

COMMISSIONING BRIEF FOR ALDERMAN KNIGHT

COMMUNITY SPECIAL SCHOOL

1.	AIM AND PURPOSE: Alderman Knight is an educational provision for some children and young people whose needs cannot be met in mainstream. The aim is to ensure there is a continuum of provision that provides these young people with an enriched and extended curriculum, tailored to individual needs and supports them to achieve their potential within a supportive environment where they feel safe and happy to learn. This will help them develop positive feelings of self-worth and confidence and will enable them to make a successful transition to adulthood and be active and responsible citizens. In addition to providing education, the provision will provide a holistic approach that will develop resilience and help address additional needs that might impact on their ability to learn. This may include complex needs including learning, communication and interaction including social, emotional and mental health needs. The school is commissioned to provide a range of support strategies and approaches as needed by individual pupils in order to help pupils start to address any issues which affect their learning.
2.	OUTCOMES: The school will be child and young person centred and outcome focused. It is commissioned to achieve the following outcomes for pupils in receipt of the service: • Young people are engaged in education, have a positive attitude to learning and confidence in their academic achievements. • Young people develop their emotional resilience. • Young people achieve stretching academic and vocational attainment targets to improve future life chances. • Young people have clear planned progression routes at 16 designed to meet their preparing for adulthood EHCP outcomes which will lead to employment, community activity and independence. • Young people are kept safe and are able to make safe lifestyle choices. The school will have a key role to play in narrowing the gap and improving outcomes for vulnerable groups of children.
3. 3.1	DETAILS OF THE SERVICE: Capacity The service, at any one time, will provide education and support placements to a maximum capacity of 220 pupils: • 195 Pre 16 pupils (aged 7 to 16 years) • 25 Post 16 students (aged 16 to 19 years) Commissioned places are as follows: • Number: 220 • Age range: 7 to 19 years • Gender: Co-educational

3.2	Client Group and Criteria 1. Pre 16 pupils aged 7 – 16 years The service is for children and young people whose primary special needs have been identified as: • Communication and Interaction and • Cognition and Learning Children and young people may also have associated complex learning needs and disabilities (i.e. they may have conditions that overlap and interlock, e.g. mental health, physical, medical, sensory, communication & interaction) The school does not make provision for children and young people whose primary Special Educational Need is Social, Emotional and Mental Health presenting with challenging behaviour. The school does not make provision for children and young people whose primary Special Education Need require a highly adapted sensory curriculum. This provision is for children and young people whose academic attainments are generally well below-expected levels in most areas of the curriculum or who demonstrate significant differences between their academic ability across the curriculum. This will be evidenced by standardised tests which are generally below the 50th percentile but above the 5th percentile or by significant variation in standardised testing across the cognitive range. 2. Post students aged 16 – 19 years The Post 16 provision at Alderman Knight School will provide for young people aged 16 to 19 with EHCPs and statements of special educational needs which identify they must: • Have complex communication and interaction special educational needs usually associated with an autistic spectrum disorder including Asperger’s syndrome, and complex needs including anxieties, emotional, social and mental health needs, and: • Have the cognitive potential to attain a range of accreditations at Level 2/ GCSE equivalent Grades 9 to 4 and • Require a specialist setting to access a further education curriculum The Local Authority will determine/assess children and young people on a case by case basis against the criteria as given. It is recognised that children and young people often have needs that crossover different areas and their needs can change over time. Therefore, these areas give an overview of the range of needs that could be catered for within this specialist setting
-----	--

4. 4.1 4.2	DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE: Placements: All placements into the school will be made through, the Local Authority. Admissions procedure: It is expected that all placements will have met the indicators for admissions at Special Schools as follows; 1. The child or young person has an EHCP. 2. The child/young person requires a highly differentiated curriculum and/or learning environment which would not be available in mainstream settings. The child or young person's needs will have already been supported through a high level of additional resources through the Gloucestershire graduated pathway. There must be clear evidence that despite appropriate interventions, the child/young person has persistent, complex, long term learning needs as evidenced by standardised assessments and attainments which are well below expected levels in most areas of the curriculum. This will be evidenced by standardised tests, which for Alderman Knight School will be generally between the 5th and 50th percentile. 3. The child or young person has complex and significant needs in one or more of: • Communication and interaction • Cognition and learning as evidenced in reports from Educational Psychologists, Advisory Teachers, Speech and Language Therapists, school or college reports from other practitioners or agencies involved with the child/young person. 4. The Resource Allocation System (RAS) score, administered by the Local Authority, needs to have indicated that a specialist provision is required to meet the outcomes on the plan. 5. The young person/parent has expressed a preference for a special school placement which is agreed by the local authority's multi agency Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND) resource panel Or The parent/young person expresses preference for mainstream school but evidence indicates that no reasonable steps could be taken by the school or local authority to overcome the 'incompatibility with the efficient education of other pupils. (Education Act 2006 and January 2015 SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 years) 6. Additional indicators may include a predicted high level of dependency through life and long term multi agency interventions from both health and social care
5.	CURRICULUM AND ACCREDITATION OF LEARNING: The school will provide access to a good quality and balanced curriculum. All learning will be of high-quality and provide a suitable curriculum designed to meet the needs of the individual child or young person. All potential opportunities for accreditation will be identified and stretching but achievable attainment targets for young people will be set. Pre 16 pupils will also be provided with opportunities to experience work placements and take part in vocational courses through college if required and appropriate. Post 16 students will undertake a range of different work placements as part of their curriculum to develop employability skills and support transition to adulthood and promote independent living. These students will also have access to vocational and higher level academic courses at local provider colleges if required.
6.	ANNUAL REVIEWS OF EHCPs AND REINTEGRATION:

8.2	• Parents/carers are made to feel welcome on-site and appropriate opportunities are available for them to visit provision. • Parents are aware of their legal responsibility to ensure regular attendance at the school. • As a minimum, face to face contact with parent /carers should be made 3 times per academic year for instance through parents' evenings. • Annual reports should be provided to parents. Participation and involvement of children and young people The involvement of children, young people and families in the design, delivery and review of the provision should be encouraged and supported and the school is expected to comply with Gloucestershire County Council's protocols.
9.	MONITORING AND REVIEW: This commissioning brief will be reviewed annually.