



INDEPENDENT SPECIAL SCHOOL

16 - 19 OFFER

WORKING TOGETHER TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR THE WORLD



UTOPIA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL 16-19 PROSPECTUS

**ESTABLISHING A
PLATFORM FOR
PERSONAL AND
ACADEMIC GROWTH
BY BUILDING ON
STRENGTHS,
QUALITIES AND
ATTRIBUTES**

UTOPIA VISION

A learning experience where students feel happy, safe, and create lasting memories, surrounded by people who appreciate their uniqueness, support their success, and foster their personal growth

UTOPIA MISSION

We balance the academic and personal development outcomes of students based on their individual needs and aspirations. Utilising parental engagement to ensure that each student is appropriately prepared for adulthood

UTOPIA ETHOS

Our ethos empowers staff to go above and beyond in supporting students' development, fostering strong relationships that drive exceptional progress.

Accessible - Removing barriers to learning by identifying them from the outset and addressing the needs of individuals on a case-by-case basis.

Approachable - Placing the relationship between staff, students and parents at the heart of everything we do.

Aspirational - Setting high expectations so that students can reach their full potential emotionally, socially and academically.



AN ENVIRONMENT THAT ALLOWS STUDENTS TO BE HAPPY, SAFE AND GROW

UTOPIA VALUES

Respect, resilience, responsibility and kindness are the core principles woven throughout our curriculum to ensure students are prepared to meet the demands of life in modern Britain.



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



RESPONSIBILITY



KINDNESS



UTOPIA SKILLS



ADAPTABILITY



COMMUNICATION



INDEPENDENCE



MOTIVATION



PROBLEM SOLVING



TEAMWORK

We empower students to develop the essential skills needed to live out our school values every day. These core skills form the foundation for success not only in school, but in life beyond the classroom in and in preparation for adulthood.

“SHE IS ALWAYS HAPPY TO BE GOING IN TO SCHOOL AND THAT’S ALL DOWN TO THE WONDERFUL, CARING PEOPLE THAT YOU ALL ARE AND THE LOVELY ENVIRONMENT THAT YOU ALL CREATE.

I’M SO GRATEFUL.”

APPROACH TO LEARNING

- **Care and excellence** drive the Utopia approach, providing unique learning experiences that stretch and support students to reach their full potential.
- **Holistic learning** is central to our approach, offering bespoke timetables that help students achieve meaningful engagement and accelerated progression.
- **A Personalised curriculum** ensures that learning is uniquely adapted to the needs identified in each student's Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
- **Differentiated support** is implemented following initial baseline assessments, where our staff differentiate work and remain mindful of individual learning styles to maximise potential across all areas.

CURRICULUM

This approach is achieved through our needs led curriculum which is built upon 3 essential pillars:

Core Pathway

Preparation for
Adulthood

Specialist
Subjects



CURRICULUM BUILT AROUND YOUNG PEOPLE'S INTERESTS AND NEEDS

Core Curriculum Pathways

Students who have not achieved at least a grade 4 in English and Maths (or Functional Skills Level 2 equivalent) will continue on our Core Curriculum Pathway at a stage suitable for their needs:

English

- Stage 1 - Developing English Skills
- Stage 2 - Entry Level Qualifications
- Stage 3 - Functional Skills
- Stage 4 - GCSE English Language

Maths

- Stage 1 - Maths for Life
- Stage 2 - Entry Level Qualifications
- Stage 3 - Functional Skills
- Stage 4 - GCSE Maths (Foundation)

Science

- Stage 1 - Entry Level Qualifications
- Stage 2 - GCSE Science Dual Award (Foundation)



ADDRESSING BARRIERS TO LEARNING THROUGH A PERSON CENTRED APPROACH

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOP SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO HAVE CHOICE AND CONTROL OVER THEIR LIVES

Preparation for Adulthood

Our tailored preparation for adulthood curriculum includes 3 key areas to help students to thrive beyond the classroom:

Independent Living Skills (ILS)

Our ILS curriculum builds on upon each stage to support ongoing self-reliance.

Stage 1 - Personal Development e.g. Cooking for myself

Stage 2 - Social Development e.g. Cooking for a group

Stage 3 - Independence Development e.g. Eating out

PSHE

Our PSHE curriculum is a progressive programme (including RSE), where students are taught about:

- **Personal & Emotional Development**, Focusing on internal growth and emotional regulation.
- **Health, Safety & Self-Care**, Covering physical health, personal safety, and the looking after oneself.
- **Relationships & Community**, Exploring how students interact, the wider world and healthy connections.
- **Future Planning**, Preparing for life beyond education and transitioning into adulthood.

Careers, Work Related Learning & Employability

A phased approach to supporting students into the workplace based on individual need:

- Employability support
- Short term work experience
- Long term work placements
- Introductions to traineeships and apprenticeships
- Utopia Employment Opportunities

Specialist Subjects

Our study programmes give students the opportunity to follow their interests and explore the opportunities available as a career.

Art, Animal Care, Sport

Stage 1 - Level 1 Introductory - Award, Certificate, Diploma

Stage 2 - Level 1/2 Technical

Work Based/Vocational Studies

Stage 1 - Level 1 Introductory - Award, Certificate, Diploma

Stage 2 - Extended work placement opportunities



INTERVENTION

Supporting students to develop themselves socially, emotionally and physically in order to promote improved wellbeing through a multi-disciplinary team.

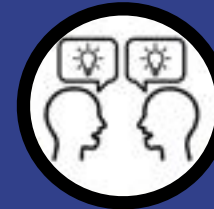
Speech and
language



Occupational
therapy



Physiotherapy



Counsellors



Wellbeing
Practitioners



Social
Programmes

PASTORAL OFFER

Empowering students through a high quality pastoral offer:

- A full 5 day timetable available
- Regular parental engagement
- 1:6 class sizes
- Effective links with external agencies
- Targeted support and intervention
- Community engagement and signposting

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL THROUGH FUN AND CHALLENGING EXPERIENCES

STUDENT PROFILE



Young People
aged 16-19



Young people with
high anxiety,
neurodivergence
or emotional
barriers to school
attendance



Young people
who require a
full 38 week
timetable



AT UTOPIA WE CARE ABOUT OUR STUDENTS AND VALUE THEM AS THE AMAZING INDIVIDUALS THEY ARE



Young people
with an EHCP



Young people
unable to access
mainstream
education



Young people who
require a small
and nurturing
setting to make
accelerated
progress

STUDY SPACES



A CALM AND LOW DEMAND ENVIRONMENT TO ENCOURAGE SAFETY AND FOCUS



SOCIAL SPACES



REFERRALS & ADMISSIONS

Finding the right setting for neurodivergent students or those facing emotional barriers can be challenging. At Utopia, we specialise in supporting young people with high anxiety or those disengaged with learning providing the tailored environment they deserve.

To ensure we can provide the best possible support, please note the following about our admissions process:

EHCP Requirement, All students attending Utopia must have an active Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

The Referral Process, Placements are funded and referred through your Local Authority SEND Commissioning team.

Careful Consideration, Every referral is personally reviewed by our Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team to ensure Utopia is the perfect fit for your child's unique needs.

An Inclusive Welcome, Our school is a safe space for everyone and the admissions process is entirely inclusive, ensuring no discrimination based on ability, gender, ethnicity, race, or religion.

“
CHANGED MY SONS
LIFE AND OURS AS A
FAMILY. EVERY
CHILD WITH SEND
DESERVES A UTOPIA
”

CONTACT



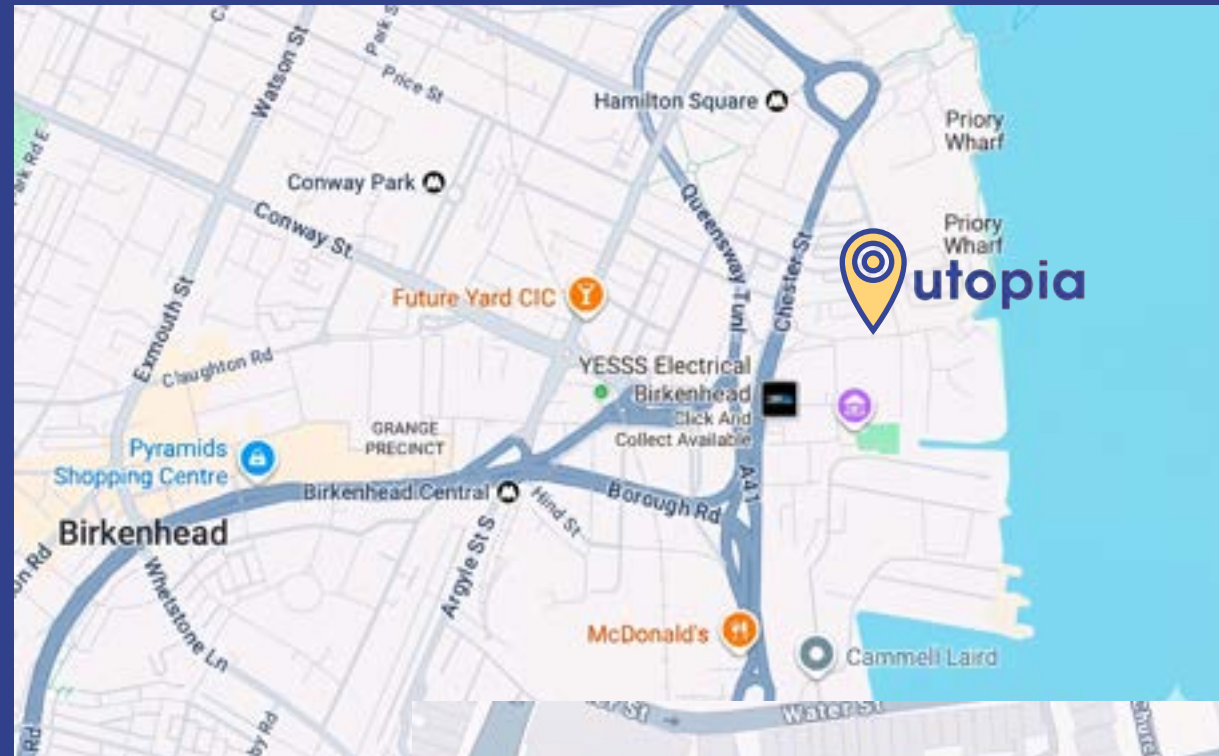
Utopia Independent Special School

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Phone: 07719084493

General enquiries: office@utopiaschools.co.uk
Referral enquiries: referrals@utopiaschools.co.uk

Website: www.utopiaschools.co.uk



CENTRAL BIRKENHEAD WITH GREAT TRANSPORT LINKS TO WIRRAL AND LIVERPOOL