



Welcome to Amwell View School & Specialist Sports College

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The school is a highly regarded community Special School, which caters for children and young people with Severe Learning Difficulties. It is situated in the village of Stanstead Abbots and easily accessible to Central London through a range of transport options. The area boasts excellent schools and very pleasant countryside. The pupils come from a wide area of East Hertfordshire, including such towns as Bishop's Stortford, Cheshunt, Hoddesdon, Hertford and Ware. Many of the pupils have additional physical disabilities, sensory impairment, medical conditions and challenging behaviours. The school is a recognised centre for teaching pupils with a diagnosis of Autism in Hertfordshire and adopts a number of proven approaches. These include play, exercise routines, the use of Picture Exchange Communication Scheme (PECS) and strands of TEACCH.

Amwell View School opened in 1963 and over the years has been developed into an excellent resource for the education of 170 pupils with a range of Severe Learning Difficulties. The school also provides an Outreach Service to mainstream schools, focusing on either individual pupil needs or whole school development activities.

The importance of communication is seen as the core to curriculum delivery and the school is enthusiastic about the use of Makaton, Communication in Print Symbols and the signing vocabulary to facilitate this. Working together with Speech and Language Therapists ensures the development and effective use of alternative communication strategies.

The facilities comprises of 18 class bases and a wide range of specialist facilities. A purpose built Sports Hall has provided the space to enable the PE Subject Leader to develop an extensive range of sporting activities, including football, tennis, gymnastics and dance. The swimming pool provides a great resource for therapeutic work, as well as the development of proficient swimming skills. A soft play area complements the physical development of the pupils. A sensory approach to learning underpins the curriculum delivery, which is further supported by the provision of a sensory room, the employment of a Music Therapist, a Dance Teacher and Swimming Coaches. We have a Leaver's Suite for post 16 pupils and Science/Design Technology and Food Technology specialist rooms.

The Senior Leadership Team regards the importance of training and development of all staff as a core value in this successful organisation. The passion and commitment to learning reflects the ethos of value and respect for all, which permeates the whole organisation. The formation of the School Council has further developed this ethos where pupils and staff show mutual respect.

The school measures pupil progress and attainment and reports pupil achievement to parents and the Local Authority. Recent developments include wider curriculum opportunities through the opening of a charity shop in the village of Stanstead Abbots, where pupils can have real life experiences of using money, walking to the shop and developing road safety awareness.

Visits to the school are welcome, by appointment.