



'Improving the quality of family life'

Snowflake School

LOCAL OFFER

Snowflake School Local Offer

All schools have to set out what provision they have to offer all pupils and be specific about what they can offer pupils with additional needs.

This document sets out what we offer at Snowflake School, an Independent School situated on two sites; the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (Primary Site) and London Borough of Ealing (Secondary Site).

Please contact us directly if you would like further information on;

020 7370 3232

info@snowflakeschool.org.uk

Snowflake School

Snowflake School teaches pupils aged 5 to 16 years with autism and related communication disorders.

We are an independent, non-profit day school, registered with the Department of Education as a Non Association Independent Special School - number 207/6408 Snowflake is listed on the Secretary of State for Education List 41 of approved schools.

Pupils attend from Local Authorities all over London.

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Applied Behaviour Analysis

Verbal Behaviour

We use the principles of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) and B F Skinner's analysis of Verbal Behaviour (VB).

Teaching with ABA/VB reduces challenging behaviour and helps pupils to build on their social, play and independence skills. Pupils achieve their full potential with ABA/VB.

By reducing behaviour which proves to be a barrier to learning, we're able to give pupils access to a broad, balanced and specialised curriculum, with clear impact, intent and direct implementation.

Our School Vision

No two snowflakes are identical and all pupils that attend Snowflake School are unique and amazing individuals who have an abundance of skills and potential. We aspire to be a learning community that invests in the development of staff knowledge and skills as well as pupils, families and the wider community. We aim to be a place of excellence and to spread the word that the Applied Behaviour Analysis/Verbal Behaviour (ABA/VB) approach to Teaching and Learning is very effective and can bring great benefits for pupils with autism, leading to real improvements in the quality of family life.

Our guiding principles and aims



Learner's Potential

We believe every pupil has the potential to develop skills beyond their current level and should be free of behaviours that create a barrier to learning and limit opportunities for full community involvement. Our values support our beliefs.

Functional Communication

We will teach functional communication and all skills that will lead to rewarding personal relationships, well-being, vocational productivity and self-determined daily activity.

Applied Behaviour Analysis

We use evidence based practice underpinned by the science of applied behaviour analysis and its underlying assumptions to guide our analysis of learner needs and our recommendations of effective teaching and learning

Our guiding principles and aims



Development of Skills

Functional communication is the foundation that supports the development of skills in all areas and therefore B.F. Skinner's analysis of verbal behaviour and the supporting empirical work guide our support and teaching recommendations.

Instructional Methods

Taking and analysing data is central to our practice and ensures that we make effective and informed decisions.

First Educators

We recognise that parents/carers are the pupils' first educators and that their expertise is of paramount importance.

All-round Development

The link between home, school and external agencies are crucial to fully support all-round development.

Snowflake School ensures

Our provision is made in accordance with the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice 2014

The Head Teacher is the lead person for SEND.

We invest in whole school and targeted training for staff.

Our teaching approach and practice is completely inclusive.

We provide information on SEND to parents and Trustees.

We publish our school SEND policy and accessibility plan on our website.

Pupils

All pupils have an diagnosis of Autism and/or a related communication disorder. Most have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

All pupils receive additional therapy, such as Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy. We also provide yoga therapy.

Staff

Every pupil has a 1:1 teaching provided by a tutor trained in ABA.

The staff team work in multi-disciplinary teams, meeting together to set targets and plan programmes. All pupils' communication and sensory needs are incorporated into their individualized curriculum, reinforced daily

Specialist teachers for music, physical education, phonics, science and yoga teach group and individual lessons.

Teachers plan and teach ASDAN, National curriculum English and Maths lessons, Essentials for Living and PSHE and SRE There is a preparing for Adulthood Curriculum being developed at the secondary site.

Who are the best people at Snowflake School to talk to about a pupil's needs?

Within our school the best people at school to talk to for more information or about a pupil's needs are:

Farayeh Akhavan, Proprietor, Burser

Kerry Sternstein, Head teacher

Tara Morgan, Senior ABA/VB Supervisor

Catherine Stephenson, Assistant Head (Secondary)

Andrea Moldava, Assistant Head, BCBA (Primary)

Ardavan Farman-Farmaian - Data and Assessment Trustee who is responsible for monitoring that every pupil who attends the school is making good progress

How do you know how well a pupil is doing at school?

Snowflake School has an open door policy enabling parents/carers the opportunity to regularly meet and discuss their individual children's needs, staff are happy to respond to individual queries at picking up and dropping off times and are happy to arrange individual appointments at mutually convenient times.

- ❖ We will communicate with families regularly in a variety of ways including;
- ❖ Regular letters and emails and newsletters
- ❖ IEP meetings
- ❖ Parent/carer consultation meetings each term
- ❖ Social media, Facebook and Twitter
- ❖ Home school App . Earwig. Families can upload photos and video of pupils and can see what pupils have been doing at school
- ❖ Staff are able to offer support and guidance on a range of topics and home visits.
- ❖ Training for parents
- ❖ Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy reports
- ❖ Progress Reports at the end of each term and targets for the following term
- ❖ Annual review reports and meetings

Curriculum and Assessment

Our core assessment is The Verbal Behaviour Milestones Assessment & Placement Program (VB-MAPP)

There are skills in 16 key areas. We break them down into significant milestones and present them in a sequence of progress.

The National Curriculum and Schemes of Work are adapted to the pupils' specific needs.

As pupils with ASD find communication the most difficult, we focus on teaching communication skills, particularly in the early years.

We use Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) and specifically Verbal Behaviour (VB) principles in our teaching.

ABA/VB targets the communicative, academic, social and practical skills of pupils. With these skills, they are better equipped to take on educational and social opportunities in their communities

Families

Each pupil has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) to which pupils, parents/carers, teaching staff and therapists all contribute. These are reviewed termly.

Each pupil also has a daily communication portal which gives parents/carers a brief description of their son or daughter's day in school.

Parents are also encouraged to share information on the portal for the school. It could cover how their son or daughter has behaved or slept during the previous night.

Snowflake School also offers parents /carers advice to help them to reduce or adapt specific behaviours as well as discussions on topics; (Sex and Relationship Education) which impact on their family's lives.

What support is available for pupils at Snowflake School?

- ❖ One to one and group teaching supervised by an experienced ABA professional
- ❖ Individualised programmes integrating National Curriculum and ABA/VB .
- ❖ Applied Behaviour Analysis/Verbal Behaviour (ABA/VB) teaching.
- ❖ Effective communication with parents /carers
- ❖ Experienced staff with appropriate qualifications (many have a degree in psychology)
- ❖ Teaching resources that are accessible and appropriate.
- ❖ Specialist subject teaching and therapy support

What support is available for pupils at Snowflake School?

- ❖ Multi-disciplinary approach to learning
- ❖ Interactive environment and many out of school visits
- ❖ Assessment in and out of school
- ❖ Additional advice and support from outside agencies
- ❖ Pupils supported to build relationships and develop independence
- ❖ Circle time, Attention Autism, Social skills development
- ❖ Emphasis on the development of Functional Skills

What support is available for Pupils at Snowflake School?

- ❖ Individual Education plans
- ❖ National Curriculum adapted to meet the needs of pupils
- ❖ Specific goals – broken down into short steps
- ❖ iPads and ICT Assistive technology used to reduce barriers to learning e.g. Speech generator apps
- ❖ Visual timetables, token boards and sensory plans

What support is available for pupils at Snowflake School?

- ❖ Advice and intervention from our ABA/VB Consultant, Supervisors, Speech and Language Therapist and Occupational Therapist
- ❖ Individual and group SALT programmes supported by class based support
- ❖ Individual and group OT programmes supported by class based support.
- ❖ Individualised behaviour plans
- ❖ Integration opportunities with mainstream pupils

Contact

Snowflake School policies and procedures are available via our website www.snowflakeschool.org.uk

If you should wish to contact us;

Telephone: 020 7370 3232

Email: info@snowflakeschool.org.uk

Facebook www.facebook.com/snowflakeschool

Twitter @SchoolSnowflake