# Aspris Children's Services



## Strathmore College

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Strathmore College in Stoke-on-Trent is an independent, specialist residential and day college providing individualised programmes for young people aged 16 to 25 years, to prepare them for adulthood. Learners needs range from mild to severe learning difficulties/ disabilities and includes those with an autistic spectrum disorder (ASD), social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs, speech and language difficulties and physical difficulties and/or disabilities.

We aim to provide every young person with an individually tailored programme of education, support, work experience, leisure, life skills and training within the community to enable them to live as independently as possible and make their own life choices.

Our dedicated team of staff create safe, secure and independent living and learning environments, where the young people have a sense of belonging within their group and a sense of ownership of their own lives. We wish to enable young people to develop the confidence and skills they need to progress towards adulthood.

#### **Our services**

- A person-centred approach to education and support
- Individually tailored programmes for education, social and personal development
- Continued and ongoing support with vocational and life skills
- Courses linked to external accreditation, leading to nationally recognised qualifications
- Learning through meaningful, realistic and practical activities
- Intensive therapeutic programmes and strategies designed to support learners to develop selfmanagement skills
- A 38 and 52 week residential or 38 week day provision
- An extensive programme of social, leisure and sporting activities within the community



### A holistic approach

- Individual support pathways tailored to individual needs
- Speech and language therapy and communication support across the curriculum
- Clinical psychological support as required
- Access to occupational therapy, with sensory integration
- Access to community health support
- Access to psychiatric support through local health services

#### Admissions criteria

- Aged between 16 and 25 years
- Behavioural and social difficulties
- Learning difficulties or disabilities within the mild to severe range



#### Case study: Charlotte's story

Charlotte\* is 21 years old and has selective mutism, displays classic signs of dyslexia and has little understanding of her emotions.

When starting at Strathmore College, Charlotte refused to take part in planned activities. Charlotte also only responded to questions using one word answers, but otherwise did not speak.

The advice from her initial speech and language therapy (SaLT) assessment was to avoid verbal responses and to provide Charlotte with visual resources to enable her to communicate. It was also suggested that Charlotte trialled a work placement at a local café to gain work experience.

Following her work experience, a progress report from her Tutor said: "Charlotte is a hard working young lady and a real pleasure to have at the café. She is also becoming more and more verbal."

Charlotte's confidence increased and she developed important life skills which also boosted her self-esteem. Since leaving Strathmore College, Charlotte has gone on to fulfill her dream of working in a nursery.



#### **Positive outcomes**

We offer ongoing support, learning and life skills development within a person-centred framework to maximise independence and individual potential.

Individual plans and programmes are adjusted as required to ensure that each individual is challenged to progress at speeds and levels that are appropriate for them.

of young people have access to programmes of work related skills. 100%

of young people identified as candidates for supported living successfully achieve this aim.

#### **Contact us**

For information on our specialist education and care services, please contact us today.

Call: 01782 647 380 Email: placements@aspris.com Website: www.aspriscs.co.uk

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