



**Prospectus 2024/2025** 



### Our aim is to enable young people to:

Communicate effectively and make choices about things that affect them.

Develop motivation, confidence and resilience to take on new challenges and develop their full potential.

Self-regulate their senses, emotions and behaviour in order to share activities and learning spaces and have opportunities to build social relationships.

### Welcome to Pegasus School



Pegasus School is situated in a small village called Caldwell, on the borders of Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Leicestershire. The school occupies a beautiful Georgian building with acres of land and incorporates a school farm.

At Pegasus School we structure the education pathway around outdoor learning. We believe this is essential as it gives young people first hand experiences of the world around them and develops a wide range of life skills. We pride ourselves on developing the next steps in independence whatever that may be.

Pegasus School is a unique and inclusive Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) School. Our young people have a variety of needs and learning styles.

We can accommodate young people with moderate to severe learning difficulties and associated challenging behaviours. Current primary areas of need include; Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Attachment needs, Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) and Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD).

Our young people have previously disengaged with learning prior to admission, have a history of low education engagement and prior attainment linking into affected attendance or long absences from education. Due to presenting high levels of classroom disruption and below expected progress, in an educational setting that does not fit their learning needs, students may also find themselves on reduced timetables.

Young people at Pegasus School have very high sensory needs along with complex behaviours, lower cognitive skills and reduced communication skills. We support our young people with high staff to young people ratios, a large rural environment, animals, community trips and specialist onsite therapy input.

To be sure that Pegasus School is the right learning environment for your young person, we invite you to visit and meet our amazing young people and staff.

Please also have a look at our Facebook page which gives examples of the engagement and a love of learning of our young people.

We look forward to welcoming you to Pegasus School.

Mitchell Hubbard Head Teacher



# The Curriculum

### Our Approach

At Pegasus School young people follow their own bespoke curriculum pathway informed by their EHCP outcomes, and to prepare them for adulthood. Our young person's destinations are varied, and we aim to increase the opportunities available to them post-Pegasus by developing the skills needed to lead an enriched adult life, to be as independent as possible, to be an active citizen both in school and within their local community, and to be as healthy as possible in adult life.

Our curriculum facilitates our school aims, which are to enable young people to:

- communicate effectively and make choices that affect them.
- develop motivation, confidence and resilience to take on new challenges and develop to their full academic ability.
- regulate their senses, emotions and behaviour in order to share activities and learning spaces and have the opportunities to build social relationships.

Our curriculum is not subject specific for all young people, some are learning within the early stages of development. Each young person will have a different priority of needs and so some subjects will focus more predominantly than others, as planned by the school teaching and therapy teams.

We use the EQUALS schemes of work to inform our curriculum offer. This is designed for young people working below national age-related expectations, and is based on their developmental stage not necessarily their key stage. The curriculum develops the young person's next steps in independence in preparation for their future.



#### Outdoor Education Outdoor school is about giving it a go and having fun!

Our outdoor school programme is tailored for each young person's individual needs to promote their social skills, teamwork, selfesteem, problem solving, motor skills, physical fitness, communication skills and caring for the natural environment.

This holistic approach is achieved through a wide variety of activities such as sensory walks, orienteering, den building, gardening, bush craft, outdoor cooking, woodwork and animal care.

Young people access a timetabled outdoor school session once a week with their class but can access outdoor school at any point in their day to interact with the school animals to help self-regulation.



### Therapy Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy within Pegasus School provides direct therapeutic interventions, or consultations with members of the inter-disciplinary teams with primary focus upon maximising young people's functional skills, occupational performance potential (Leisure/play, education and activities of daily living) and independence.

Therapeutic intervention may also assist in minimising behavioural difficulties and increasing individual communication as part of an inter-disciplinary approach. As the young person's needs are often complex, the process of treatment will incorporate prioritised short and long-term goals, with complete regard of the young person's individual needs.

Each young person is assessed prior to treatment, through informal observation, standardised assessment where appropriate and discussion with other members of the team. Parents and family members equally have an important role to play in establishing the needs of the young person. Many treatment approaches may be utilised for the benefit of each individual young person's needs, including:

• Occupational Performance: Therapy focuses upon occupational performance concentrating upon how individuals function in their work/education, leisure/play, and domestic and personal care. The occupational perspective is that a 'healthy person' is one who is able to perform his/her daily occupations to satisfying level.

Sensorimotor : Treatment assisting the output of sensory information into an organised and controlled movement.
Cognitive-behavioural: Desired behaviours promoted through positive reinforcement, taking into consideration emotional and cognitive impact upon behaviour, where appropriate attempting to assist the young person in gaining insight into behaviour.

• Creative-Expressive: Assisting the young person to develop creative skills and express uncommunicated thoughts and feeling through creativity.

Occupational Therapist highly focuses on the practical aspects of life, helping our young people find more effective ways to tackle everyday challenges. Through Occupational Therapy, they will find renewed confidence and autonomy in their dayto-day activities.



#### Speech & Language Therapy

Communication is central to everything we do at Pegasus School.

The Speech and Language Therapist works with all members of staff to ensure every young person is supported to communicate to their full potential across different environments. Whether this is developing the young persons self-advocacy and communication skills or supporting non-speaking students, Pegasus promotes an evidence-based, multi-modal approach to communication.

The Speech and Language Therapist's role includes:

•Assessment of receptive and expressive language, speech and communication strengths and challenges.

• Direct 1:1 intervention and development of speech and language therapy programmes.

•Feature matching and implementation of individualised augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) as needed, including PODD communication books and iPad apps such as Proloquo2Go and SimPODD.

•Regular consultation sessions with teaching staff and residential support staff on how best to support young people's communication across different environments, including accessing the community.

· Input into EHC Plans and multi-disciplinary meetings as well as liaison with parents.

•Regular training for all staff on how to support student communication, including the use of interventions such as SCERTS, Intensive interaction, AAC, Gestalt Language Processing, Makaton and Zones of Regulation.

We aim to develop every young person's self-advocacy and independence by ensuring that they have the means, reasons and opportunities to communicate at all times.



## Facilities

Pegasus is situated in several acres of countryside. We have vast outdoor areas which include a Farm and Forest School. In the school grounds there are trampolines, swings, a sandpit, cycle track, trim trail and outdoor gym equipment. Internally we have a soft play, light room and sensory integration room.

These specialist areas are really important and we encourage our young people to use our functional sensory and communication friendly rooms, equipped with the essential sensory integration equipment to help them improve their sense of balance, increase body awareness, co-ordination, gross and fine motor development.

Within the school environment, a variety of individual and group work is facilitated by the Teachers and Teaching Assistants who have all received direct training from the therapists in order to optimise the young person's engagement to various functional therapeutic activities.

The education spaces are low stimuli and designed to meet the social, educational and sensory needs of our young people. All the classrooms including the common room were all carefully designed and functionally adapted to ensure that they are all sensory and communication friendly. This in turn empowers the young people, elevates their sense of confidence, improves social skills and helps build a stronger self-esteem.

To aid in the development of independence and to sharpen cognitive functions, we have three designated learning kitchens, a common room, gym, creative arts room and an onsite café. To enable optimum independence of the young people, they will have access to a variety of kitchen appliances, adapted cutleries and cooking tools that provide opportunities to practice their skills and gain a positive sense of achievement.



## **Residential Placements**

We work in partnership with young people in all aspects of our home. All young people belong and contribute to our amazing community.

We build on strengths and interests to give young people new experiences and opportunities; this includes a range of on and offsite recreational and leisure activities.

Our experienced team understand that challenging behaviour is a form of communication. Pegasus creates an environment where young people are safe and supported to better manage stress with increased levels of independence. We use an independent advocate to give our young people a platform to share their thoughts and experiences.

Young people live in small family sized homes, Key Care team members work closely with young people, families and other professionals to promote good health and wellbeing for all young people





## **Referral and Assessments**

Young people are admitted in line with our Criteria for Admission.

This could include:

- Autism
- Moderate to Severe Learning Difficulties
- Speech, Language and Communication Difficulties
- Associated behavioural difficulties

Formal referrals are made by the Local Authority and supported with referral documentation. We also welcome private referrals, although an assessment must take place before Pegasus School can be named on a young persons Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP).

We are able to arrange a free, no obligation assessment. Following the assessment, we will produce a clear written report. If we can meet the needs of the young person we will also send a fully costed proposal.

Prior to admission we will plan the young person's transition with parents and professionals to ensure this is as smooth as possible.

### LA consultations

#### Parents/carers

Please email referrals@senadgroup.com or call 01332 378840 Option 1 Ext 2 Please email info@senadgroup.com or complete our online enquiry form or call 01332 378840 Option 1 Ext 1



### Policies

The following policies are available to view on our website:

Accessibility

Admissions

Child Protection & Safeguarding

Complaints

**Equal Opportunities** 

Diversity

### Contact



01283 761352



info@senadgroup.com

Pegasus School Caldwell Hall Main Street Caldwell Derbyshire DE12 6RS

senadgroup.com/pegasus



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