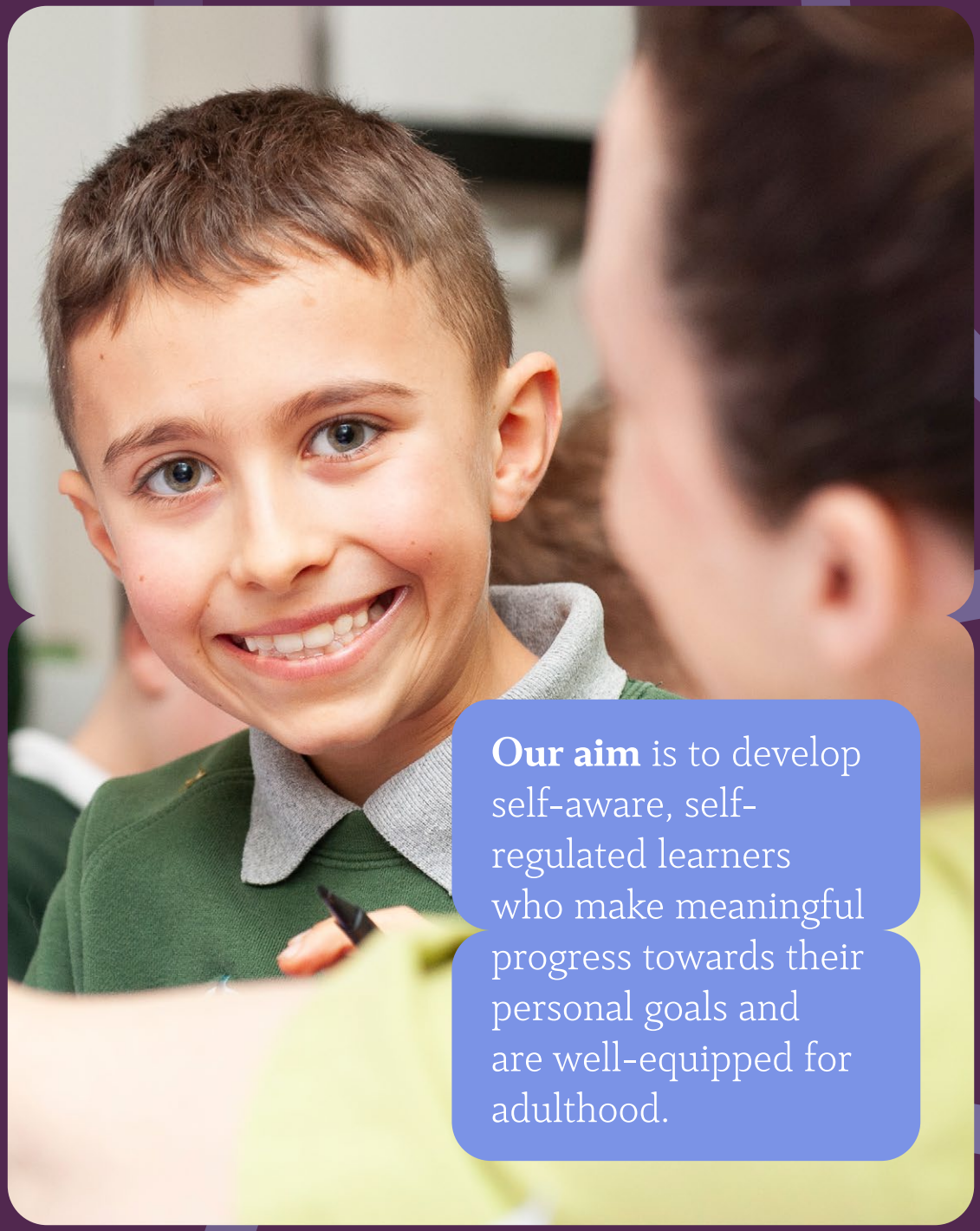
Our curriculum is designed around our pupils, recognising their unique talents, needs, and aspirations. We provide a therapeutic, mindful, and inclusive learning journey that nurtures the whole child.

Rooted in a holistic approach, our environment fosters self-awareness, positive mental health, and wellbeing. We cultivate a lifelong love of learning, paired with an ambitious drive for personal success.

Through individualised, wrap-around support—including tailored learning, pastoral care, and therapeutic interventions—we ensure every pupil has access to the best possible education and resources. Our aim is to develop self-aware, self-regulated learners who make meaningful progress towards their personal goals and are well-equipped for adulthood.

As a specialist learning provision, we focus on core academic understanding while fostering creativity, embracing outdoor learning, and equipping pupils with essential life skills. Our curriculum supports the transition to adulthood by developing independence, resilience, and the skills needed for further education, employment, and independent living.

Alongside academic growth, we prioritise specialist pastoral and therapeutic support to build self-esteem and strengthen social and emotional development. Our unwavering commitment to holistic development empowers every pupil to realise their full potential and confidently take their next steps into adulthood.



Our Approach

At The White House School, mindfulness is at the heart of our teaching and provision. Our pupils benefit from structured mindfulness lessons and its integration into daily interactions, leading to enhanced cognitive outcomes, social emotional skills, and overall wellbeing. Our 'Mindful Classrooms' are environments where every child feels safe, supported and ready to learn.

Calm App
We have integrated mindfulness into our curriculum and daily school life, using the Calm App as a resource to support our practice

National Autistic Society
All of our staff are trained by fully qualified National Autistic Society licensed trainers in the Autism and SPELL approach

'...8 OUT OF 10 PEOPLE FELT THAT THEY WERE LESS AFFECTED BY THE CONDITION (ADHD) AFTER THEY EMBARKED ON A PROGRAMME OF MINDFULNESS...'

www.calmerclassrooms.co.uk

'MINDFULNESS IS ONE OF THE FIRST THERAPIES THAT IS SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN EFFECTIVE FOR PEOPLE WITH AUTISM'

www.autismandmindfulness.org

ambition

Our Values

At The White House School, our educational model is built upon three core values that guide and shape everything we do. These values are embedded in our school environment, reflected in our learning spaces, and demonstrated in our interactions.

AMBITION

- Act with courage to make empowered decisions
- Demonstrate a curiosity for learning
- Evidence excellent effort towards
- learning goals
- Push themselves to explore learning outside of their comfort zones at a pace that is right for each unique learner

RESILIENCE

- Be mindful in what we do
- Demonstrate self-awareness and
- self-regulation
- Take action to promote positive physical and mental health and wellbeing
- Have the tools and the confidence to ask for help when needed

COMMUNITY

- Have a respectful and kind attitude
- to yourself and others
- Show kindness and care towards others
- Act with integrity and honesty
- Take responsibility for our school community and participate in charity work

S - SAFE
P - PLAYFUL
A - ACCEPTING
C - CHILD-CENTRED
E - EMPATHETIC

"Pupils enjoy learning at the White House School... through the well-structured curriculum, they flourish."

Ofsted Good (all areas)

Our Curriculum

The curriculum at The White House School is **holistic, thematic and mindful**. We take a personalised approach, ensuring our planning addresses the diverse needs, outcomes, learning styles, ages, and aptitudes of all students. This includes those with English as an Additional Language (EAL), those identified as Gifted and Talented, and those who require additional intervention and support.

We offer two curriculum pathways...

Curiosity Pathway 6-11 years

Adapted National Curriculum for pupils able to access significant elements of academic learning with support.

Discovery Pathway 6-14 years

Semi-formal communication and life-skills curriculum extending from the early stages through to the Key Stage 3 curriculum, for pupils with more complex needs.

Curriculum Framework

Both of our curriculum pathways encompass four core areas.

growth

Key skills

Providing pupils with the key skills they require to become a successful and independent member of our community.

Personal and physical development

Supporting pupils to acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to manage their lives in a physically and mentally healthy way.

Creative enrichment

Supporting and allowing pupils to express their creative skills to the best of their ability.

Knowledge and understanding of our world

Providing pupils with the foundations needed to understand all aspects of their community and the world in which they live.

support

Curiosity Pathway.

Cross curricular, small class, project based learning, aligned with key stages 1 and 2 national curriculum criteria.

Key Skills

English
Maths
Signalong
Computing and Digital Literacy
Life Skills
Mindfulness and Wellbeing

Development

PSHE and Relationships
Emotional Literacy
Physical Education
Citizenship
Yoga and Fitness

Creativity

Art and Design
Technology
Music
Enrichment Clubs

Our world

Science
Religious Education
Topic
Outdoor Learning
Forest School

Discovery Pathway.

Cross curricular, sensory, communication-rich and project based learning, with an emphasis on learning through play and investigation. Pupils follow a formal and semi-formal curriculum, working towards the early stages of the national curriculum.

Key Skills

Communication
English
Maths
Signalong
Life skills and Independence
Mindfulness and Wellbeing

Development

PSHE and Relationships
Emotional Literacy
Physical Education
Sensory Skills
Yoga and Fitness

Creativity

Art and Design
Music
Enrichment Clubs

Our world

Science
Topic
Outdoor Learning

Therapies

We offer a range of therapies tailored to meet the individual needs of each pupil, ensuring that provision is bespoke and personalised to support their unique requirements.

WE OFFER...

- OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
- ELSA
- SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY
- PLAY THERAPY
- FINE AND GROSS MOTOR SKILLS
- SOCIAL SKILLS
- LITERACY AND NUMERACY INTERVENTIONS
- EMOTIONAL REGULATION

thrive

Personal Development

Personal development is a central theme in our curriculum and ethos, reflected in our motto '**Healthy Minds, Happy Hearts**' and school values. **We aim for each child to leave confident, unique, and proud of their role as British citizens**. Our focus is on teaching pupils how to navigate life safely, happily, and healthily, covering topics such as relationships, emotions, physical and mental health, and transferable skills to empower them to be their own best advocate.

We use our own, carefully devised chart to measure the progress made in developing outside of specific subjects. **The areas we measure progress and growth are**:

- Self-esteem and Confidence
- Happiness
- Resilience
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Physical Health and Wellbeing
- Mindfulness
- Responsibility
- Community
- Love of Learning
- Being Respectful

Admissions Process

We place potential students and their families at the heart of our admissions process. Parents know their children best and we keep that voice at the centre of our decision making.

We'd be delighted if you booked a tour and gave us a chance to show you our school.

Step one - consultation

In most cases parents of a student with an EHC plan ask their council SEND worker to consult with the school. This your right as a parent, it cannot be refused. The school admissions officer will review the consultation and give some initial feedback to the local authority on spaces available and whether one of these spaces could potentially be appropriate for your child.

Step two - assessment

All children are unique. Our assessment process is designed to capture your child's voice, the parent/carers voice and reports and feedback from existing professionals. Our staff will visit your child's current provision where appropriate, observe their learning and talk with their teacher/mentor or SENDCo. Our staff will arrange to speak with you at a convenient time to understand from you the support your child requires and their learning journey so far. Where appropriate, we will then invite you to bring your child to school to see how they respond to our environment, staff and pupils. Students cannot 'pass or fail' this, it is a process that assists school leadership to better understand your child and to introduce them to our school.

Step three - offer of a place

If the school feels able to meet need and there is a suitable place available for your child then an individual offer will be made and sent to you and your council worker. Your council worker will present any placement offers to the local authority panel for agreement. If the placement is agreed we can go ahead and make arrangements for your child to join us. If the panel does not agree the placement you have the legal right to appeal this decision, both to your local council and to an independent tribunal. The school can support you in finding advice and support if you feel your council's decision is not in your child's best interest.

To book a tour, or If you'd like some more information, please do get in touch with our **admissions team**, who would be happy to help.

admissions@thewhitehouseschool.org
t: 01202 985215

Our School Group

We are part of Cavendish Education, a family of independent schools for neurodiverse learners in London and beyond. This connection gives us direct access to expertise and knowledge-sharing across leading specialist schools, allowing us to pioneer exciting, research-lead approaches to student-centred teaching.

Our ethos is underpinned by Cavendish's four Cs: **confidence, competence, creativity and character**. These core values guide every aspect of life at the White House School, shaping our approach to helping students become well-rounded individuals, prepared for success in and beyond school.

CAVENDISH
EDUCATION

WHITE HOUSE
SCHOOL

Admissions

e: **admissions@thewhitehouseschool.org**

Contact

The White House School,
170 Magna Road, Poole BH21 3AP

t: 01202 985215

thewhitehouseschool.org

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