



A Welcome from the Head Teacher

Arc School Old Arley is unique, our curriculum is structured to each young person's individual needs to give them the maximum chance of success. Our staff team are trained with the skills, knowledge and experienced to work successfully and effectively with young people who have been out of school for some time and disengaged from education.

Our team are all Autism Education Trust Qualified and we have an excellent track record of working positively with young people on the autism spectrum. The school provides first rate education and wrap-around support to ensure every student realises their full potential.



A message from the staff team

We celebrate success, support young people in their life choices and help them find stability and purpose by exploring and enabling them to do the things they enjoy while learning.

Arc School Old Arley is a vibrant and welcoming day school we provide effective education solutions for young people affected by social emotional and mental health difficulties.

Our school has a science laboratory, art and design room, computing and technology suite, a food technology kitchen, drama studio, therapeutic intervention room and a literacy and numeracy nurture base. There is plenty of space to learn and discover new things and some quiet space too should your child needs some time to think or work independently.

The school supports children and young people with various educational and social needs, some of which are associated with the challenges of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, attachment disorder, autism, moderate and specific learning difficulties. To maximise opportunities for pupils, education and support are provided in very small class sizes.

The school follows the national curriculum where appropriate and each pupil has their own tailored timetable designed to take into account individual educational and learning needs.

Pupils enjoy studying for a wide range of qualifications including functional skills, GCSE's and BTEC, there are both on and offsite learning opportunities.

The following questions have been developed by parents and may be of interest to Arc School Old Arley parents and carers.

How does the school know if my child needs extra help?

Before your child starts at Arc School Old Arley we receive lots of information which is put together by those who have identified your child as needing more support. This information is called an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and every pupil at the school has one.

We will look at this plan before we meet you and begin working on how we can best educate and support your child. We will then meet with you, your child, your child's social worker, if they have one and together we will find out what works best for your child and how they like to learn. From this meeting we will create a learning and development package which is right for your child.

How will the school staff support my child?

When your child arrives at the school we will look at where they are up to in their education and by completing some baseline assessments, we will plan realistic targets together with your child. Your child's teacher, tutor and keyworker will work with your child to set targets to develop their learning and development. They will keep you well informed of your child's progress throughout the year.

If your child needs extra support we may seek help from an educational psychologist, speech and language therapist or the school nurse. All input from these people is monitored and assessed regularly to ensure that it is the most effective support we can give.

Arc School Old Arley is part of the Kedleston Group. The Kedleston Governing Body visit the school regularly and make sure that standards in education, safeguarding and health, safety and welfare are compliant at all times.



How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

The school follows the national curriculum where appropriate and each pupil has their own tailored timetable designed to take into account individual educational and learning needs.

To maximise opportunities for pupils at Arc School Old Arley, education and support are provided in very small class sizes. Pupils enjoy studying for a wide range of qualifications including functional skills, GCSE's and BTEC, there are both on and offsite learning opportunities.

How will I know how my child is progressing?

Your child will have an individual plan for their education and behaviour, with their targets clearly shown. We measure your child's progress against their targets and make sure that they are kept up to date in each lesson through personal learning outcomes and annual reviews of their overall progress.

We will ask your child to tell us what they think about their progress.

Each term we send a report home with updated information about how your child is doing we will also talk with you about their progress at our termly parent's mornings.

How can I get involved in supporting my child's learning?

When your child is referred to Arc School Old Arley you are invited to come and visit as part of the placement process. You will be given the name of your child's tutor and keyworker and they will be the main point of contact for you if you need to talk to someone at school.

Each year there are termly open days for parents, carers and professionals, to access the school and meet those involved in your child's education. This provides all people involved with your child an opportunity to discuss personal and social progress as our Educational Psychologist and Speech & Language Therapist will also be present on these days.

You are welcome to contact the school at any time to discuss the how you can get involved in school life and the planning of activities and trips.

What support does the school offer for my child's overall wellbeing?

When your child arrives at the school they will be assigned a keyworker who will give your child pastoral support during the school day. They will guide your child to make positive choices about their education, behaviour and planning for their own future.

At school we follow the five steps to wellbeing and where possible incorporate them into our curriculum. Our learning Outside the Classroom approach to education means that the pupils spend time being active, engaging in the community and visiting new and interesting places of cultural significance. Many studies have proven evidence that this approach raises children's sense of personal wellbeing.

If your child is identified as needing some extra support, they will be assessed by one of our therapists as early as possible. The schools offers Solution Focus Brief Therapy with trained key workers, educational psychology, speech and language therapy, Lego Therapy and access to occupational therapy. The school has many specialist services and expertise they can access such as the school nurse, SRE advisors and Careers Connex.



What training do the staff supporting pupils at the school have?

The team are all Autism Education Trust level 2 Qualified, and we have an excellent track record of working positively with young people on the autism spectrum. Two members of the staff are Level 3 trained and lead on accessibility at the school. All teaching staff are trained with the skills and experienced to work successfully with young people who have been out of school for some time and disengaged from education. Every member of staff is trained in safeguarding and child protection and the school has 3 members of staff trained as designated safeguarding leads.

All keyworkers have been trained to deliver Solution Focused Brief Therapy to the pupils to help the pupils plan for better choice making. Our Educational Psychologist is trained to deliver programmes of support for pupils with dyslexia and works in partnership with our literacy coordinator. Our Pastoral manager has Positive Management of challenging behaviour training and leads the team.

How will the school support my child to start college or training?

Your child will be given the opportunity to begin college and vocational courses while they are with us. This makes the change from schooling to college or training less of a leap. Some of our older pupils already do this. Our school advisor works with you and your child from year nine onwards to make sure they gain the qualifications needed for the type of college or training course they want. They will also support you and begin some work with your child from year seven.

We will make sure that as much help and planning is in place before your child moves on to college, training or the workplace.

Who decides what type and how much support my child will receive?

The support your child will receive at school will be based on the recommendations from their statement or EHCP, your input as parents or carers and baseline assessments when your child first arrives at school. The type and level of support is planned by members of the senior management team, the support professionals, educational psychology, speech and language therapy and key workers.

The decision is not just be made by the school alone but with input from you as parents or carers and also in consultation with your child. If your child's needs change and are different from the recommendations on their original plan then we will consult with your education authority to see how we can access more help.

You will be involved all the way through the process and will receive updates about your child's' progress. There will be regular reviews of support plans for your child to assess the impact of the support. From these reviews we can plan whether to reduce support, increase it or make a new plan. There will be targets in every plan that are measurable and this is how we can track the progress being made.

We are rated “Good” by Ofsted and these are some of the things which Ofsted have said about the school.

- The behaviour and attendance of almost all students improve rapidly on entering the school. Staff are quick to establish very strong trusting relationships with them. They build well on students’ interests to excite them to learn.
- Systems for keeping students safe are effective. Staff are well trained and meticulous in recording incidents or assessing risk. An emphasis on helping students to think about personal safety in a variety of situations ensures students feel very safe.
- An excellent range of sporting and cultural activities develop students’ social skills, physical education skills, and well-being and understanding of the world very well indeed.
- Whatever their disability or needs, students achieve well. Small group work and individual attention help them to keep highly focused on what they are learning.
- Students make good progress in English and mathematics. Staff are very clear as to what students need to learn next and students have many opportunities to apply their skills in other subjects. Work is usually well pitched to challenge students to achieve even more.

Arc School Old Arley has prepared a parent and carer information pack for you, which you will receive once your child has enrolled at Arc School Old Arley.

If you have any questions or concerns you can speak to us at any time.

We welcome feedback from families and carers, please go to <https://kedlestongroup.com/feedback> where you can submit your comments on line. If you prefer a printed version for you to post then please ask at the school and they can provide you with this.

For further information:

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