



Brambles School

Prospectus – July 2017

Contents Page

3	Welcome Message
4	Student Profile
5	Our Vision
6	Facilities
7-10	Education
11-13	Other School information
14-15	Our Team
16	Contact Us

About Our School

Aurora Brambles School is an independent day school in Lancashire providing specialist education for boys with Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties (SEMH).



A Welcome from our Head Teacher

"Welcome to Aurora Brambles School. My name's Dan Creed and I'm the Head Teacher here.

For many students who come here, they may have felt rejection and misunderstanding in previous placements. So, it is mine and my team's aim to never give up on any one who comes to us at Brambles School. We strive to give every student the confidence and opportunities to achieve their full potential. The staff team here are experts in their fields and work tirelessly to ensure we continue to provide the highest quality of education.

I am always happy to show you and your child around the school at any time, so please do not hesitate to contact reception to make an appointment or email the school directly to learn more about our school."

Dan Creed

Head Teacher – Aurora Brambles School

Student Profile

Age: 11-16 years (soon to include Upper key stage 2, Autumn 2017)

Gender: Boys

We are a skilled and experienced team who are able to support boys with a variety of difficulties. Their learning may have been impacted by challenging behaviours, low self-esteem or difficulty with relationships which may have caused them to miss large chunks of their education. These difficulties could be a result of one of the following issues:

- Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH)
- Specific Learning difficulties (Dyslexia)
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder/ Autistic Spectrum Conditions
- Oppositional Defiance Disorder (ODD)
- Moderate Learning difficulties (MLD)
- Conduct Disorder
- Attachment Disorder
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

High levels of support: all students are provided with enhanced support throughout the school day and provision can be made for those requiring higher levels of support, either full time or periodically, to enable pupils to access the curriculum and participate in school activities.

Flexible placements: Education is delivered for 38 weeks of the year. We are able to admit students throughout the year.

"Brambles has had a wonderful effect on our son, allowing him to mature and feel secure. I am really pleased with the progress he's made"

— Parent of student at Aurora Brambles School, 2017

Our Vision

Our vision is simple:

'To empower individuals to grow.'

The word 'growth' is personal to each and every one of the students at the school. We believe that no matter how big a challenge they face, each and every individual has a unique set of skills and abilities and diversity is encouraged, developed and celebrated.

Our Aims

At Aurora Brambles School we focus on:

- Providing personalised specialist education – where students can learn and express themselves in a nurturing and safe environment that understands their needs and supports them to fulfil their potential
- Supporting students to be part of an enriched school and community life
- Preparing students for life beyond school – developing their abilities and achieving their own unique level of independence as they approach adulthood.

Facilities



Brambles School is located just outside of the small town of Leyland in Lancashire. The school is housed in a converted farm building with a modern purpose built building adjoining it. In September 2017, we are set to open a new school building on the grounds which will further extend the learning environment.

Within the main school building, we have a variety of learning spaces, including ICT suites, science and art rooms. There is also an assembly room which we use for breakfast club, morning assembly, break time snacks and where students sit and eat together with staff during lunchtimes.



In the school grounds, we have a hard-court area which students make use of at breaks for football and other activities. There is also a garden area where the students can sit and relax in during breaks when the weather is nicer. Around the school buildings, there are a small number of horticultural areas that students tend to as part of their learning.

For other sporting and outdoor activities, we make use of the local leisure facilities.

Education at Brambles School

The School Day

The school day runs from 9.00a.m. to 3.00p.m. Monday to Thursday; with a 2.30p.m. finish each Friday.

Students are collected from home by their Key Workers and dropped back home at the end of the day. We find this supports higher levels of attendance, effective safeguarding, strong relationships and allows students regular access to a non-teaching member of staff if they need to talk to someone. It also allows for parents or carers to have daily contact with the school staff.

The timetable is designed to ensure maximum engagement in the core subjects of English, Maths, Technology with ICT and Science in addition to students accessing the Foundation subjects. There are opportunities for students in Years 10 and 11 to have time in the school week to "specialise" and choose to put extra time and energy into subjects they favour as well as meeting the statutory lesson allocation.



For those who require additional support with reading and writing, we are able to adjust their timetable to support them in the areas where it is required the most. Students have access to a varied Outdoor and Social Education programme, which includes kayaking, rock climbing, skiing, fell walking, team building activities and a range of excellent confidence building and exciting activities. We find these activities have a positive impact on student's confidence, self-esteem and social skills.

For younger students, we are able to offer explicit social skills sessions where this is needed.

Arrive at school	9.00 am – 9.20 am
Assembly	9.20 am – 9.30 am
Lesson 1	9.30 am – 10.15 am
Lesson 2	10.15 am – 11.00 am
Morning Break	11.00 am – 11.20 am
Lesson 3	11.20 am – 12.05 pm
Lesson 4	12.05 pm – 12.50 pm
Lunch	12.50 pm – 1.30 pm
Lesson 5	1.30 pm – 2.15 pm
Lesson 6	2.15 pm – 3.00 pm
School finishes 3.00 pm (Monday – Thursday) Transport / 2.30 pm (Friday)	

The Curriculum

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum, which comprises the National Curriculum with a rich and varied programme of learning to help support the social and emotional development of our students.

We ensure that all students can access accredited courses suitable for their individual needs and offer GCSEs in Maths, English, Science and ICT. Additional courses include PSHE, Geography, PE, Modern Foreign Language, Humanities, Art and Outdoor Education up to Level 2.

We offer accredited Vocational based training (BTEC or equivalent Level 1 and 2) in:

- Motor Mechanics
- Construction
- Sports Studies
- Horticulture
- Land based management

All of our classes are of mixed abilities based on careful selection based on attainment and prior performance and baseline assessments conducted in the first term. We also consider social issues to ensure students are grouped appropriately. All lessons have both teacher and key workers to support and facilitate learning.

Assessments continue throughout the year to better inform the teaching staff on learning styles and enable them to adapt their teaching to meet the preferred learning style of each individual. CAT tests also take place on entry; these not only provide teachers with valuable teaching and learning strategies for each individual student

they also give staff an indication of likely grades at the end of Key Stage 4. This data is used to inform planning for our students.

Students can sit GCSE subjects using the AQA and Edexcel examination boards, as well as BTEC qualifications. Functional skills are taught in the core subjects and across the curriculum.

If required students can access additional support to develop and improve their curriculum based skills. This support is delivered in 1 to 1 sessions that last between 20 and 45 minutes and focus on small achievable targets that can be applied back in the classroom. The focus is on developing and improving literacy and numeracy, as well as subject knowledge in science, in a way that will enable students to more readily access the curriculum.

Some students may follow a bespoke learning pathway taking into account engagement, attainment and behavioural barriers to learning.

Learning styles

We are aware that every student is unique, each with their own learning style and that they respond best when their preferred learning styles are taken into account. Our experienced teachers, therefore, look to adapt teaching and ensure that programmes of learning are personalised wherever possible.

These techniques to engage students could involve adapting lessons to be more visual, auditory or kinesthetic to ensure that all needs are met. We will also ensure that lessons have the appropriate levels of pace so that students are engaged and able to develop and achieve their full potential.



Outcomes and Qualifications

Regardless of the level of a student's starting point, including levels of attainment when he arrives at Aurora Brambles School, we support them to reach their full potential by maximising opportunities to gain a portfolio of appropriate qualifications. This is essential for all students at our school.

- All Year 11 students have achieved a range of qualifications including GCSEs.
- Our school encourages the early completion of Functional skills and Entry Level qualifications from the start of Year 9 to allow a greater portfolio of qualifications to be built up prior to GCSE examinations in Year 11.
- We have well established termly attainment assessment from entry into the school through to the end of Key Stage 4, which tracks and monitors progress in all key areas, including spelling and reading age.
- Effective assessment and tracking systems are in place to enable accurate end of Key Stage 4 predictions.

Multidisciplinary Team approach

We offer a diverse range of services to enable each child to benefit from targeted support, relevant interventions and experiences within and outside formal education.

These services will include:

- Organised transport to and from school
- A structured pastoral system for each child
- The encouragement of school/home liaison
- Access to regular meetings with the educational psychologist
- Access to speech and language therapy (dependent on requirements of ECHP)
- A range of healthy midday meals (including specialist diets if required) supplied by the school
- The provision of school uniform
- The arrangement of inter-school sports and leisure activities
- A range of leisure activities (including music tuition, outdoor pursuits, sport and dramatic arts, computer based activities and environmental pursuits)
- A highly-profiled system of educational and behavioural objectives.

School Uniform

- School uniform is provided by the school. The boys wear white polo shirts, red sweatshirts and black trousers. Parents need to provide school shoes or black trainers.
- If parents could regularly wash and iron the uniform, the children feel better. Any missing buttons or seam rips should be repaired at home.
- All sports equipment is provided by the school (including swimming shorts when necessary). If you could provide a pair of trainers for P.E. that would be appreciated.

Mealtimes

- All school meals are pre-paid by the Local Education Authority - you do not need to contribute towards school meals.
- The school tries to provide a healthy diet with healthy options but do balance this with popular children's meals. A continuous effort occurs to encourage healthier eating i.e. tuck shop is toast or fruit and milk or juice.
- No child needs to bring packed lunches or snack items into school.
- All dietary needs can be addressed but we need clarification by letter for special consideration.

Safeguarding Statement

Aurora Brambles School is wholly committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of students and expects all staff, volunteers, parents/ carers and visitors to share this commitment. Safer recruitment practices are followed and all staff have an Enhanced DBS check.

Quality Statement

Aurora Brambles School is wholly committed to providing the highest quality service to pupils, parents/carers and Local Authorities. We believe that pupils, as well as others, have the right to comment on the service we provide and they are supported to understand the complaints procedure.

If you have a concern or complaint, we do want to hear about it as soon as possible. Please ask the School office for a copy of our complaints procedure if you would like to know more.

We like to know when we are getting things right too, so please feel free to also send us any compliments which our staff are always happy to hear.

[For further information on the Safeguarding policy and copies of other school policies please refer to the website or contact school reception.](#)

Our term dates

Our term dates are sent to parents and carers annually. These are also available to view and download on our website.

Hazardous Weather Conditions

If snow falls heavily or the roads are dangerously icy, school transport may be late or might not arrive. The school will ring on these occasions to inform you of the situation.

If the weather changes during the day and driving becomes dangerous, transport may leave school earlier than normal in order to get home safely and at a reasonable time.

If it proves impossible to open the school, then parents will be informed.

Health

The school requires you as a parent to sign a medical consent form to allow emergency medical treatment if necessary.

In this instance, every effort will be made to keep you informed and meet with you at the hospital/doctors.

The local school nurses visit the school on a regular basis and review checks are made by the appropriate Medical Officer when required. Children are checked for sight, hearing and general physical development at regular intervals.

Medicine can only be administered by staff if the medication is prescribed by a doctor. Instructions must be in writing giving the times and the amount of dosage. Children must not bring medicine into school - all medication must be handed to staff on transport.

Absence

If your child is absent, or likely to be, please contact the school to notify us of the absence in order that transport arrangements can be altered. A letter or telephone call explaining a child's absence must be given so that the absence is marked as authorised.

It would also be appreciated if you could consider only taking your child on holiday in school holiday time.

Ensuring Student Safety

There may be occasions when physical management of a pupil is necessary i.e. a sudden unpredictable violent outburst.

If a member of staff or group of staff identify a situation where a child may be at risk of hurting themselves or others, is at risk of being hurt himself or if his behaviour seriously disrupts good order or causes damage to property, staff may need to undertake physical intervention. In such situations, staff will be expected to follow school procedures and record the event in the accepted manner.

These situations are always managed with sympathy and understanding whilst respecting individual pupils' rights.

The intention is always to use minimum physical intervention to quickly allow individuals to regain their own control.

Our Team

STAFF NAME	JOB TITLE	HIGHEST QUALIFICATION(S)
Jamie Antcliffe	Keyworker	B-TEC National Diploma in sports science
Lisa Atherton	Safeguarding and Home liaison manager	BA Hons in Social Work-Studies.
Tom Bamber	KS2 Teacher	PGCE in Primary Education
Mark Blain	Keyworker	GCSE's
Daniel Bolton	Keyworker	NVQ 3 Children and young people's workforce
Mark Bolton	SLT- Senior Keyworker	NVQ 3 Children and young people's workforce
Rob Brookbanks	Keyworker	GCSE's
Leslie Brothers	Mathematics Teacher	PGCE Secondary education + Masters credits in Mathematics.
Annabel Chappell	Science Teacher	PGCE secondary science (biology) with QTS
Karen Coram	Keyworker / Work EX Lead	FDG in teaching and learning (Primary)
Louise Crabtree	PSHE teacher	BA first class Combined honours health and disability studies. QTS
Daniel Creed	SLT-Headteacher	BA HONS Child and family, FDG Primary teaching and learning. QTS
Jane Fallon	Teacher	BSC (Hons) Geography and Biology + NPQH
Lee Farnworth	ODE/PE Lead	B-TEC National Diploma in sports science
Kelly Foster	SLT- Assessment manager- KS3 Teacher	BA HONS in Primary Education +QTS. Postgraduate Certificate in Specialist Primary Mathematics Practice
Mal Fowler	Humanities/PE Teacher	BA Education studies + QTS
Marvin Francis	Beacon Suite lead/ Trainee Teacher	FDG in teaching and learning (primary)

Calum Galbraith	Keyworker	NVQ 3 Communications and combat engineering
Jackie Garner	English Teacher	BA Joint Hons English and community + PGCE
Marcus Gee	Keyworker	NVQ 3 Children and young people's workforce. NVQ 4 Management
Steve Horsfield	BTEc internal Verifier/ Horticulture specialist	Level 5 certificate in Education + DTTLs
Nick Jenner	Keyworker	NVQ 3 Construction and civil engineering. NVQ 3 Children and young people's workforce.
Mark Manning	Keyworker -ODE / Vocational Lead	NVQ 3 Health and social
Shaun McDonald	Keyworker	BA Outdoor education
Aaron Melville	Keyworker	NVQ 3 Health and social
Jon Murphy	Keyworker	GCSE's
Steve Pegrum	SLT-Deputy headteacher	BSc Joint Honours in PE, Sports Science and Psychology + QTS
Sue Prendergast	Reception/Admin	Certificate in Land Law, RSA Typing and Pitman shorthand
Terry Prendergast	Site Maintenance	Masters in Electrical engineering
Sue Richardson	SLT-SENCO	(Senco) Cert Ed 9-13yrs Post Grad Diploma in Special Ed needs
Sue Taylor	Reception/Admin	Certificate in using ICT
Lee Thompson	Technology with ICT Teacher	BA HONS Child and family, FDG Primary teaching and learning. QTS
Paul Turner	ODE Lead- Senior Keyworker- Team Teach Trainer	NVQ 3 Children and young people's workforce
Roy Ward	Cook	Level 3 Award supervising food safety in catering
Theo Webber	Keyworker	NVQ 3 Children and young people's workforce

Contact Us

For more information or to get in touch with our Head Teacher please contact us at:

Aurora Brambles School,
159 Longmeanygate,
Midge Hall,
Leyland, Lancashire,
PR26 7TB
Telephone: 01772 454826

Email for school: brs-reception@the-aurora-group.com

Website: www.the-aurora-group.com/brambles

Head Teacher: Dan Creed

Proprietor: Stephen Bradshaw

How to find us

- Brambles School is situated close to the M6. The school is located on the outskirts of Leyland.
- From M6 Junction 29
- Take Church Street to Lostock Lane A6
- At roundabout take 3rd exit on to Church Road A6
- Follow Lostock Lane A6 and A582 to Flensburg Way B5253
- At Roundabout take 2nd exit onto Farington Road A582
- At Roundabout take 3rd exit onto Flenbergway A582
- Continue on Flensburg Way B5253
- At Roundabout take 2nd exit onto Flensburg Way B5253
- At Roundabout take 3rd exit onto Comet Road
- At Roundabout take 3rd exit onto Reiver Road which leads onto Longmeanygate lane stay on road past Garden centre on the right and school is approx. 300 yards on the Left