

West Kirby Residential School SEN College



Residential Childcare Provision

Our Commitment to Young People

As the Head of the Care (which includes the school nurses and night staff), I am committed to everyone being involved in sharing a whole school approach that keeps children and young people uppermost in our daily work and in any planning for their future needs. It is fantastic to hear so many positives about the school from pupils and their families. We also try our best to be a “listening” school so that we achieve good outcomes over any concerns that people may have.

Our recent full Ofsted Welfare Inspection in September 2011 focused on how well the school meets the needs of the children living here. The report said “The overall effectiveness of WKRS is outstanding.” “The care provision is exceptional and enables residential pupils to develop to their full potential. The school continues to be an example of the very best residential care.” “Residential pupils receive exceptional care delivered by a highly skilled, passionate and committed group of staff who want the very best for them.”



Improved outcomes for children and young people are at the heart of everything we do. An essential ingredient is demonstrating commitment to the young people, and them feeling genuinely cared for by staff who have strong and positive working relationships with them.

Y Blackledge

Residential Childcare Provision

We provide residential places for 6 children and young people in the community houses, and up to 8 on each of the 2 resident groups. A variety of boarding arrangements are offered with young people boarding for 4 nights per week. In some cases arrangements are made for between 1 and 3 nights, agreements are also reached for pupils to stay on for after school activities; social and life skills opportunities on a number of evenings. We are fortunate to be in a fantastic location and to be well accepted in the local area.

We are committed to promoting the welfare of the young people and ensuring we protect them, to the best of our ability, from harm. 'Every Child Matters' remains high on our agenda and provides the framework for us to focus on the needs of the whole child. Staff actively support young people's development and work closely with educational and health care professionals. We provide young people positive, structured and consistent boundaries that helps develop their trust, feelings of security and of being valued.

We aim to have children at the heart of what we do, with well structured programmes of work, such as activity planning and independence skills in place. We like to ensure young people are involved and can voice their opinions on the care they receive, and the daily running of the group/house. Each young person has a key worker who maintains home links. House records and care plans are kept to a high standard enabling progress to be measured.

The childcare staff provide a high quality provision which looks after children well and helps them deal with daily challenges. Young people generally feel happy and well supported in the residential provision, and we work closely with their parents / carers, and other professionals. Our two community houses in the locality are sited next door to each other. They are well resourced and the young people enjoy being in the homely environment there. In the main building we have two residential groups. One group, Sandpiper, is mixed and the other, Phoenix, is mostly for older students. The girls and boys who are resident in the school like the atmosphere, the routines and the access to resources such as the MUGA (multi use games area), sports barn, music suite. The staffing ratio is good and ensures the young people are properly cared for.

Our unannounced inspections are carried out ½ termly, and we are inspected on an annual basis, the last one being September 2011. Copies are available on request, and can be viewed on the Ofsted web site; the school site is continually being updated and contains a good deal of information.

Ofsted 2007 Outstanding

Ofsted 2008 Outstanding

Ofsted 2009 Good, outstanding in helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do and in helping them make a positive contribution

Ofsted 2010 Outstanding

Ofsted 2011 Outstanding

Comments from young people over a period of time

Pupil comments

“Staff make me feel welcome and at home.”

“I used to be shy and staff have helped me feel more confident.”

“Staff are helping me learn to do things on my own. “It’s a good school and if anyone with special needs want to come it will help you.”

“I feel they have done everything right and can’t fault this school.”

“I like staying at school, but I like being at home as well, and I have lots of friends.”

“Some pupils say we are like a family.”

Ofsted: December 2010 / September 2011

“I like staying for my 2 nights each week. I like the activities we do here.” (14 years)

“I like the sports barn.” (15 years)

“The staff help me and everyone is friendly” (11 years)

“They help me with my needs and no other school would accept me” (15 years)

“My key staff are here for me” “I like being in Post 16” (16 years)

“I like living at the house and going to golf.” (17 years)

“Staff understand young people well, and can talk to the students about problems” (14 years)

“Having good relationships” (17 years)

“I love going swimming, and to the park” (12 years)

March / September 2011

Staff comments

“The school has a welcoming atmosphere and is committed to helping each child reach their potential”

“We feel we have good relationships with parents/carers and outside agencies”

“Lots of support services for pupils – SALT, PHYSIO, BEST, Sensory, reading – in place”

“The warm friendly atmosphere is the best”

“WKRS is flexible and supportive”

“ Seeing how much pupils achieve in so many ways”

“Great facilities, great team all working for one goal to improve children’s lives”

March 2011

Parent comments

“WKRS staff lift my spirits as they have helped my family so much”

“Thanks to you guys- for the first time ever my son has been able to sit down as part of the family to watch a TV programme with me.”

“We are very pleased with our daughters progress”

“Our son has made significant progress- a big thank you to all the staff. His key worker has been a great help -as have all the staff.”

“When I visit each week I always thank the staff for the support my son has received.”

“We thank them (staff) gratefully for all the support they have provided to our children.”

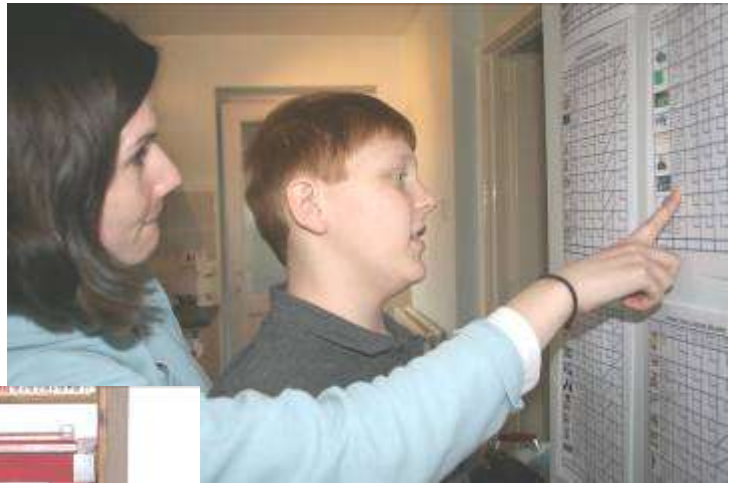
“Staff often go the extra mile for pupils.”

March / September 2011

EVERY CHILD MATTERS

- Everyone is encouraged to interact positively to develop confidence and self esteem
- Caring for each other and our environment promotes respect and responsibility
- Making a contribution is encouraged so that everyone can play their part

Changing Children's Lives



‘Every
Child
Matters’

