

david · lewis

education & life skills

School & College Prospectus

discover

decide

develop



a bright future

“Outstanding care, guidance and support enable pupils to reach challenging targets resulting in the achievement of outstanding personal development and well being”

Ofsted

Welcome to the School and College at David Lewis

At our School and College we provide a wide range of educational programmes for young people aged 14 to 25, with needs ranging from moderate to complex learning difficulties, neurological conditions (including epilepsy and autism) with associated behaviours / emotional needs and communication difficulties.

Our flexible and personalised courses allow School (14 – 19 yrs) and College (18 – 25 yrs but usually 19+) learners to study on a daily, residential or weekly boarding basis. We also offer shorter term comprehensive medical assessments.

With considerable expertise in working with young people, we offer an holistic learning environment, providing on-site therapists, medical specialists and specially trained staff; all dedicated to supporting you – and all underpinned by our unsurpassed care, support and real understanding.

We want you, our students, to lead a happy, full life and to fulfil your potential. Our programmes of learning help you do just that.

We have a wide ranging curriculum for you to enjoy, with access to terrific facilities on our beautiful 180 acre campus set in the countryside just outside Manchester. The social life is great as well!

Making a difference at David Lewis

Everyone learns differently. That is why we work with you, the student, plus your family and wider circle of support, to develop an individual learning plan, suited to how you learn best.

As you learn, we make sure all your specialist needs are taken care of - from assistive equipment and specialist therapy to medical care. Working together, you, your experienced and qualified teachers, therapists and care staff create a programme of learning and care, so you can achieve real and demonstrable progress.

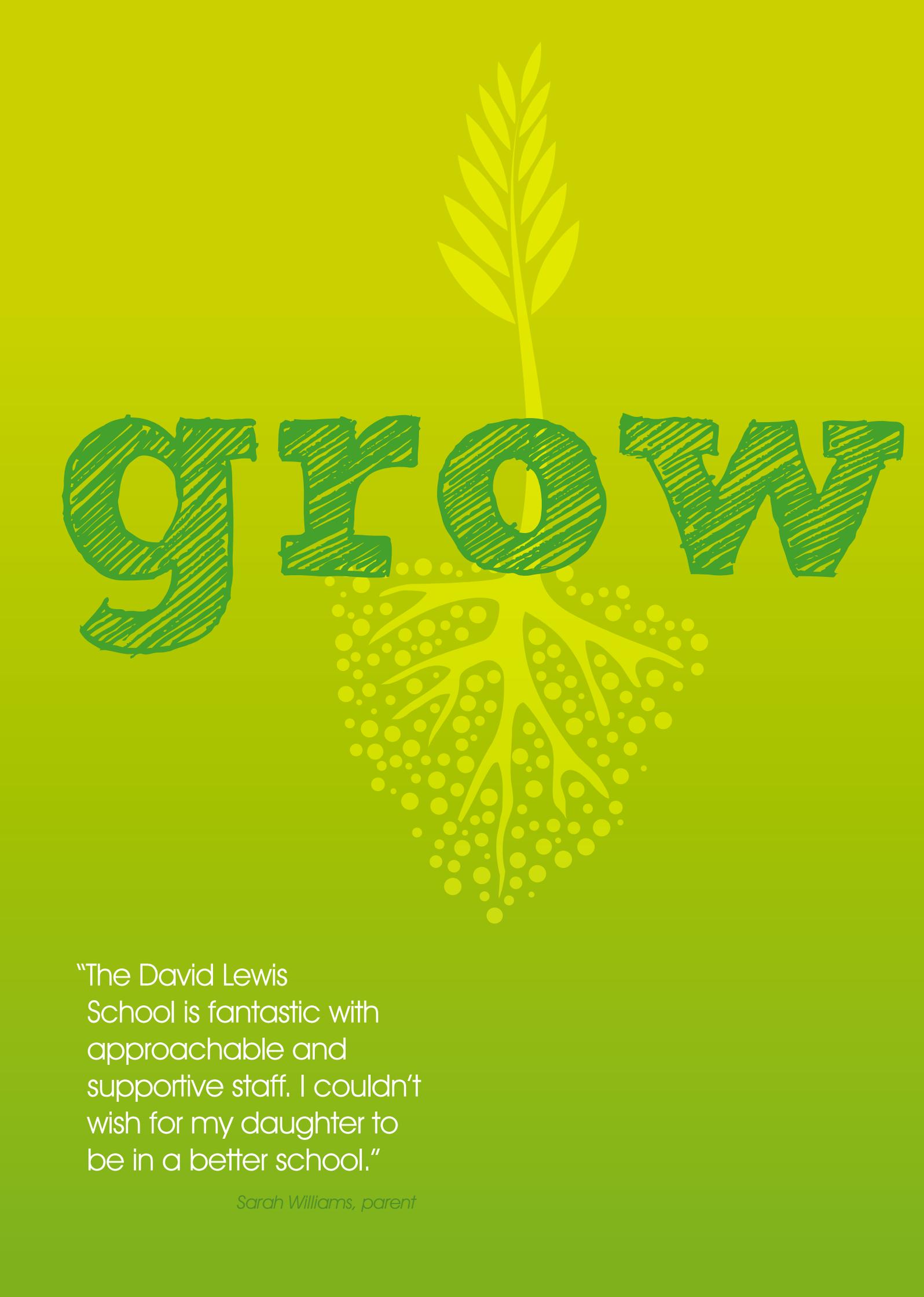
Together, we can look with greater confidence to a brighter future. One where you can fulfil your potential, be confident and happy, becoming an active citizen in your community. And the services offered on our campus do not stop after College – we also offer 'Footsteps', our adult education programme.

Admissions

We accept admissions throughout the year – you can apply at any time for all of our programmes. Our doors are always open. Call us for an initial chat, make an individual appointment to visit us or book yourselves a place on one of our Open Days via the website.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Price". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anne Price
Director Of Education
and Life Skills

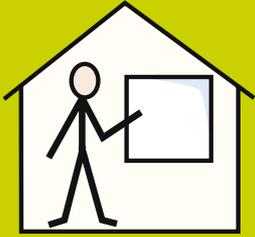


grow

"The David Lewis School is fantastic with approachable and supportive staff. I couldn't wish for my daughter to be in a better school."

Sarah Williams, parent

The David Lewis School



We are here to help you prepare for the future – be it moving on to our College or elsewhere.

To help you grow, become more confident and independent, we need to create a learning programme that's just right for you.

So, from the moment you arrive, we take the time to get to know all about you.



We work with you to find out:

- What you want to get out of your learning programme
- What your skills are
- What you enjoy – and, equally, what may worry you
- What your therapy and support needs are
- Then we design the right programme for you.

So at the David Lewis School you:

- Learn to do new and more things on your own
- Develop your social skills and make new friends
- Improve your communication skills - and be able to tell people what you want
- Fulfil your potential



Social life at the David Lewis School

At David Lewis, our learning environments take many forms. Everyone is relaxed and most importantly, everything is designed for fun learning experiences. Our diverse range of indoor and outdoor facilities bring education and learning to life.

And the informal learning never stops. We have a selection of residential holidays, clubs and leisure trips for you to take advantage of.

In short, we help you grow - in every way.

Find out more about the David Lewis School on the sheets at the back of this prospectus or at www.davidlewis.org.uk/school.

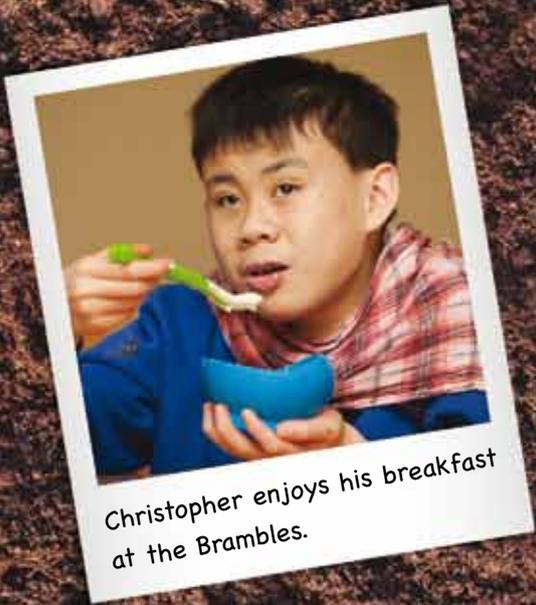
“The development of communication skills is very effective; pupils make exceptional progress in communication and language development”

A day in the life of Christopher

Christopher

Age 15

Yr 11



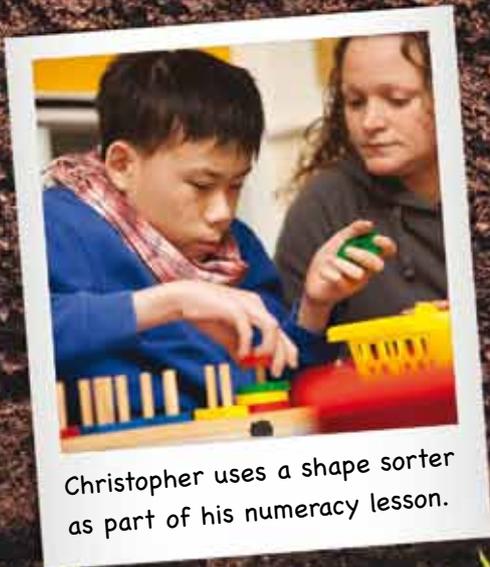
Christopher enjoys his breakfast at the Brambles.



Christopher arrives at school ready to start the day.



Christopher joins in with country dancing during PE class.



Christopher uses a shape sorter as part of his numeracy lesson.



Christopher has regular physiotherapy sessions in the classroom.



he life...

China

Age 16 Yr 12 - 1st Year 6th Form

City & Guilds

Personal Progress Curriculum - Pre Entry Level



China selects the most suitable footwear for the day. For walks she chooses her boots.



China walks to school. Staff allow her to be as independent as possible.



China writes out her timetable each morning.



China uses the photocopier to do her work experience.



China loads the plates into the dishwasher after dinner before going back to school.



China visits the school nurse to be weighed.



The David Lewis College



Your journey:

At the David Lewis College we believe our role is to be your guide along your journey to increased independence. Providing the structure and support you need to grow, we tailor learning programmes to suit your individual needs. So you can aspire and excel.

Our ultimate aim is for you to take ownership and responsibility for yourself - to fulfil your potential. Everything we offer and do is built around you and your progress.

Our commitment – and our passion – is to enable you, our learners, to make the optimum transition to adult life.

One big community. One massive opportunity.

We help you reach your goals, on all fronts - independence, communication, employment, raising your confidence, or building self-esteem. We help you make realistic, achievable choices about your future.

“Thank you so much for all you have done for Rebecca... she started at the David Lewis College as a young girl and left as an adult...”

Mrs Tolley parent

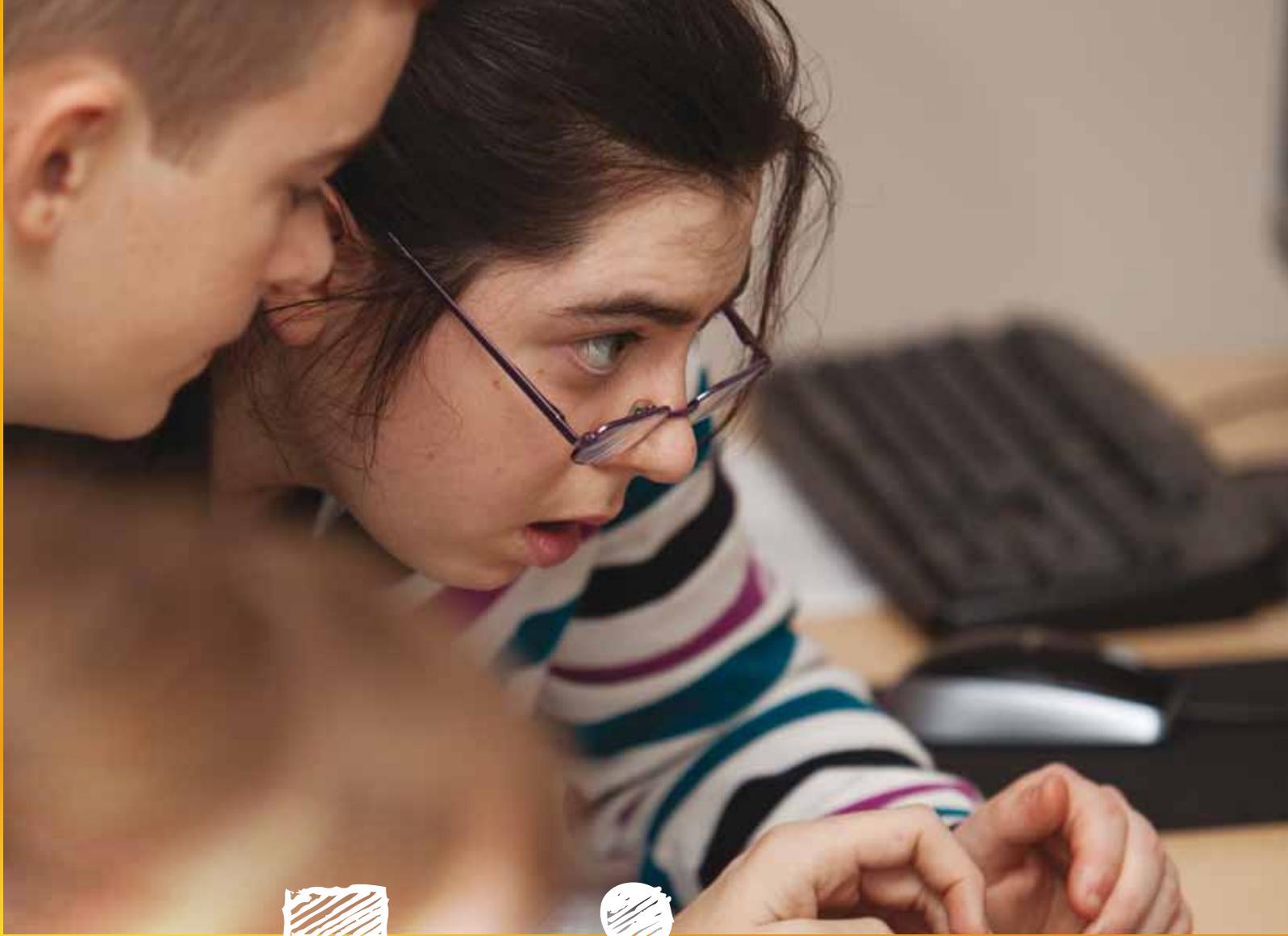
Social life at David Lewis College

You can choose from a diverse range of 'extended curriculum' social activities. From trips to the cinema, theatre, ten pin bowling, gym, eating out, and shopping, to the well attended student disco night at the Hard Rock Café in Macclesfield. Our many clubs and societies include sport, arts, IT and media. We have specially themed nights – like personal presentation evenings (personal pampering nights, which are not just for the girls), movie nights, and food from around the world events, and lots more.

We teach you to live the most fulfilling life you can. You are encouraged to embrace new experiences and develop your skills and knowledge.

You have access to active forums, which organise activities and have real influence on how we shape and take our services forward at david lewis. You can choose to take an active role, or just enjoy being a part of the activities.

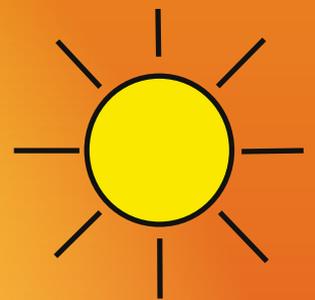
It is your College and our learners lead our extended curriculum leisure activities. Any ideas are considered!



shine

"I love being at the David Lewis College,
as I get to learn lots of new things."

Jemma, Learner

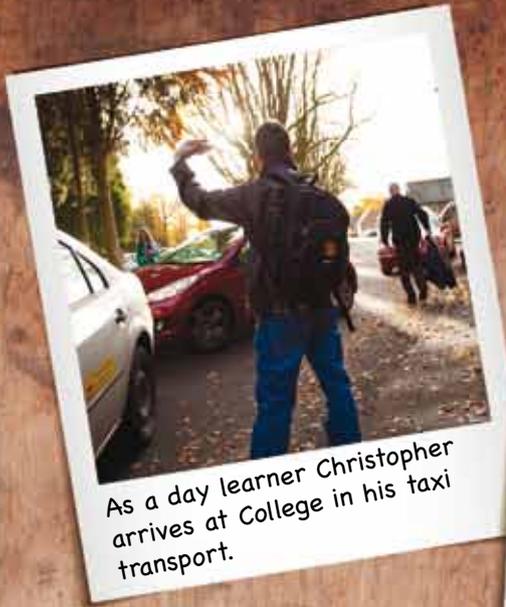


A day in the life...

Christopher

Age 20

2nd Year College Day Student
Course 3: Enjoy, Experience
& Achieve



As a day learner Christopher arrives at College in his taxi transport.



In his ICT class Christopher develops his skills in using digital media.



Time for a bite to eat in the "Juice" café - served by his fellow students.



After lunch Christopher goes to work experience in the administration department.



As part of work experience he works on the reception improving his employment skills.

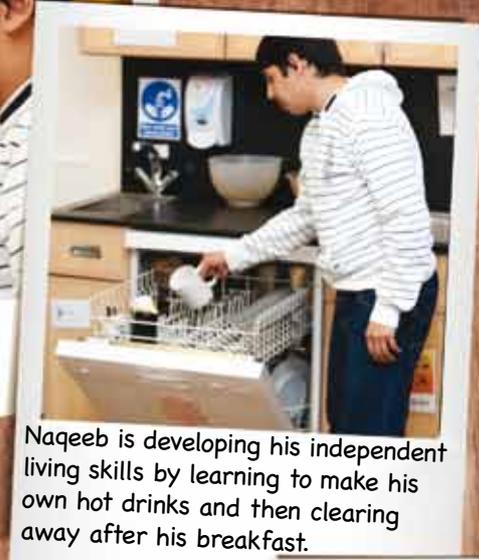
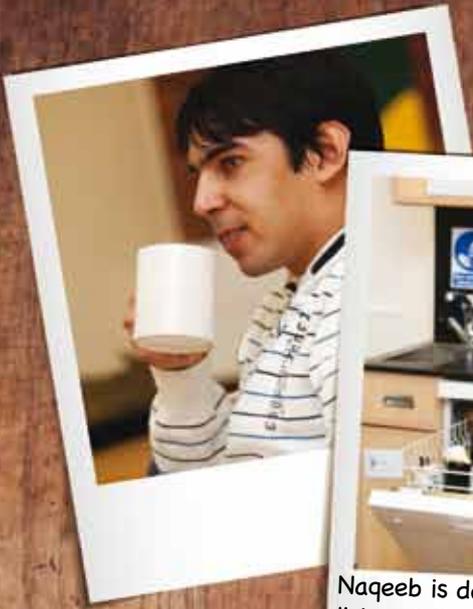


Naqeeb

Age 21

2nd Yr College Student

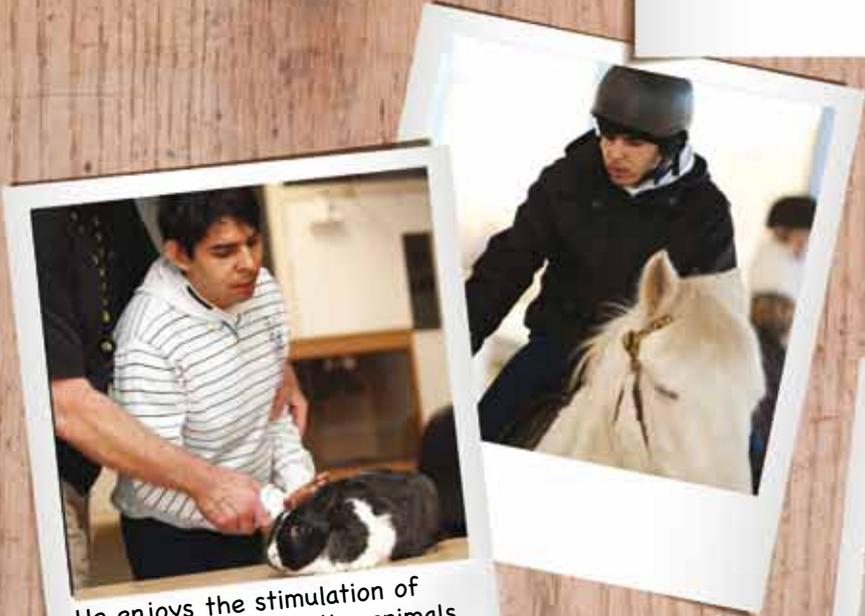
Course 1: Learning through the Senses



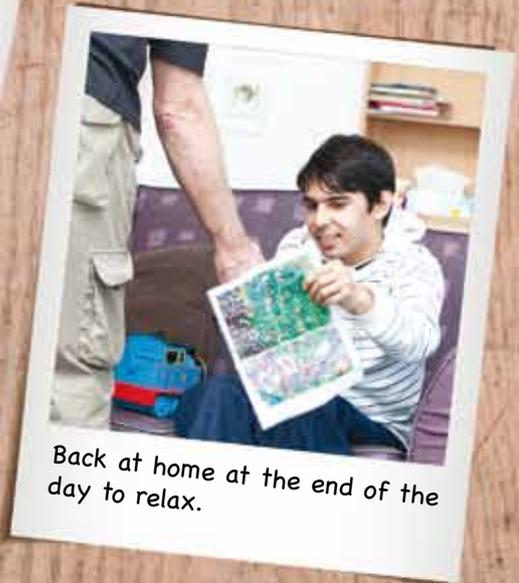
Naqeeb is developing his independent living skills by learning to make his own hot drinks and then clearing away after his breakfast.



Naqeeb follows a sensory curriculum and is enjoying a music lesson.



He enjoys the stimulation of spending time with the animals in the Land Based skills centre followed by horse riding at a local community stable.



Back at home at the end of the day to relax.



With a busy day planned Angela has prepared her own breakfast ready for the day ahead.



Angela is keen to gain employment after college



so working at the local Cooperative store helps her to gain the skills she will need.



In the afternoon Angela continues to develop her employability skills.



Enjoying a shift at the student run 'Juice' café.

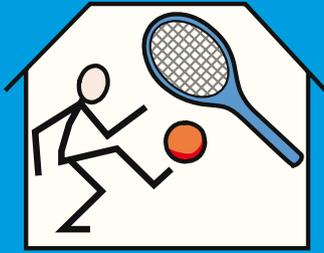


The learning continues into the early evening. Here is Angela doing her laundry.

Angela
Age 21
2nd Year College Student
Course 4: Working
Towards the Future



There is also time to socialise with friends.



Our Facilities

At David Lewis we are committed to creating the very best opportunities for all of our learners in our School and College – and our facilities are testament to that commitment.

We have an Arts & Media Centre with a state-of-the-art Design and Communication Technology Resource facility providing access to high specification computers and other mobile technologies. Here we also run our own radio station 'DL Radio' - broadcasting across our intranet, giving you the chance to even present your own show.

The Eduprint Centre offers a range of industry standard printing equipment - so you can learn to run a print shop and how to print to a professional standard.

'Juice' is a contemporary coffee lounge, run by learners, and used by learners, staff and increasingly by visitors.

Rainbow Cafe is also run by our learners, and used by learners, residents and staff alike. This is where work experience can be carried out, providing the environment to obtain on-the-job-training and qualifications for catering & hospitality and customer service.

The Land Based Skills Centre provides students with a variety of vocational study opportunities as well as a stimulating learning environment. This is home to small animals with plans to introduce larger animals in the future.

Health, fitness and well-being are important, which is why we've invested in our extensive sports and leisure facilities:

- Multi-gym
- Heated swimming pool
- Bowling green and pavilion
- All-weather pitch
- Cycle track with adapted bikes
- Sports hall with accessible changing spaces



explore

achieve



Assessments

David Lewis offer a comprehensive residential assessment service which focuses on the interaction between a young person's epilepsy, learning difficulties and behaviour. This is based on an analysis of seizure activity, medical management and review of diagnosis.

The outcome is framed in recommendations for future management. Partnership working between Paediatric Neurology and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in joint clinics makes our service unique.

The assessment is tailored to each individual and lasts from six weeks to six months.

For more information see the insert provided with this Prospectus, email us at: assessment.enquiries@davidlewis.org.uk or go to: www.davidlewis.org.uk/assessments.

School and College life at David Lewis

- provides specialist education for people aged 14 – 25+, with profound, multiple complex needs – like autism and epilepsy
- offers an extensive range of flexible learning programmes on a daily, residential, or weekly boarder basis
- is lead by an experienced team of professionals with expertise in caring for people with complex needs
- consists of School, College and our adult education programme
- is dedicated to helping our students/service users discover, develop and decide
- will support our students in developing important life skills: independence, interaction, and communication
- offers a range of houses for residential students: from highly supported environments to those promoting increasing levels of independence
- has great facilities, so students can enjoy a rich and varied learning experience: a specialist media centre, multi-gym, print centre, farm, bowling pavilion and more
- offers an holistic approach to learning, with onsite therapists, medical specialists and trained staff – dedicated to supporting all our students

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The David Lewis School and College,
Mill Lane, Warford,
Alderley Edge,
Cheshire, SK9 7UD

Tel: 01565 640000 **Fax:** 01565 640100

Email: school.enquiries@davidlewis.org.uk
college.enquiries@davidlewis.org.uk

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enjoy
experience
achieve
at the...

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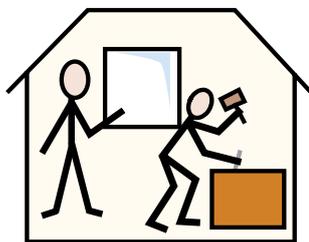
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Admission to the David Lewis College



Want to find out more the about David Lewis College before you apply? Then why not come and see us, at one of our Open Afternoons. Meet our team, see other students, and take a look at everything our College has to offer.

To book a place at our Open Afternoons, or for any initial queries, talk to our Admissions and Funding Manager: 01565 640000 or e-mail us at college.enquiries@davidlewis.org.uk

How to Apply:

Funding for David Lewis College may come from a number of agencies.

- Step 1 Arrange a visit to David Lewis, by booking onto one of our Open Afternoons. We show you around and tell you all about David Lewis and what we have to offer. You can use the 'make a referral' button on the website www.davidlewis.org.uk.
- Step 2 Complete an application form. The form is divided into three sections: one for you and your family/carers/guardians to complete; one for your school; and one for your social worker/community nurse/respite staff. Completion of the form also gives us permission to seek information from your school and medical advisers.
- Step 3 Once we have received all sections of your application form, our multi-disciplinary admissions team meet to discuss your application. If we think David Lewis could be an appropriate placement for you, we offer you an assessment which could be overnight (if you are a residential applicant), or a two day assessment (if you are a day applicant). We may also visit you and your family at home, or see you in action at school.
- Step 4 Following your assessment we decide whether the David Lewis College is the right College for you. If we think it is, we offer you a place. If you say yes, we submit an application for funding to the relevant agencies. If we do not think we can meet your needs we explain why we are saying no.
- Step 5 Once your funding has been agreed in writing, we work with you to support you in transitioning into College.

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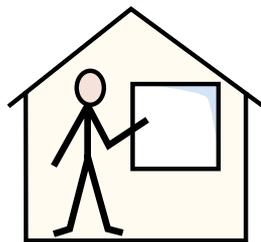
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Admission to the David Lewis School



Here at the David Lewis School we accept admissions throughout the year - so you can apply at any time. Our doors are always open. When considering a placement parents, social workers and prospective learners are welcome to call us for an initial informal chat or arrange to visit us to see first hand the comprehensive facilities, care and attention we offer.

To book a place at our Open Afternoon, or for any initial queries, talk to our Admissions and Funding Manager: 01565 640000 or e-mail us at school.enquiries@davidlewis.org.uk

How to Apply:

- Step 1 Either parents or the local authority should contact the School directly. You can use the 'make a referral' button on the website www.davidlewis.org.uk.
- Step 2 If you are a parent we discuss the needs of your son/daughter in more detail – and the concerns and worries that we know every parent has. If we feel he or she meet the relevant criteria, you are invited to take a look around the School and our residences. You should then contact your local authority (we can help put you in touch with the right person), so that they can make a referral - after which, we send you an application form.
- Step 3 Once we have received all completed sections of your application form, our multi-disciplinary admissions team meet to discuss your application.
- Step 4 If it is felt appropriate, members of our team may visit your school/family home/respice - to gain further information and determine suitable housing/class group.
- Step 5 If we are able to offer an appropriate environment and learning package, an offer and start date are discussed.
- Step 6 Before your placement begins you visit members of our specialist teams for a handover.
- Step 7 Depending on your individual needs we arrange a transition prior to you starting at the School.

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Assessment Service

Our unique assessment service – Age 14-25

Our residential assessment service focuses on the interaction between a young person's epilepsy, learning difficulties and behaviour, based on an analysis of seizure activity, medical management and review of diagnosis. The outcome is framed in recommendations for future management.

Partnership working between Paediatric Neurology and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in joint clinics makes our service unique.



The Psychology team work with the young person to identify their developmental level and devise behaviour management programmes and where appropriate, input from a range of other therapies such as Speech and Language, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy.

The assessment is tailored to each individual and extends from 6 weeks to 6 months. The assessment is offered on a residential basis only to enable the analysis and review of environmental influences.

Referral

Referral to the service comes via your consultant. Once a referral is made, parents, the young person and, if appropriate, the social worker, come to visit. This enables the young person and other key people to reassure themselves that David Lewis is the appropriate place, able to offer a safe, happy, caring and stimulating environment. A range of information will be gathered and, together with the referral information, the Multi- Disciplinary Admissions Team will consider if we are able to meet the needs of the referral.

Funding must be agreed in writing before the placement starts, together with a letter of agreement setting out the aims and criteria for the assessment.

Findings and progress are reported at two points. The first review takes place mid-way through the assessment period. At the end of the assessment a comprehensive report is produced for the commissioners and shared with all parties. Review meetings are usually held at David Lewis but it is also possible for staff to travel to the home area. A video conferencing facility is also available.

During the residential assessment, young people are discouraged from going home in the first few weeks to enable observations to continue during weekend and holiday periods. This provides an opportunity to maximise the benefits from participating in planned activities with their peers.

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Assessment Service Case Study

During the residential assessment Learner AB has:

- Reduced his medication
- Attended school on a full time basis with excellent punctuality
- Reduced his dependency on his wheelchair
- Increased his mobility
- Improved demeanour
- Lost excessive weight

On arrival AB was on five different medications to manage his epilepsy and behaviour. In less than a term, the team were able to reduce the medication prescribed for both epilepsy and behaviour without any detriment to his health.

Before the start of the assessment AB was only attending school in the afternoons and was being educated in isolation from his peers. Now AB attends every day, all day and is educated with his peers. AB swims in our pool every week (something that was stopped at home), rarely uses a wheelchair and now walks everywhere.

Altogether a happier young person, AB enjoys all aspects of the stimulating environment. AB's future plans now include options not previously considered appropriate. Young people who access this service, often successfully progress to full time school or college.

“We are now able to take him to places we have never been able to go to before”

Comment from parents after last home visit

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College Courses and Curriculum that Support your Goals



The David Lewis College curriculum is inspired by choice. Whatever you have been looking forward to, our curriculum supports you in achieving those goals.

Every student has a tutor and a key worker and an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) which is devised with you. The ILP is a document which evolves as we get to know you. It sets out the steps we need to take to help you fulfil your potential for when you leave College.

You have your own individual timetable to suit your particular needs and motivations. There are some key areas of learning in which all learners are expected to make progress. These include Independent Living Skills, Skills for Life, Communication, Personal and Social Skills and Health and Safety.

Work experience is an integral element of your course. We offer a wide range of placements and discuss your wishes and make sure the placement is tailored to your interests.

“Staff work effectively with work
experience providers so they
work positively with learners”

Ofsted



Your timetable is designed to suit you - your needs, interests, aspirations and long term goals. You might choose a vocational area, such as customer service, an arts programme or animal care, to complement the key areas of your course.

We produce your timetable to enable you to understand it with either pictures, symbols, or just words.

“I enjoy coming to college.
I enjoy all of my timetable,
especially the Rainbow Cafe...”

Andrew D, Learner

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Our Courses

We offer education for young people working between P Level/Milestone 1 to Level 1.

You enrol on one of our four courses depending on what level you are currently learning.

Pre Entry Courses:

Course 1: Learning through the Senses is for learners who are learning between P levels or Milestones 2 and 6. This course enables you to develop effective total communication and functional independence skills through sensory experiences.

Course 2: Living Life and Learning is for those learning between P levels or Milestones 5 to Entry Level 1. This course enables you to develop effective total communication and functional independence skills through practical experiences.

Entry Level Courses:

Course 3: Enjoy, Experience and Achieve is for those learning between P levels or Milestones 8 to Entry Level 2. This course develops effective communication and functional independence skills through vocational and curriculum focused learning.

Course 4: Working Towards The Future is for those learning at Entry Levels 1 - 3, up to and including Level 1. This course provides learners with the skills for independence and the foundation for work.

“The four strands of learning
provide diverse choice of
subject areas and clear
progression routes”

Ofsted

All courses, where appropriate, offer qualifications and accreditations from leading exam boards - for you to take with you to the next stage of your adult life.

Every David Lewis College placement is different, and each learner has an individual timetable. This is supported by whatever specialist input you need, including speech, language and communication therapy, psychology and behaviour support, physiotherapy and hydrotherapy, medical and clinical specialists and occupational therapy. All of whom work together to minimise your barriers to learning and enable you to fulfil your potential.

Our Curriculum

The David Lewis College offers opportunities to develop life skills during formal curriculum hours and during the extended curriculum – evenings and weekends. Where appropriate, students work towards an accredited Life Skills qualification and qualifications in Literacy, Numeracy, English Speaking Board, Information Communication Technology (ICT) plus many other subject areas.

Every learner has a day timetable plus an extended curriculum timetable. Together, these give you many choices in terms of subject area and leisure activities.



Formal Curriculum

Life Skills

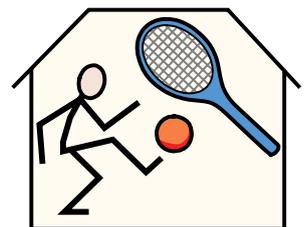
Learning includes sessions in Citizenship, Life Skills, Personal and Social Skills, ICT, Skills for Life, Shop and Travel and Community Access. The extended curriculum enables you to develop your life skills in a real environment.

Arts and Media

For those who enjoy the arts, we offer Media Studies which includes short film making, documentaries, professional printed media, the David Lewis radio station and pod casts, music, art, photography and performance. Students are actively involved in a range of external arts and media events including links to the Barnaby Festival in Macclesfield, our fashion show which has taken place in the Trafford Centre and exhibitions including the Urbis Centre, Manchester.

Health & Fitness

Health, fitness and well-being are important, which is why we've invested in our leisure facilities, including our multi-gym, heated swimming pool, sports hall, adapted bikes and an all-weather pitch which is due to be finished in 2011. A wide range of community sporting facilities are accessed on a weekly basis.





Vocational Studies

Sessions include Hospitality and Catering, Land Based Skills studies, Business and Preparing for Employment.



Hospitality and Catering

The David Lewis College offers learners the opportunity to learn skills in Hospitality and Catering, through a range of professional and progressive environments. Students learn how to run a café bar and service customers in a range of settings. In doing so, you can develop a range of skills such as money management, interpersonal communication and personal and food hygiene.

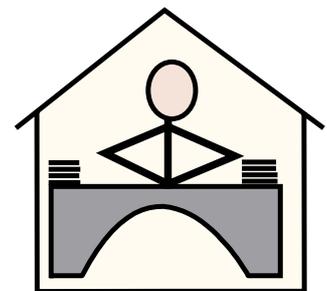
'Juice' is our 21st century coffee lounge. If you like talking to people and think you may enjoy customer service or food preparation, 'Juice' offers you great opportunities to develop your skills in a fun, lively and thriving environment. To complement this area, and to provide further professional catering environments, students work in the 'Rainbow cafe' and offer a service to external customers through the meetings and conference service, both on site and at the Hall at Marthall.

Land Based Skills

The Land Based Skills Centre facilitates learning in horticulture and animal care. Students learn about the environment, taking responsibility for plants and animals, how to work safely and team work. This area is complemented by the partnership we have with the National Trust and Reaseheath College. There is also an opportunity for some learners who have an interest in woodwork.

Business and Office Skills

The College operates a full range of training facilities both onsite and in the community. The office and training reception in the main college are complemented by a facility in the Hall at Marthall and Studio 5, our arts and craft shop in the local town of Holmes Chapel.



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Residential Facilities

At David Lewis we pride ourselves on the quality of our accommodation. Ranging from highly supported environments to houses that promote increasing levels of independence in the skills of daily living and personal care. Our residences provide pleasant and appropriate living environments which are conducive to learning.

Our lovely setting has a village-like feel to it – and there is a real sense of community too – offering you space, freedom and security.



Types of residences

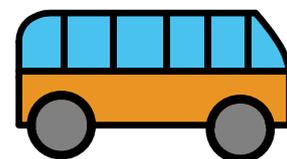
Our School and College learners have access to up to twenty residences, ranging from cosy modern houses to elegant, older, larger houses with high ceilings. The accommodation provides a range of environments including those which offer low stimulus, others that offer high levels of structure and further accommodation which offer a typical student 'Hall of Residence' feel. Some offer lots of space, and then there are those which are just like a family home. Our largest single residential house has eight bedrooms and our smallest, two bedrooms.



Every residential learner has their own bedroom. Some accommodation provides en suite facilities whilst in others people share facilities. Every house has waking night staff.

Facilities

All houses provide communal lounges with TVs, kitchens and dining areas. Our residential facilities and services include individualised personal care equipment, WiFi and Skype telephone access and specialist technologies with some providing adapted rooms and sensory rooms. There is always a great atmosphere and lots to do here at David Lewis.



Extended curriculum time focuses on developing life skills, social communication and interaction skills - with a full programme of social, leisure and creative activities.

Our fleet of accessible minibuses are on hand to support the wealth of activities taking place every day.

All our accommodation is registered and inspected by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission.

Residential learners are able to access all our onsite facilities each evening and at weekends. The swimming pool and other sports facilities are open seven days per week, even during holiday times. The 'David Lewis Local' shop sells a range of products and is open every week day.

We encourage every learner to open their own account in a high street bank or building society. We also operate our own onsite 'bank' which opens every weekday providing learners with access to their own money and opportunities to develop money management skills. Financial policies and processes are in place to ensure learners' personal money is well managed and safe.

David Lewis

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The School Curriculum and how we teach

“Teachers develop strong relationships with pupils and manage their behaviour extremely well” *Ofsted*



The David Lewis School offers the City & Guilds Personal Progress Foundation Learning Programme for students 14-19. The programme offers increased choice and flexibility for learners and a personalised learning programme that reflects needs, allowing learners to develop their potential and progress into further education or a more independent life. Qualifications are achieved by building up credits from a choice of 32 units.

The programme spans a wide range of achievement from the ability to encounter experiences to the ability to apply basic skills, knowledge and understanding to a range of familiar experiences.

The units include literacy, numeracy, ICT, independent living, personal care, keeping fit and healthy, community awareness and creative skills.

In both Key Stage 4 and the sixth form, basic skills are the major part of the curriculum. In addition students in Key Stage 4 focus on independent living skills which are extended in the sixth form to include rights and responsibilities, dealing with problems, work experience and transition.

Qualifications can be gained at award, certificate and diploma level based on the number of credits achieved.

At the David Lewis School everything we do is focused on you. And our learning plans are just like you - individual.

Our 'Learner Voice' ethos means you are listened to, heard and respected. That is why developing your communication skill is central to everything we do.

Our teaching practices

You are taught in small groups of five or fewer students, in one classroom, with your teacher and your very own individual support. Some of our learners find transition difficult, so we help you in every way we can - through community visits, PE, swimming and developing work experience opportunities, both on site and in the wider community.

This means you benefit from having the same teacher for all of your classes, plus the joint involvement from your team of key workers across both your educational and residential units (for residential pupils). Your teacher and key worker team work together to set goals and discuss your achievements. This close and consistent relationship helps to shape your progress.

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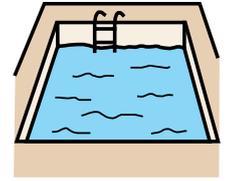
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Reviews and targets

A range of regular reviews mean you can progress along your journey towards greater independence. Your Individual Learning Plan, which is created with you, your therapists, house team and teachers are shared with your family and circle of support. Setting challenging, yet achievable targets, we help you to develop, independently and socially. Progress is captured and measured using the 'B squared' system as well as photo story records.

Communication

Communication and language development is the core of our curriculum. The swimming pool is a vital part of the toolkit and you will take part in weekly interactive communication sessions in the pool with the speech and language staff. Literacy and numeracy is developed via creative writing or by embedding it into other activities.



The wider community

At David Lewis the wider community is used effectively to develop skills. Using our fleet of adapted minibuses, you are able to develop social interaction skills whilst shopping and using local amenities including a climbing wall and horse riding. On other occasions the community come to us. We regularly host visits from organisations such as Macclesfield Town Football Club, the animal man with his insects and reptiles and the 'Music in Hospitals' team...

Physical education

Physical education is high on our list of priorities. We have a range of adapted bikes which enable everyone to take part. Country dancing is a favourite with many, as is the sensory soft play centre with its ball pool, housed in the spacious sports hall. The tropical warmth of our pool is eagerly anticipated in weekly swimming sessions.

ICT

Information Communication Technology (ICT) engages all learners. Interactive Omivista technology turns floor spaces into an ongoing experience of movement, action, fun and excitement. Sensory screens enable pupils to take control of their learning and access the whole range of appropriate online learning materials. Art and creative skills may be developed using ICT or by using more traditional materials.

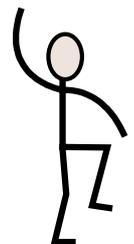
Work related learning

Work related learning is encouraged via work experience and through engaging in Team Enterprise.

Equality and diversity and health and safety are experienced and developed through embedded curriculum activities.

Integrated therapy

Specialist staff work alongside the teaching and care staff enabling individual programmes to be delivered through everyday activities. Aspects of a physiotherapy programme will be delivered whilst in the swimming pool or by encouraging a pupil to walk to a computer screen in a classroom. A behaviour plan is delivered by all staff consistently applying approaches identified by the psychology and behaviour team, whenever and wherever they interact with a pupil.



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Specialist Support Services



All the support you need, when you need it from the moment you arrive. Our multi-disciplinary team approach is a vital resource and, it is one of the keys to our success.

“Outstanding links with a wide range of therapists – a real strength of the provision. Pastoral support and guidance is exceptional leading to outstanding personal development”

Ofsted

Our team of specialists is dedicated to understanding the impact epilepsy and neurological disability can have on people's lives and on their learning. Working with you, our team take an holistic, integrated approach to your learning and care - helping you progress along your journey to optimum independence, so you can realise your potential.

At David Lewis we take a multi-disciplined approach to supporting our learners. It is what makes us unique, and successful. Providing an holistic approach to managing your health so that you can focus on enjoying everything your education experience has to offer.

As well as being fully supported by educational specialists, if required, you also have excellent care, medical, clinical and therapy input from the following teams:

- Medical and Clinical Team
- Psychology and Behaviour Support Service (PABSS)
- Speech and Language and Communication Therapy and Specialist Communication Support
- Physiotherapy, hydrotherapy and occupational therapy
- Social Work Team



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Medical and Clinical Team



Residential Learners

Our onsite medical and clinical team ensures students receive the medical and clinical care they need: A clinic for all general nursing and GP issues, neurology, neuropsychiatry, child and adolescent psychiatry, clinical psychology, behaviour support specialists, visiting dentist, dietician, chiropodist and optician, EEG facilities, pharmacy, 24 hour emergency nursing cover, direct links with audiology and full time doctors and nurses. Our unique service offers joint clinics which focus on the interaction between epilepsy and behaviour due to the partnership working between Paediatric Neurology and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Day Learners

At the time of the day learners admission, nurses put together a Health Action Plan. For medical and clinical care, Day Learners remain under the responsibility of their local GP and NHS Trust. A duty nurse will administer medication to any day learner who requires it during the educational day, following a formal permission letter containing exact details of medication from the main carer. Medical staff will deal with learner accidents.

Multi-Disciplinary Team

Residential Learners

Our Multi-Disciplinary Team comprises a group of senior professionals - with expertise in medical, clinical, therapeutic, education and care. Very strong, well established links exist with a number of NHS Trusts including the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust, Bolton, Salford and Trafford Mental Health Trust and The Walton Centre in Liverpool, the latter being the only specialist hospital dedicated to caring for people with neurological conditions.



Consultant paediatric and adult neurologists, psychiatrists and neuropsychiatrists work on a daily basis with the staff and learners within the David Lewis School and College to provide expert advice and support. This provision complements and enhances David Lewis' own experienced and professional medical and specialist teams delivering a superb multi-disciplinary and multi-professional approach for each individual learner.

Meeting weekly, the team discuss, review and evaluate each student's progress in terms of education and daily living skills. They also address any barriers which may impact on the success of your education and residential educational placement.

Learners are discussed on a termly basis or more often if the need arises. All aspects of their clinical and social care are discussed in an holistic manner.

Psychology and Behaviour Support Service (PABSS)

Clinical Psychologists and Behaviour Management Advisors work as part of our multidisciplinary college team undertaking specialist assessments and advising on the management of a wide range of behavioural issues.

PABSS is able to carry out detailed psychological and behavioural assessments and design management programmes tailored to individual learner needs. They can also offer more general support and advice. They may also work with some learners on an individual basis to help with a range of emotional issues.

Members of PABSS often work closely with David Lewis School and College tutors and support staff. They also sometimes meet with parents and other professionals involved in supporting learner needs.

Many learners have an established need for PABSS input at the time of admission with plans often in place before they arrive. These are reviewed regularly and further assessment, advice and support is provided on an ongoing and flexible basis. All of our learners have some input from PABSS during our regular multi disciplinary reviews although not all will need individual follow up.

Speech, Language and Communication Team

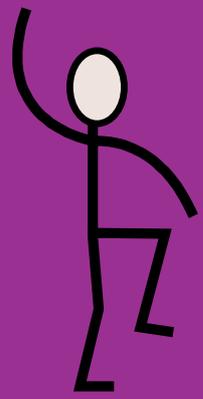
Our Speech, Language and Communication Team consists of qualified speech and language therapists who are supported by trained specialist communication support staff.

In the first instance our team assess for the level of understanding and communication skills of a learner. The results determine the learner's speech, language and communication therapy programme. A Communication Plan is created for every student - and is regularly updated with targets.



In line with our holistic learning approach the speech and language programme links in with education, the residential unit and, if appropriate, other therapies.





Physiotherapy, Hydrotherapy and Occupational Therapy Team

Our Physiotherapy, Hydrotherapy and Occupational Therapy Team consists of qualified therapists and assistants who are supported by the team of care staff whom, where appropriate, they train to deliver daily programmes.

In the first instance the team assesses what is required and complete a therapy plan where appropriate. From the plan, a programme is designed, staff identified and trained to deliver the programme alongside the therapist. The plan is reviewed and regularly updated with targets.

In line with our holistic learning approach the therapy programme links in with education, the residential unit and if appropriate other therapies.

Social Work Team

Safeguarding of Children and Young Adults

David Lewis has robust procedures in place in relation to the protection of those in our care. Our procedures work in line with Cheshire East County Council Safeguarding policies and current legislation, The Children Act 1989 and No Secrets. David Lewis has a dedicated Social Work Team which is the lead for all referrals of allegations, suspicions and concerns.

All staff working within the School and College receive a high level of annual training and are provided with information within each department in relation to policies and the referral process, which must be adhered to at all times.

The social work team also work closely with learners and can make referrals to advocacy services if deemed appropriate.

The social work team is always represented on the admissions panel looking at applications to all services.

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