



The John of Gaunt School - Specialist Resource Base Provision for Communication and Interaction Needs



The John of Gaunt School is a co-educational 11-18 comprehensive secondary school in Trowbridge and is part of the Equa Academy Trust. The specialist resource base provision (RBP) within the school opened in September 2023 and is designated as a provision for young people with an EHCP for communication and interaction needs (including autism) who, without such provision would be unable to access a mainstream curriculum. It is resourced to meet up to 10 young people in 2023/24. This will increase to up to 20 places over time.

What is provided within the specialist learning environment?

The RBP is currently located in a temporary location within the school campus. In development is a permanent suite of rooms as part of a new building on the school site, set to open by September 2024. The environment is structured to be welcoming, communication friendly and inclusive. The current Resource Base comprises of two teaching rooms, a breakout space and a garden area. The base provides a small group, nurturing environment which also allows students to benefit from opportunities within the mainstream setting.

What is the curriculum offer?

We see all learners and potential learners as of equal value and as individuals, irrespective of ability, race, gender or need. This is reflected in the school's organisation and curriculum structure, its assessment and rewards systems, arrangements for careers' education and work experience. Students with SEN/D are integrated and included fully into the life of the school as a whole, including its cultural and social activities. Within the Resource base we follow the mainstream curriculum for core subjects as appropriate to each student's ability. Students have individualised timetables to ensure support is provided to meet outcomes set out in their EHCP. Students are able to access a broader range of subjects through supported integration into some mainstream lessons.

What additional support is provided?

The aim is for students to spend an increasing proportion of their time in mainstream classes, following the mainstream curriculum and attend classes with specialist teaching assistants where appropriate. The balance of time spent within mainstream classes and within the base provision setting is flexible and is targeted according to the individual needs of each student. The resource base specialist team works closely with The John of Gaunt staff to manage integration within the main school.

All students work towards their EHCP outcomes, through a variety of programmes and interventions as directed by the RBP staff and with advisory support from visiting school support



professionals. This includes therapists, educational psychologists, specialist teachers, Emotional Literacy Teaching Assistants, Higher Level Teaching Assistants, Forest School leaders and Thrive practitioners. The RBP also benefits from specialist outreach advice from local special schools.

How are pupils prepared for adulthood?

Pupils are expected to access the GCSE accreditation offered as part of mainstream setting. We also focus on life skills; developing independence, life in the community, social and communication skills, employability with an aim to move people on to their goals. They can progress through to employment, further education courses or training opportunities.

To find out more information about The John of Gaunt School, please visit our website:

<https://www.johnofgauntschool.org/>

