



Tumblewood Community School

Special Educational Needs Information Report

2018





Who are we?

Tumblewood is a therapeutic community that caters for adolescent girls aged 9 – 17. We provide a broad and balanced curriculum to both residential and day pupils with special educational needs. Tumblewood is unique in that we provide on-site individualised education and therapy to our pupils and provide them with bespoke education package.

What types of SEN do we provide for?

At Tumblewood we cater for a wide range of SEN and therapeutic needs which include:

- SEMH
- ASD
- ADHD
- ODD/PDA
- Attachment disorders
- MLD/SPLD

What types of therapeutic interventions do we provide?

We use and offer a wide range of therapies and therapeutic interventions for example:

- OT
- SALT
- Psychotherapy
- Bio-feedback
- CBT
- Group therapy
- Family therapy

Who is our special educational needs coordinator and how can she be contacted?

The SENCo at Tumblewood is Jennifer McMillan and she can be contacted at Jennifer.mcmillan@tumblewood.org or by telephone on 01373 824466 with any questions or queries you might have.



What is our approach to teaching pupils with SEN?

At Tumblewood we use a flexible, therapeutic approach to teaching and understand that each individual pupil has specific needs and where appropriate and possible we cater to these individually. We continually adapt our approach and interventions to ensure that pupils are making good progress whilst enjoying their education. We have an accredited SENCo who thoroughly understands special educational needs, the therapeutic staff team support in providing consistent and appropriate therapeutic interventions and approaches. We are able to alter the curriculum to meet pupil's needs and have a high staff to pupil ratio in lessons to ensure that all pupils receive ample support. We offer a range of qualifications and are skilled in sourcing the right qualification for pupils.

How do we adapt the curriculum and learning environment?

We continually adapt our curriculum to meet the needs of our pupils by offering a broad and balanced national curriculum with high levels of differentiation, furthermore our small setting means we can cater to individual needs and requirements. We have many qualified staff who work with pupils to ensure that they are learning in a way that suits them for example support pupil on a 1:1, small groups or utilising independent time. We are able to offer a range of qualifications from Entry Level Certificates to GCSE's and ensure we support pupils in accessing those qualifications which are most appropriate. We work using a holistic model which allows the school to be flexible with pupils and provide tailored education programmes.

How do we enable pupils with SEN to engage in activities with other pupils who do not have SEN?

Tumblewood Community School is a fully inclusive school and our pupils are supported to take part in activities both on and off site. All pupils are enabled to participate in all activities which are available both on and off site. In some cases further thought may be required to ensure some pupils gain the most from other activities, for example we may increase adult support, introduce additional strategies and adjust the use of alternative provisions.

How do we consult parents/carers of pupils with SEN and involve them in their child's education?

We aim for all parents and carers to be fully involved in their child's education. The majority of our pupils have EHCP's and therefore we hold an annual review to monitor and check the progress of the EHCP outcomes. We will not hold this meeting without a parent or carer present. For our students who are looked after we hold termly Personal Education Plan meetings as well as attend bi-annual CLA reviews. Parents and carers may also approach their child's tutor for more updates and to talk about any concerns they may have.



How do we consult pupils with SEN and involve them in their education?

All pupils are invited to attend their annual reviews and also submit a written contribution. As part of the annual review they are asked what does and doesn't support them in their educational path. There is a focus on future aspirations to make sure that as far as possible the provision at Tumblewood is tailored to their specific needs. We also ensure that all looked after pupils have a substantial input into their PEP meetings. We frequently meet with the pupils to discuss their educational needs and any adaptations that need to be made to their education programme.

How do we assess and review pupils' progress towards their outcomes?

We assess pupil's outcomes at every EHCP annual review and PEP meeting and use an assessment system called Classroom Monitor. This system enables us to provide assessment levels for each pupil on a regular basis. We provide pupils with termly educational reports which highlight their successes for the term and the progress they are making. We also regularly assess therapeutic support/input and pupil's mental health well-being through the Wellbeing Measurement Framework and use of the Sanctuary Model.

How do we support pupils moving between different phases of education?

Students arrive at Tumblewood in various phases of their education and often it is unknown how long they will remain with us mainly due to social care and other varying reasons. We provide pupils with as much educational support as quickly as possible to ensure maximum input in the quickest amount of time. We strive to help pupils gain a range of qualifications including ELC, Functional Skills and GCSE's. We ensure that we have ample information on each new pupil, develop their pupil profiles and risk assessments which are then utilised by the team to ensure a focused approach. The staff team discuss each new pupil in our meetings before they begin on their phased induction.

We also support pupils in preparing for transitions to new educational settings and we always ensure a supportive approach. We always try and ensure a visit to the new school occurs and always encourage staff members from their new school visit the pupil at Tumblewood. The headteacher has a handover meeting with the new staff members and all records are handed over to the new setting including our pupil profiles, risk assessments and positive handling plans. Staff at Tumblewood give pupils as much notice as possible about moving on and help them to develop questions for their new setting.



Where pupils are moving on to college we try to ensure that pupils attend open days, interviews and visits with a member of staff they feel comfortable with. The headteacher will also attempt to arrange to speak to student services to ensure that all applicable information is passed on to the new setting.

How do we support pupils preparing for adulthood?

At Tumblewood we strive to prepare our pupils for adulthood as much as possible. We have an independent life skills assessment and plan which we carry out with pupils as they approach adulthood. We also have life skills lessons within the timetable, this supports pupils to consider life in adulthood and to develop the skills required within adulthood. These lessons are tailored to the specific special educational needs of each pupil and are aimed at supporting each pupil individually.

How do we support pupils with SEN to improve their emotional and social development?

All staff at Tumblewood work within the therapeutic ethos which is central to promoting the emotional and social development of each pupil. We offer various therapeutic interventions to help pupils including; psychotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy and CBT. We also cover social skills in our PSHE lessons and all staff members model good emotional and social development at all times.

Every pupil has a tutor who supports their development and engages in extra activities to support them. Meetings are held weekly to discuss pupil's pastoral needs or concerns resulting in quick and effective interventions to help pupils develop.

What expertise and training do our staff have to support pupils with SEN?

At Tumblewood we have a qualified SENCo who has a thorough understanding of a broad range of SEN. We have also have a teaching assistant who has been trained to support speech and language difficulties as well as conduct Lego therapy sessions. All staff also receive the following training to help special needs pupils:

- Autism training
- Attachment/Trauma/ADHD and Conduct disorders training
- Therapeutic intervention training
- Differentiation training
- Sexualised behaviour training



How will we secure specialist expertise?

Tumblewood is a therapeutic community and we have access to a range of professional support, this is provided mostly on site with offsite specialists accessed if required. Tumblewood employs a full time assistant psychologist, and the head of therapy is a qualified Adolescent Therapist.

Tumblewood works in partnership with other professionals and currently utilise an education psychologist, psychiatrist, psychologist, psychotherapist, assistant psychologist, occupational therapist and speech and language therapist. Our therapeutic input ensures pupils are offered a holistic approach to their education and when issues and needs are identified these are acted upon quickly and the input is available when required.

How will we secure equipment and facilities to support pupils with SEN?

Through discussion with parents, carers and professionals we will use our best endeavours to secure appropriate equipment to support students and young people with SEN. Tumblewood has a supply of small specialist equipment which is distributed according to the needs of each student. This equipment includes, coloured overlays, ICT equipment, specialist seating and sensory tools. If a need is identified and equipment is not currently on site, this will be sourced as soon as possible to ensure the pupils needs are being met.

How do we involve other organisations in meeting the needs of pupils with SEN and supporting their families?

Any involvement from outside agencies is made in consultation with parents/carers and through EHCP review meetings. We welcome a multiagency approach and will always ensure a swift and well organised approach is taken by our school staff.

Our experience has shown that for requesting referrals for an ADHD or ASC assessment, parents are best to discuss concerns with their GP, who will refer for further assessment. Parents and carers will always be supported by Tumblewood in this process and will be offered support and guidance if they require.



How do we evaluate the effectiveness of our SEN provision?

Pupil outcomes are measured 3 times per year through subject assessments and at least annually in terms of reading and spelling. Progress towards other agreed outcomes, social skills and specific interventions are evaluated via the annual review and at other meetings with relevant outside agencies.

At Tumblewood we continually strive to meet pupil's individual needs which often mean re-evaluating their education. If we feel that an intervention is not being successful we attempt to use a different approach. We are continually flexible and strive to make things as comfortable as possible for our pupils in order for them to achieve.

How do we handle complaints from parents of children with SEN about provision made at the school?

Any complaints or concerns with Tumblewood School should be directed to the headteacher Jennifer McMillan via letter, phone call or email. The headteacher will endeavour to respond to all complaints according to our complaints policy which can be found on the website (www.tumblewood.org).

Who can young people and parents contact if they have concerns?

Pupils are urged to communicate with the tutor in the first instance if they have any concerns. Anyone can contact the headteacher Jennifer McMillan via letter, phone (01373 824466) or email (Jennifer.mcmillan@tumblewood.org). If Jennifer is not available anyone may contact Karen Briddon on the above number.

Where can the LA's local offer be found? How have we contributed to it?

The Wiltshire local offer can be found at <https://www.wiltshirelocaloffer.org.uk/>. Please visit the website for further information.

