

RATCLIFFE SCHOOL FACT SHEET – September 2013

A Residential/Day School for children with high functioning ASC and associated difficulties

History: The school was built in 1976 as a facility for students with moderate learning difficulties. This original school closed in July 1988 and although the old name was retained, the present school opened in September 1988. We were re-designated from SEBD to our current provision in September 2013.

Catchment Area: Devon and Torbay **Roll:** 80 pupils

- Weekly boarding/part residential/extended day provision
- Age Range: 5 to 16 years/ Boys and girls admitted
- 38 week school year
- Supporting Educational Psychologist
- Speech and Language Therapist
- Therapeutic Intervention
- School Counsellor
- Purpose built accommodation
- Small teaching groups/ 24 hour curriculum
- Trained Care staff (minimum qualification of N.V.Q. Level 3)
- GCSE courses and other forms of accreditation
- NVQ work placements and college Link courses R.O.A. County validation
- Achieved 'Investors in People' Award for over 10 years/ School Achievement Award 2002
- Basic Skills Quality Mark and Quality Mark II
- ASD Inclusion Award
- Active Sports Mark/Active Mark
- Healthy Schools Plus
- Happiness and Wellbeing Award

Latest OFSTED – Good with many outstanding features

PHILOSOPHY

Eclectic approach - allowing for the use of accepted good practice in the development of individual care, behaviour management and educational programmes. The recognition of the child as part of his family means there is close co-operation between school and home. The need to raise children's self esteem is seen as a priority.

AIMS

The school aims to provide a structured environment that;

- Offers effective and appropriate support for pupils' complex learning difficulties.
- Provides a balanced and broadly based twenty four hour curriculum that promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- Gives access to the National Curriculum and, for those pupils with specific learning difficulties, effective remediation programmes.
- Respects all pupils and encourages them to become active participants in their own learning, develop confidence and self esteem and express their needs and desires.
- Seeks effective links with pupils' families and other professional agencies.
- Provides opportunities, for those pupils for whom it is appropriate, to return to mainstream education either full or part-time.

METHOD

- ~ All staff work closely together. Senior management team comprises both education and care staff.
 - ~ Separate boys and girls residential/day units. Facilities for independent living.
 - ~ Small teaching groups - 24 hr. curriculum and extended curricula through links with local schools and colleges & N.V.Q. placements.
 - ~ Close co-operation with families. Use of home books if appropriate.
 - ~ Pupils supported by Link workers and home base tutors.
 - ~ Structured programme of leisure activities out of school hours.
 - ~ Leavers' programme, that includes independence and social skills training.
 - ~ Encouraged participation in outdoor education.
- Individual support via Link Workers and Home Base Tutors

**For Further details, please contact the School Principal, Mrs. C. White. Telephone Number: 01626 862939
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