



Light Years

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Start small, grow tall

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

Light Years School, Tewkesbury Avenue, Fareham, Hampshire, PO15 6LL





WELCOME

Welcome to Light Years School. We are located in Fareham, Hampshire and provide specialist education for primary aged children with a range of special educational needs. Our provision includes small class sizes of 8-10 pupils, sensory friendly learning spaces, large classrooms, outside play areas, high staff to pupil ratio and a personalised curriculum approach.

Our school motto; *'start small, grow tall'* symbolises a child's growth through their individual learning journey at Light Years School. We believe passionately that with the right support, at the right time, pupils will thrive in school and be ready for the next stage of their education.

At Light Years School our ethos is clear; we put the child first in all circumstances. To ensure our pupils are ready to learn, we create a school environment which makes children feel safe and supported. We do this by establishing strong and trusted professional relationships and providing pupils with an inviting and accessible space in which to learn. Once pupils feel safe, their learning journey flourishes.

We focus as much on the academic progress as we do on a pupils' personal, social and emotional development to ensure they reach their full potential. Our curriculum is exciting and engaging, carefully designed using small steps so pupils can grow their confidence in learning and their resilience in developing new skills. Our pupils follow the National Curriculum and teachers skilfully plan to meet their special educational needs. Pupils' special educational needs are understood and barriers to learning reduced. Approaches that support positive behaviour and attitudes are child-centred and teach pupils how to regulate themselves.

Our curriculum is enriched with activities that we believe all pupils should experience. This supports pupils with their learning and ensures Light Years School develops the whole child. These essential experiences provide the foundation for our personal development curriculum.

At Light Years School, we want our pupils to grow tall, be proud of their achievements and confidently enter the next phase of their education.

We look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school.

Sarah Alden

Headteacher

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ENVIRONMENT

Light Years School provides a small, nurturing environment that ensures pupils feel safe and secure. We have designed our classrooms with the children's mental health and well-being at the core. Our spaces have been specifically designed to ensure that the learning environment is:

- Neurodiverse Sensitive
- Low sensory stimulating
- Attachment aware
- Trauma informed
- Calm, relaxed and inclusive

Classrooms are designed to help remove potential barriers around entering a typical classroom or learning environment. We provide a mixture of soft furnishing and sensory items to allow pupils to learn successful regulation strategies, ensuring they are ready to learn.

Pupils will also be supported with the use of visual aids to develop effective communication and understanding of the educational setting. Pupils will benefit from a universal approach that makes the learning environment accessible and predictable, reducing anxiety and increasing confidence.







OUR CURRICULUM

Light Years School delivers an ambitious curriculum that supports pupils with autism and associated needs to thrive in education. We work together as a school community, involving parents and families to best support our pupils navigate their unique educational journey.

Our curriculum is shaped by our shared values, believing that all pupils have a right to experience education in safe and caring environment. It takes into account pupils' Education, Health and Care plans (EHCPs) and ensures pupils' make progress towards their individual outcomes.

Light Years School follows the National Curriculum, using it as a framework to deliver high quality and exciting lessons and experiences. We personalise our curriculum to meet the special educational needs (SEN) of our pupils, ensuring they reach their full potential.

The curriculum is fully inclusive, allowing our pupils access to a broad and balanced range of subjects, enriched by learning activities that nurture personal develop and pupil character. We place a high value on reading and see this as the foundation on which all learning is built.

We actively promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by providing experiences that stretch beyond the classroom walls in which pupils' interests and talents are nurtured.

ENRICHMENT

Key to our school ethos is placing the same worth on a pupil's personal, social and emotional development as their academic progress. Our school is enriched by a personal development curriculum that is embedded into all aspects of the school community.

Sitting alongside traditional academic subjects will be enrichment activities that support a pupil's self-regulation, positive behaviour strategies and experiences that bring learning to life. The school day starts with an extended tutor session designed to allow pupils to settle and regulate themselves ensuring they are ready to learn. These sessions involve pupil-led activities either in the classroom or outside and offer a calm and relaxing transition from home or transport into the school day.

The school day is then divided into different sections of academic learning, creative play and personal development sessions.

Pupils will take part in extracurricular activities, ensuring they experience a range of experiences that foster creativity, build resilience and promote special interests and talents that pupils may have. This will also provide an opportunity for pupil's to build trusting relationships with adults and form positive friendships with peers through shared experiences.

Teachers plan a range of educational trips throughout the year that enrich the learning inside the classroom. This brings learning to life and provides context and provides pupils with opportunities to experience the wider world.

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SPECIALIST SUPPORT

Light Years School provides Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) and Occupational Therapy (OT) for pupils in accordance with their EHC plans. They work with pupils, parents and staff to ensure pupil's special educational needs are met in school and supported at home. Therapeutic support will be offered at different levels including universal (*whole school*), targeted (*class or small group*) or specialist (*individual*) meaning all pupils, regardless of their EHC plans, will benefit from their expertise. The school environment will be supported by our Therapists to ensure that it is fully inclusive and accessible for all pupils.

ADMISSIONS

Light Years School puts the child's needs at the centre of every decision it makes regarding suitable placements for pupils. Our admissions policy ensures that the process is adhered to consistently and fairly and we work in collaboration with parents and local authorities. Light Years School will proceed with admissions should a child meet the following criteria:

- Pupils aged between 7 (Year 3) and 11 (Year 6).
- Pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) who will most likely have a primary diagnosis of Autism.

Light Years School also provides education for a range of other special educational needs such as, but not limited to:

- a) Speech, language and communication difficulties
- b) Specific learning difficulties, for example Dyslexia
- c) Social, emotional and mental health difficulties
- d) High anxiety and/or school refusers
- e) Sensory processing difficulties

Careful consideration will be given as to whether or not the school can meet the needs of a child set out in their EHCP as part of the admissions process.



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SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Information

Headteacher: Sarah Alden

School Address: Light Years School, Tewkesbury Avenue,
Fareham, Hampshire, PO15 6LL

Email: admin@lightyearseducation.co.uk

Contact Number: 01329 760955

Proprietor Information

Proprietor: Light Years Education Limited

Proprietor Address: Top Barn, Rectory Road, Steppingley,
Bedford, Bdf, England, MK45 5AT

Chair of the Proprietary Board: Dan Tresman

Contact Number: 01329 760955





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