



Parent and Carer Guide



Welcome...

Wings School Notts is a residential special school registered with the Department of Education and a children's home registered with Ofsted.

The school offers specialist co-ed residential placements for children and young people aged 9 to 17 years, including a day school provision for those who live locally. The school and the children's home both support children and young people who require additional support to meet their needs.

The school promotes the social and emotional wellbeing of children and young people, enabling them to achieve in education, enjoy social activities, have positive relationships and feel empowered and supported to take care of themselves physically and emotionally as they make the transition towards independent living.



Wings Notts Day School

The day school forms part of the residential school which and provides education for boys and girls aged 9 to 17 years. Pupils who come to the day school may have social and emotional problems, are challenged by attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, dyslexia, and dyspraxia or other specific learning difficulties. The day school at Wings Notts is registered with Ofsted to take up to 15 pupils.

“Young people’s attendance and engagement in formal education is excellent and exceeds national averages. Young people who have completed their formal education move on to further education or training in the local area. Staff fully support them to make a positive transition from school and place a high value on education as a staff team.”

Ofsted Outstanding Care Report 2017

Children and young people at the school are supported by a team of educational staff which includes teachers, learning support assistants and a pastoral learning support assistant who leads on communication with families and other stakeholders. The education team is matched by a care team, managed by a Registered Home Manager, Deputy and both day and night care workers. All staff work together to ensure the well-being of the young people is met through the education, care and support they receive and that each young person knows they are valued.

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.

The school has a science laboratory, art and design room, computing and technology suite, food technology kitchen, 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 need some time to think or work independently.

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 BTECs, there are both on and offsite learning opportunities.

The following questions have been developed by and may be of interest to Wings School Notts parents and carers.

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

Before your child starts at Wings School Notts 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 the majority of pupils at the school have 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 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 targets. They will keep you well informed of your child's progress throughout the year.

If your child needs extra specialist support we can call upon our clinical team of psychology, psychotherapy, speech and language therapy and occupational therapy as well as 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.

Wings School Notts 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 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 regular parent's events.

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

When your child is referred to Wings School Notts 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 they need to talk to someone at school.

There are regular parents events for you to access the school and meet those involved in your child's education. This provides all of the people involved with your child an opportunity to discuss personal and social progress as our clinical team are also present on these days. On the parent days we endeavour to deliver updates to you on our latest practices and on topics such as Department for Education changes in policy, keeping children safe and other current issues.

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.

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 school employs a Clinical Psychologist along with a team of specially trained key workers, educational psychology, speech and language therapy and occupational therapy they support your child.

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

All teaching and care 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 designated members of staff trained as safeguarding leads.

The school has an on-site clinical team who offer support to young people with emerging mental health problems.

What types of activities are available outside the classroom for my child?

The children and young people access outings and access trips to many different places, these include: parks, theme parks, water sports, farms, the gym, cinema, snowdome, golf driving range, ice stadium, Lazerquest. Children and young people are able to take part in go-karting, quad biking, archery, forestry, campfire building, pottery, hiking in the dales, cycling and obtain their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Ofsted have rated the care as Outstanding and said these things:

- Young people engage extremely well in school. They make commendable progress from their starting points and achieve to an excellent level. Education and care staff work very closely together to ensure that young people receive consistent support in both settings.
- There is a strong focus on assessing and meeting the complex health needs of young people in this home. The school nurse is inspirational in their commitment to ensuring young people's health needs are met. Partnership working is highly imaginative and effective.
- From their starting points, young people make progress which exceeds what placing authorities felt was possible. Such progress is attributed to the skill and commitment of the staff and managers in the home.
- Managers undertake monitoring, tracking and analysis of young people's needs and progress in great detail. Their knowledge of the young people is extremely detailed, and reflects their total commitment to improving outcomes and progress.
- Young people feel fully engaged in the care and support they receive in this home. They have real and meaningful influence on how their needs are met. They feel valued as individuals, and form extremely positive attachments to their carers.

Ofsted have rated the school as Good and said these things:

- The broad curriculum provides all pupils with access to a suitably wide range of subjects.
- The quality of teaching and assessment is good and enables pupils to make good progress from their mostly low starting points.
- Disadvantaged pupils make strong progress towards challenging targets and begin to close the gaps in their knowledge, understanding and skills.
- All pupils who left the school at the end of Year 11 in the last two years moved on to suitable destinations in further education or training.
- Staff work very effectively with pupils' homes to ensure that they are safe in school.
- Arrangements for all aspects of safeguarding are robust and effective.
- Pupils' attendance and behaviour demonstrate strong improvements, once they have settled into the expectations of the school.
- The recently formed senior leadership team has accurately evaluated the school's strengths and planned well for improvement, including for the expansion of vocational subjects.



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, psychology, speech and language therapy and key workers.

The decision is not just 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.

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

For further information:

Wings School Notts

T: 01636 817430

E: wingsnotts@kedlestongroup.com