

# Residential Statement of Purpose

**Date of policy: September 2020**

**Developed by: Headteacher and Head of Residential Care**

**Date of next review: August 2021**

Southfields  
Multi-Academy  
**TRUST**



Southfields  
Academy



**Linden Lodge  
School**

A Specialist Sensory & Physical College

## **INTRODUCTION**

Linden Lodge School is a 38 week academy residential special school. The majority of pupils are visually impaired or multi-sensory impaired although the school also provides education for pupils who have a learning and physical disability with social and communication difficulties. A significant number of pupils have complex medical problems and of these some have life limiting conditions. The school takes male and female pupils from 2 years to 19.

We have 143 places available with 24 full time boarding places. The school and residential departments have full disabled access.

Referrals are made via the pupil's Local Authority. Once a referral is received the school carries out an Initial Assessment through a multi- disciplinary approach and where pupils are referred for a residential placement this includes an overnight stay.

## **OUR ETHOS**

Our ethos is based on a person centred approach that recognises every child and family is unique. Priority is given to individual planning linked to the pupil's EHCP which aims to provide enrichment opportunities both within school and in the community in preparation for adulthood.

Partnership with families is embedded in all that we do.

We apply our specialist expertise in vision and multi-sensory impairment to provide learning opportunities which remove barriers for pupils with sensory impairment and enables them to flourish and grow in confidence.

## **OUR VALUES**

Teamwork  
Professionalism  
Respect  
Ambition  
Positive

## **AIMS OF OUR RESIDENTIAL PROVISION**

We use a holistic approach based on 5 key priorities:

### **Social opportunities**

Through the residential programme and emphasis on social interaction pupils are encouraged to develop friendships, work collaboratively and support each other and experience contact with different people.

## **Preparation for Adulthood**

Through the specialist care and support provided pupils are provided with daily opportunities to develop life skills for independent or supported living.

Opportunities for pupils to engage in decision making and make choices are regularly provided so that pupils can impact on their environment and the care that they receive.

## **Independence**

Life in the residential enables pupils to take risks within a safe and supportive context, to try out new life skills and to explore new environments and people. We encourage each pupil to be as independent as possible recognising that this varies according to the pupil's individual needs.

We celebrate diversity and individual difference encouraging pupils to make choices and decisions.

## **Confidence**

Our specialist knowledge of vision and multi-sensory impairment means that we can create an environment in which pupils can safely explore themselves and their environment to build confidence and self-esteem.

Our emphasis on building strong relationships enables pupils to develop social interaction and friendships.

## **Enrichment**

The residential department provides a broad and balanced programme of daily activities with opportunities to participate in community activities, for example Scouts, Guides and visits to other local facilities.

All pupils have access to ASDAN courses to build their self- help and independent living skills.

## **LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT**

**Chief Executive Southfields MAT:** Jacqueline Valin

**Chair of Governors:** Martin Schoten

**Headteacher:** Deborah Rix PGCE,UCTOD,Med(Aud),MEd

**Head of Residential Care:** Jhenni Izquierdo

The Head of Residential Care is a member of the school's senior Leadership Team.

There are two Unit managers supported by senior residential workers. A high level of residential care staff also work in the school. Staff are deployed on the same Units to promote consistency and continuity.

Staff are carefully selected on the basis of their qualities and ability to communicate effectively with pupils with vision impairment, multi-sensory impairment and sensory needs. Some members of staff hold specific qualifications such as BSL to enable them to promote deafblind pupils' communication and development.

The training and CPD of staff is recorded and all staff either hold or are due to complete the NVQ Level 3 in Health and Social Care.

Overnight, there are waking night members of staff on each floor who carry out at least half hourly checks. In addition, there is a sleeping in member of staff on each floor and the Duty Manager sleeps on site. The Duty Manager is either the Head or Deputy of Care or Headteacher. A number of pupils have individual waking nights staff funded by the pupil's Local Authority.

Supervision is carried out on a regular basis and recorded with copies kept in the HR files.

## **FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

Linden Lodge is located in Wimbledon Park, South West London on a 3 acre site. The school has easy access to London via the Underground station 15 minutes' walk away and to the South Circular and M25.

As a regional special school we take pupils from all London boroughs and from a wide geographical area.

Linden Lodge offers a range of facilities on site. There is a swimming pool and hydrotherapy pool on the campus. Pupils have access to a specialist and fully accessible Performing Arts and Sports complex. We have Rebound facilities and a fitness suite for pupils. Residential pupils have access to the wide campus which includes a fully accessible playground, woodland nature walk and specialist bikes for the disabled.

The school grounds have an all-weather pitch, horticulture facilities and outdoor classrooms.

The residential department is in a purpose built block. The residential facilities are on three floors. There are fully accessible bedrooms both single and double available with hoists and fully accessible bathrooms and personal care areas. On the top floor there is a recently built flat for independent living.

The residential department has open plan kitchen areas and lounges. Medication is stored, prepared and administered in duty rooms with medication fridges.

Pupils are encouraged to personalise their own rooms and are able to leave items and pictures between stays.

### **Ground Floor:**

- Duty room
- Lounge
- Dining area
- Bathroom facilities with hoists and separate facilities for boys and girls
- Single bedrooms
- Double bedrooms
- A catering kitchen

## **Middle Floor:**

- Duty room
- Staff bedroom with en-suite
- Bathroom facilities with hoists and separate facilities for boys and girls
- Lounge Dining area
- Single bedrooms
- Double bedrooms

## **Top Floor: - Independent Resource**

Developing the independence for children and young people at Linden Lodge is closely connected to their emotional wellbeing and levels of motivation. We have recognised the importance of being ambitious in helping children and young people in developing these skills. Creating an environment where young people will have the opportunity in self-determination as this plays a crucial part in the transition to adulthood.

Linden Lodge has created a purpose built independence unit providing excellent educational and residential facilities for young people aged 15 and above to have an opportunity to experience and develop their own independence skills. Each young person has their own newly appointed bedroom and shared wet room facilities. A new kitchen has been installed and young people are encouraged and supported to achieve more confidence and ability in terms of their own self-care, cooking, shopping and budgeting. A new refurbished lounge encourages and helps to stimulate interaction between young people and help with socialisation and establishing their own identity.

With our Education and Health colleagues specific differentiated targets and outcomes are agreed. These plans fully involve the young person who is at the forefront of all the decisions made alongside their parents/carers.

Our aims are ambitious for young people but we will be there supporting and working alongside, helping them to achieve over and above what would be expected. This takes place in an environment that will be stimulating, vibrant and full of energy where they can thrive and realise their potential.

Our Care Curriculum at Linden Lodge is pupil specific. All pupils have an Individual Care Plan which is reviewed on an annual basis, unless otherwise required. Each pupil's package of care also includes regular target setting jointly with other departments such as Education, Mobility and Therapy and taking account of any relevant elements of their IEP.

## **SAFEGUARDING**

Safeguarding encompasses all that we do at Linden Lodge. There are careful systems in place for monitoring Safeguarding concerns and using this to drive improvement. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is also a qualified nurse.

The Head of Residential is a designated member of the Safeguarding team which meets daily. Concerns related to the behaviour are recorded by the Safeguarding team and discussed at the weekly behaviour meeting.

Many of the pupils have medical conditions which require daily medication. Systems for monitoring the storage and administration of medication are in place and are regularly audited through spot checks and through the Independent Visitor.

Safeguarding training is provided to all new staff by the DSL and ongoing training is planned and recorded. Staff have access to health training such as the administration of medication through the school's paediatric nursing team.

Staff are trained on the use of hoists and moving and handling.

All pupils have a PEEPS and risk assessments are carried out both on an individual basis for example the use of bed guards and for group activities.

### HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Pupils have access to a nominated person if they have a worry or want to speak to someone in confidence.

They are encouraged to take responsibility for their personal care but adult support and monitoring is provided as appropriate.

Each pupil has an Individual healthcare plan.

The residential provides opportunities for pupils to learn about healthy lifestyles and meals are prepared on site in the school's kitchen and served in the residential dining areas. Pupils sit together with staff.

### DEALING WITH COMPLAINTS

Professionals, parents and pupils have the right to be listened to and have their voice heard. The aim is to resolve issues through listening and clarifying to bring about a joint resolution. However in some instances the complaint needs to be referred to the Head teacher. If the complaint is about the Head teacher it needs to be directed to the Chair of Governors. Please see the school complaints policy for full details of the process (available on the school website).

On receipt of a formal complaint the Head teacher will discuss the concern with the complainant. A record is made and in some cases a further investigation is required. This is completed within 28 days and the outcome is then shared with the complainant and Chair of Governors.

Parents and pupils may wish to complain directly to their Local Authority. In this instance staff will assist with this process.

All complaints are reported to the Governing Body on a termly basis.