



**EXETER HOUSE SCHOOL**

*I can learn, you can have friends, we can grow together*

**Exeter House School**

**Upper School  
Department**

**Parent Information Booklet**

I look forward to welcoming you and your young person into our Upper School Department at Exeter House School. Our students in the Upper school are able to continue their education until the age of nineteen in a challenging and supportive learning environment.

I hope you find this booklet useful and informative. If you would like any further information about our Upper school and Vocational Centre Curriculum please do not hesitate to contact me through the school office.

Alison Long –Upper school Department head.



Somerset Road **Education Trust**



## Aim of the Upper School Phase

In Upper School the curriculum changes to reflect the change in emphasis in preparing our young people for life beyond school. We want them to be confident, independent and responsible individuals who feel equipped to make informed choices about their futures. We consolidate students' prior study and aim to broaden and develop previous skill and develop the students' ability to interpret and understand a variety of forms of communication in a social context.

There is particular emphasis on developing communication, independence and life skills in preparation for adult life. In the Upper school we provide the skills and knowledge needed to manage everyday routines and procedures

### Classes

There are currently two Upper school classes in the department:

Kestrels – PMLD and sensory needs based class.

The Vocational Centre – SLD, ASD and complex needs.

## The Upper School Curriculum

The Upper School aims to provide students with the opportunities to:

- **Build on and generalise previously acquired skills.**
- **Develop the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary for independent living.**
- **Facilitate the transition to life beyond school and adult status.**
- **Begin to develop an individual adult identity and develop self-advocacy skills.**
- **Work towards and gain recognised awards and qualifications through external bodies.**

We build on the foundations of learning our students have gained through their experiences of the secondary phase curriculum. In addition to the curriculum pupils may have an Individual Support Plan which will detail any specific interventions required such as Sensory Integration, Speech and Language Therapy, Physiotherapy, V.I/H.I support, Positive Behaviour Support or specific curriculum interventions. These interventions will mainly be overseen by the relevant professional team and undertaken by the class teams.

## The Vocational Centre Curriculum

Functional Skills

Maths

Including-

Time and using timetables

Money and budgeting skills

Weighing and measuring

Data Handling

Number

Shape, position and sequencing

English

Including-

Speaking and listening, discussions, social communication

Reading, everyday texts, forms, adverts, magazine articles, information and Literature

Writing, lists, forms, letters emails, news articles, adverts

ICT

Including-

Emails, word documents, using the internet, games consoles and iPads

ICT in the home and community

E-Safety

Science

Including -

Investigation skills

The human body, green plants, forces and

magnetism, elements, mixtures and compounds

## Sex and Relationships

We regularly cover sex and relationships education, enabling our students to develop an understanding of positive and loving relationships, safe sex and sexual health.



### Careers and Work Experience

- **Retail work experience, creating and selling stock at Salisbury markets and local school fairs**
- **Volunteering at Community Garden and Wiltshire Creative**
- **Careers program in Years 11 and 14 focusing on transferable skills, CV writing, mock interviews etc...**
- **Work experience placements in areas of personal interest**

## **For our PMLD students we cover:**

Kestrels' class are moving away from the Profound Curriculum and working towards ASDAN Certification in the PMLD modules. These modules are listed below. Within these modules, we aim to consolidate the skills that pupils have learnt over their time in previous classes, and maintain them through a variety of activities. We work on broadening their experiences, particularly in regards to communication and social, in mind that this will aid in their transition from school into adult provision when they leave.

ASDAN PMLD modules:

- **Encountering experiences: being part of things**
- **Engaging with the world around you: people**
- **Engaging with the world around you: events**
- **Engaging with the world around you: objects**
- **Engaging with the world around you: technology**
- **Engaging with the world around you: therapies.**

Examples of activities we do are:

- Hydrotherapy
- Sensory Room
- Sensory stories
- Craft
- Sensory Garden
- Cookery
- Yoga
- Community Visits
- Music
- Switchwork

## Students with Autism

Please refer to the Autism booklet for more information about the structure of AS groups, the curriculum and Autism strategies used to enable students to access learning opportunities. These strategies are also commonly used throughout the school to support student with Autism who are taught in the main school.

## College Links

Our Vocational Centre students have opportunities to complete transition activities with Fairfield College and Wiltshire College, Salisbury. This gives them an opportunity to experience college life, participate in some vocational taster sessions and socialise with other students.



### Creative Arts Opportunities

We are involved with La Folia musical group and often take part in one of their productions. This usually results in a public performance at local community facilities such as Salisbury Arts Centre or Salisbury Cathedral in front of a public audience.

We also regularly take part in the Wiltshire Creative Performing Art Project 'Beginners Please!'

### PE

We access weekly PE sessions, the park gym at Churchill gardens, swimming at Five River's Leisure Centre, Yoga, tablecricket, table tennis and badminton. There is also an annual week's residential to an outdoor adventurous activities provider.



## **Vocational Skills and work related learning**

Including-

Woodwork, health and safety in the workshop, tool use and maintenance, completing projects for enterprise sales

Horticulture, EHVC garden and kitchen garden

Catering, preparing snacks and drinks, planning meals, cooking lunch for EHVC

Craft, including enterprise project work and textiles

Enterprise

Including-

Card making for sale at main school

Craft projects for Salisbury market and school fair stalls

Personal and Social Development

Including-

ELSA sessions

PSHE

SRE

Healthy living

Transitions, preparing for moving on, college and future careers



## **Assessment**

Teachers formally assess students' progress three times each year.

Progress is discussed with parents three times each year at Structured conversations. You will be invited to meet with the teacher so that you can be fully involved in both target setting and in supporting your child at home.

Teachers collate evidence of learning through work books, termly learning journeys, video and photographs.

Students in Kestrels work towards ASDAN Personal Progress qualifications appropriate to their ability and students at the Vocational Centre follow, either an ASDAN Personal Progress route or ASDAN PSD route for qualifications at Entry 1, 2 or 3. Vocational Centre students working at Entry Level will also be entered for Open Award qualifications in English and Maths and ICT at Year 11 and Year 14.

## **Annual Reviews**

Annual reviews are held to discuss progress in all areas and are attended by the whole team around the child. We also work closely with Wiltshire SEND transitions team who contribute to annual reviews to aid transition and facilitate future aspirations.



## **Class Blogs / Home School Diary**

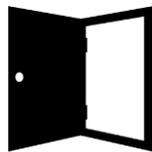
We know that you want to be involved with your son or daughter's learning. Our school website has lots of up to date information about what we are doing in the Upper school department and we also regularly update our online class blogs.

In the Upper school department we aim to promote independence and communication skills by encouraging your child to talk to you about their day. We also sometimes send a note in the Home/School Diary to inform you of the day's events and how your child reacted to activities. We will also use the diary to ask for any equipment that we need in school. Please feel free to contact us through the home school diary with any questions about your child's learning or to inform us of home events.



## **Celebration**

We know how proud you are of your son or daughter. We are proud of them too and like to reward achievement. We have a whole school house point system and celebrate achievement in our weekly 'Well Done' assembly. Pupils can achieve house points and certificates for good work, good attitude, being a great friend or for trying something new.



Our door is open

We hope that this leaflet has given you much of the information you need about our Upper Department but please feel free to telephone for a chat or better still, come in and see our wonderful classes in action.



Alison Long—Upper School  
Department head