

## Our Specialist Resource Provision - The Lighthouse

The Leigh Academy Hugh Christie contains a Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) based within The Lighthouse, that provides support for 22 students on the Autistic Spectrum.

Within this provision, each student has an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) whose primary need is identified as ASD. Students are supported by specialist staff within the provision which comprises a classroom and sensory area.

Each student has a carefully planned, personalised timetable which takes account of their individual needs whilst maintaining a significant level of challenge built within it. These students access the Academy for most of their mainstream lessons, such as English, Maths and Science, unless they are taking part in a planned intervention or require time for regulation in the SRP.

The aim is to enable each student to integrate into main school lessons full time to study the full range of KS3 and KS4 examination courses and enrichment activities.

Our SRP is a supportive and inclusive learning environment that caters for children and young people on roll who have Special Educational Needs related to social communication difficulties and autism. They may show signs of social communication and social interaction challenges, repetitive and restrictive behaviour and/or being over or under sensitive to the school environment. Examples of the support we offer are:

- Communication and interaction support
- Social skills and development
- Emotional regulation support
- Support to access the mainstream curriculum
- Strategies to improve independence
- Literacy and numeracy support.

We provide highly specialist support that enables autistic individuals to make progress towards their identified priority goals and support strong links to both mainstream classes and mainstream curriculum. This offers a flexible approach to best meet the presenting needs of students with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) and enables them to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally

In order to accelerate learning and improve standards, interventions will be in place with a particular focus on communication and interaction and as part of a "Graduated Approach" that meets the specific and individual needs of every student here at The Lighthouse, Leigh Academy Hugh Christie. We follow the Mainstream Core Standards advice developed by Kent County Council to ensure teaching conforms to best practice.

Our Specialist Resource Provision at The Lighthouse, Leigh Academy Hugh Christie is "small in number, big on impact".

### Our Graduated Approach at Leigh Academy Hugh Christie

'Assess' is about *us* observing students and identifying any areas of need.

'Plan' is when *we* meet with the *student* and their *parents* to discuss what support they feel will help them to achieve their goals.

'Do' is when *we* implement the support that *we* have planned out.

Potentially, the most important part of the cycle is 'review' as it allows *students* to give feedback on whether the support is working and allows *students* and *staff* to make adjustments if necessary.

The Assess, Plan, Do and Review cycle will be completed at least three times a year.

Evidence based interventions available within the provision includes, targeted small group and individual support to improve Literacy and Numeracy, Social Skills groups, Life Skills activities and access to a Speech and Language Specialist. These interventions promote independence by teaching key skills in social communication, emotional regulation, social interaction and self-care.

### Our Daily Offer in The Lighthouse

We appreciate mornings can be particularly stressful for students with ASC. Ensuring our students have a positive start to the day can reduce anxiety and set the tone for the rest of their school day, allowing them to focus on learning. Therefore, The Lighthouse opens at 08:15 am, offering a valuable support system for learners, addressing their specific needs and fostering a positive morning experience.

In order to accelerate learning and improve standards, interventions will be implemented as part of a bespoke curriculum that meets the specific, individual needs of every student here at the Lighthouse.

Timetables are agreed upon during the "Plan" stage of our graduated approach, with interventions taking place in The Lighthouse during the students' allocated time in our provision.

## Our Menu of Interventions

Speech, Language and Communication Needs - Speech and Language Specialist, Social Skills Groups

Social, Emotional and Mental Health - Breakfast/Break/Lunch Clubs, School Counsellor, Social Skills Group, Peer Mentoring

Multi-Sensory Impairment - Calm Space

Specific Learning Difficulties - 1:1 and Small Group Numeracy Interventions, 1:1 and Small Group Literacy Interventions

