



Brambles East School

Prospectus – July 2017

Contents Page

3	Welcome Message
4	Student Profile
5	Our Vision
6	Facilities
7-9	Education
10	Multidisciplinary Team Approach
11-12	Other School information
13-14	Our Team
15	Contact Us

About Our School

Aurora Brambles East 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 East School. My name's Sam Clark and I'm the Head Teacher here.

I've been working with young people with SEMH for several years, and have been Head Teacher here for a number of years. For me what makes Brambles East special is that whether students are coming from mainstream school or another specialist school, we give every student hope and the opportunity to maximise their potential. The learning environment and facilities here allow students to access a varied curriculum in a calm and nurturing environment.

The team here are experts in what they do and always work tirelessly to ensure we are delivering the highest quality of education and outcomes for every student. As the Head Teacher, I really enjoy seeing the positive difference we make to student's lives.

I understand that choosing the right school for your child can be a difficult one. To support you in this process, I would welcome an opportunity to show you and your child around the school to see if it is right for you and will meet your child's needs. Come and meet with some of our staff and see our school on a typical working day.

Please do contact reception to make an appointment or email the school directly to learn more about our school or to arrange a visit."

Sam Clark

Head Teacher – Aurora Brambles East School

Student Profile

Age: 10-16 years (soon to include Post 16, 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 students 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. We offer an inclusion policy allowing for mainstream school support where requested and the provision of "time-out placement" for periods of time within each week.

"I hope that every child that struggles to cope in mainstream school gets the opportunity to attend this school as it has been the best thing for my son."

— Parent of student at Aurora Brambles East 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 East 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 East School is located in Darwen, a small town in Lancashire. The school building is a large, converted Victorian house, set in a beautiful location. We have a range of specialist classrooms of varying sizes which can cater for up to 63 students.

We have an ICT suite, a library with breakout area, a fully equipped design technology workshop and a large dining room where students and staff sit together for breakfast and lunch. Every morning, assembly takes place in our large communal hall.



In the school grounds, we have a five-a-side 3G football pitch which students make use of during their break times. For other sporting activities, we make use of the local leisure facilities. We have a large assembly room which we use for morning assembly and where students sit and eat together with staff during lunchtimes.

Education at Brambles School

The School Day

The school day runs from 9.00a.m. to 2.50p.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, Computing 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 – 2.10 pm
Lesson 6	2.10 pm – 2.50 pm
School finishes 2.50 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 language, English Literature, Science, Computer Science, Modern Foreign Language, Humanities and Art. Additional courses include Functional Skills and Entry Level Functional Skills in Maths, English (Stepping up to English Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards), Science, ICT, Modern Foreign Language, Humanities and Art.

We offer Unit awards in PHSCE, Construction, and Art.

We offer accredited Vocational based training:

- IMI Level 1 Award in Vehicle Maintenance 501/0554/4 (12 CREDITS)
- Level 1 Mixed Trades Vocational Qualification (12 CREDITS)

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 kinaesthetic 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 East 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.

- External assessors have verified that since starting at the school, students have made at least "good" progress in core subjects of English, Maths, Science and Computing.
- 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.

Post 16 Training and Employment

Since opening in 2012, we have successfully supported the majority of our Year 11 students back to mainstream schools.

Of our end of Year 11 student leavers, all but one of them have either gone on to post 16 employment or education. In the last academic year, no students were classified as 'not in education, employment or training' (NEET).

Multidisciplinary Team approach

The School employs a Family Support/ Home Liaison worker who leads the multiple additional support packages that are open in school and also has regular communication with the range of services (statutory and non-statutory) that support families and students in our school.

Students also have access to a two weekly School Nurse drop in, Drugs and Alcohol Support Services, Connections post 16 support (local and School based) weekly access to Educational Psychology services for planned work to address certain issues or deliver diagnostic educational testing to help support the teaching and learning of pupils.

The School operates an effective pastoral support programme.

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 East 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 East 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 student 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	QUALIFICATIONS AND OTHER TRAINING
Alty Ian	City and Guilds Motor Engineering, CSE's
Alty Stephanie	NVQ Level 3 Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools
Bannister Adele	BSc Geography with History, PGCE, QTS, Lead Internal Verifier Art & Design, Entry Level - Level 2
Billington Carley	European Computer Driving License, BCS Level 2 Cert IT Users, NVQ 2 Nail Tech/Beauty Therapy
Blyth Wayne	13 GCSEs, BTEC Level 2 Certificate Hospitality and Catering Principles
Bolton Paul	NVQ Level 4 Leadership and Management for Care Services, NVQ Level 4 Registered Manager (Adults), NVQ Level 3 Caring for Children and Young People, City and Guilds Advanced Learning Support Level 2
Carpenter Paul	City and Guilds Carpentry and Joinery Advanced Craft, Cert E Post 16, Diploma in Management, Team-Teach Instructor, City and Guilds D32/33/35 Assessor, Restorative Practice Certificate
Clark Sam	BA in Education 2:2, PGCE, ILM Level 5 Award in Leadership, Lancashire Adult Learning Equality and Diversity Training, Level 1 / 2 Safeguarding "Working Together", Safeguarding Conference April 2015, Health & Safety for Site Managers training
Clay Danielle	BA Hons 2:2, PGCE, QTS
Dobson Coleen	NVQ Level 2 Diploma in Food Production and Cooking
Fleming Ruth	City and Guilds in General Reception, RSA Audio Transcription / Information Technology / Word Processing, CIPD Certificate in Personnel Practice, NVQ Level 2 for IT Users, QCDA Exam Officers Training
Galbraith Rory	11 GCSEs, Level 2 Award in Employment Awareness in Active Leisure and Learning, LAO Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Personal Training
Gordon Sally	NVQ Level 3 Supporting Teaching and Learning
Goodchild, Beth	BSc, MA, PGCE

Greenwood, Graeme	BSc, PGCE
Haynes Sarah	PGCE, BA in English and Creative Writing 2:1, Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma in Inclusive Education and SEN
Ireland Antony	BA Teaching and Training Studies 2:2, BCU Certificate in Coaching Paddlesport, Mountain Bike Instructor Level Two, BCU Foundation Safety and Rescue
Khaliq Mohson	BA Criminology Hons 2:2
Khan Sadat	BSc, QTS
Lowrey Dale	Cert Ed Post 16, NVQ Level 3 Health and Social Care (Children and Young People)
Mccartney Mike	NVQ Level 2 Installing and Supporting IT Systems
McCleery Jemma	BSc Sports Therapy 3rd Class Hons, Tag Rugby Coach Certificate, Grassroots Introductory Award
Mcdonnell, Alison	BA Hons, PGCE
Nazokatov Yusufmalik	3 GCSES, IMIAL Level 2 Key Skills in IT, IMIAL Level 3 Dip in Light Vehicle Maintenance, Advanced Level Apprenticeship in Light Vehicle, BTEC First Certificate in Sport, BTEC in Applied Science
Palma Curtis	National Pool Lifeguard Level 2 Award In Pool Lifeguarding, Intervention, Supervision and Rescue
Phillips Lee	BSc Physical Activity Exercise and Health, PGCE, ASDAN Training, ABC Mountain Bike Instructor and Assessor Award, BCU Certificate in Coaching Paddlesport,
Pinch Leon	NVQ Level 4 in Advice and Guidance, Level 4 Award in Working with Parents (Intense support for families with multiple and complex needs, Level1 Certificate in Coaching Football, Domestic Abuse Awareness training, Young People who sexually harm training
Robinson Brett	10 GCSEs
Ruman Adam	NVQ Level 3 Health and Social Care, NVQ Level 3 Bricklaying,
Timmins-Lee Matthew	6 GCSE's, QCF Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools, BTEC Business and Finance

Contact Us

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

Aurora Brambles East School
The Woodlands
Holly Tree Close
Darwen
BB3 2NG

Reception: Miss Fleming

Tel: 01254 706600

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

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

Head Teacher: Sam Clark

Proprietor: Stephen Bradshaw

How to find us

Directions from M65 (Darwen BB3, UK)

- Take M65 to Earcroft Way. Take exit 4 from M65 - 7 min (6.9 mi)
- Take A666 to Holly Tree Close - 11 min (3.0 mi)
- At the roundabout, take the 4th exit onto Earcroft Way (0.3 miles)
- Turn left onto Blackburn Rd/A666 (Continue to follow A666 2.4 mi)
- Turn right onto Ashleigh Street (0.1 miles)
- Ashleigh St turns left and becomes Ross Street (0.1 miles)
- Slight right onto Holly Tree Close (351 ft)