

Introducing our specialist education services



Welcome to Aspris Telford School

Aspris Telford School is an independent day school, located in a semi-rural setting just a short walk from the historic Shropshire town of Ironbridge.

The school building is a Grade 2 listed former forge converted to provide comfortable and attractive facilities. We provide education to 14 young people between the ages of 11 and 18, who present with a variety of SEN with the primary presenting need being identified as Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH).

A nurturing environment

Our young people are likely to have had an interrupted, confusing or distressing experience of education before coming to Telford Aspris and our first job is to convince them that they can succeed with the right support. We begin by fostering healthy attachment with key adults to provide a safe base from which to take some courageous steps back into structured learning.

Our staff understand that for learners with complex needs who may also have experienced trauma, there is no single or simple pathway to success. Stormy days and setbacks are inevitable, and our staff are experienced in knowing when to intervene and when to give space.

Gradually learners develop resilience and learn that making mistakes is an important part of learning. Alongside classroom learning, at Aspris Telford young people have plenty of opportunities to enjoy a range of physical and outdoor activities, therapeutic interventions and to get involved in our local community through volunteering or work experience.

Our most important job is to prepare our young people for a happy, healthy and fulfilled life after their time in education. Our aim is for learners to leave us with the confidence to take their place in society whether this be at work or college.





A bespoke curriculum

Planning each young person's timetable starts with getting to know their individual needs. Assessment reports and EHC plans inform understanding of the needs and aspirations of each learner. Young people and their families and carers are listened to and baseline information is gathered from previous settings, and/or through tasks set sensitively in school.

Some will need support with phonics, early reading skills and developing communication skills whilst others will be keen to work towards gaining qualifications in Functional Skills and Vocational awards. Our dedicated teachers and support staff have combined experience in a variety of different specialties and educational settings.

They are skilled in adapting resources and take great care to plan accessible and stimulating activities and lessons to ensure a sense of success. We know that having fun whilst learning is crucial and, if a learner communicates that they love pugs, Pokémon and pasta, they may well encounter a combination of these themes in their lessons!





Our aim at Aspris Telford School

At Aspris Telford we are committed to promoting the Aspris behaviours to inspire and motivate each other. We know that it takes a lot of courage for young people who face a lot of challenges to be positive and we encourage them to achieve whatever they aspire to with our fun and friendly attitude. Aspirational outcomes.

Our holistic and nurturing approach to education

- Developing numeracy, language and literacy skills at a level determined by ability not age
- Ensuring continuity and progression within the school and between phases of education
- Empowering young people to become confident, responsible, healthy, safe learners and citizens
- Developing metacognitive skills so that young people understand how they learn best
- · Encouraging problem solving and resilient learning
- Developing identity, sense of self-worth and positive self-esteem
- Supporting young people to self-regulate and manage their emotions
- Have and be able to use social skills, and understand and manage their emotions
- Preparing young people to make appropriate choices
- Achieving qualifications that are valued by employers and meet the requirements for entry to further and higher education
- Helping young people to understand and develop social, moral, cultural and spiritual values
- Raising awareness of fundamental British values, teaching respect for Protected Characteristics and celebrating difference
- Understanding how to keep themselves safe and recognizing the risks associated with having an on-line presence



Our vision and values

- · A small school with a big heart
- We support each student's progress within the ARC model - forming attachment, gaining resilience and achieving confidence
- We understand that behaviour is communication of need and use a playful, accepting, curious and empathic approach to create a safe environment
- Staff set a good example with calm, respectful and resilient adult behaviour
- Staff have experience and expertise in a variety of strategies for working with SEMH, ASC & trauma presentations
- All staff have had training in Trauma Informed practice
- · Our education offer is holistic and highly bespoke
- Our pedagogical approach is Reflective. We review our practice critically and look for evidence of what constitutes effective teaching in order to build on this





Feedback from our recent Ofsted inspection

Aspris Telford School has been rated as 'Good' in 'Behaviour and attitudes', 'Personal development' and 'Leadership and management' by Ofsted, following its last inspection in November 2023.

In the Ofsted report for Aspris Telford School, inspectors said: "Aspris Telford is a small school with a big heart. Care, kindness and understanding fill this school community. This is a place where pupils get a fresh start. At Aspris Telford, pupils find staff who believe in them and are driven to make a special difference in their lives."

The report continued: "Staff are attentive and act when pupils need help. Pupils told inspectors that they could rely on staff to help them. Consequently, pupils feel safe, and their behaviour improves quickly. This creates a calm and purposeful learning community."

Parent/Carer feedback included: "One parent, whose views were echoed by others, told inspectors that 'It feels as if leaders know my family better than I do."

The experiences available to the young people are also highlighted in the report: "Work experience at a local farm, boxing gym, nursery and hair salon provides opportunities to develop an understanding of the workplace. Alternative provisions are used well to support pupils' learning programmes. For example, an inspector Inspection report: Aspris Telford School 21 to 23 November 2023 3 visited a therapeutic riding provision to support those with SEMH needs and provide vocational learning opportunities."



Contact us

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

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