



Head of School Statement

Thank you for visiting our website and your interest in our school.

At Haven Nook, we pride ourselves on being more than just a school. We are a family, dedicated to nurturing the unique strengths and amazing talents of every student.

Our commitment to our students flows throughout our community, connecting learners and their families and carers, senior leaders, teachers, and pastoral staff. We believe that through empowerment and inspiration, we can help our students reach their full potential and become aspiring young adults.

Our team of skilled and compassionate staff are dedicated to providing the foundations for education and independent living skills. Together, we create a safe and nurturing environment where students can aspire, learn and achieve.

As you read through our prospectus, I invite you to learn more about the Haven Nook community and the opportunities we offer to our students. We understand that choosing the right school for your child is an important decision, and we are committed to supporting you through every step of the process.

Thank you for considering Haven Nook as a potential school for your young person. We look forward to welcoming you to our community and helping your young person achieve their dreams and aspirations.

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We value young people for who they are and take the time to understand and support their unique aspirations and needs.

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Steff Dowle, Head of School

Admissions

Haven Nook is an independent special school for young people aged 11 to 18 with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) who have social, emotional and mental health needs (SEMH).

Admission Criteria:

- We welcome students aged between 11 and 18 years.
- We provide support for students with EHCPs, with SEMH as their primary need.

Contact info@havennook.co.uk for more information on our admissions process

Learning is a personal journey for everyone and we specialise in bespoke education programmes with a focus on 1-to-1 and small group teaching.

At Haven Nook, we understand that for some students, full-time education may be difficult or overwhelming, particularly following a period of illness, absence or disengagement.

We are able to offer our young people individualised and scaffold transitional support, enabling a manageable integration or return into full-time, on-site education. This is done at a pace that is sensitive and appropriate to them.

Our experienced staff encourage students with compassion, care and an understanding that every young person, regardless of background or circumstance, can improve and become a better learner. **Together, we inspire, motivate and encourage everyone to grow and to succeed.**

Our Approach

Personalised Support

Haven Nook recognises the fundamental importance of building strong relationships with students who come to us with a range of complex needs and experiences.

Our high staff to student ratio allows our school to respond to students in a truly bespoke way, factoring in their interests, goals and strengths.

We support the whole person.

Our Community

Our passionate community of academic and pastoral staff have experience and expertise from both educational and therapeutic backgrounds.

Aspirational outcomes are a reality when individual well-being is addressed.

Holistic Approach

Our holistic approach ensures that barriers to learning are broken down so that each young person can develop their talents and participate in positive learning experiences.

Our students benefit from accessing a broad range of experiences: therapy animals, magical woodland, music, digital media sessions, cookery, construction, gardening, art and more.

Haven Nook is a welcoming and safe environment with supportive dynamics between staff and students. We value each individual and understand their challenges, achievements, and interests.

We work collaboratively to enable all students to access learning, achieve successful outcomes, and work towards their pathways to adulthood.

Bespoke Education

Learning

Our holistic teaching and learning style targets individual interests. It combines practical and sensory elements to create a positive educational experience.

We aim to bring learning to life whilst making it relevant and fun. Haven Nook provides creative initiatives to put learning into context, replacing any pre-existing, negative memories of education, with new, positive experiences.

Curriculum

We focus on individual strengths, enabling achievement and positive outcomes! We offer a broad and balanced curriculum that develops core subject knowledge, vocational interests and emotional literacy.

Our curriculum is designed to be creative, stimulating and relevant for each of our young people, ensuring that students leave Haven Nook prepared for life in modern Britain.

Qualifications

Our team works closely with our young people to identify their skills and interests and directs them towards vital subjects and qualifications. Qualifications available include Functional Skills, BTECs, GCSEs, and A-Levels.

We believe in supporting the whole person, encouraging students to explore and develop their skills, interests, and talents, in addition to working towards recognised qualifications.

Post-16

We provide a seamless transition into Post-16 study. Our programme incorporates life skills, mentoring and well-being to aid learning. By developing independence and resilience, we create the conditions for academic success.

As our young people approach adulthood we aim to equip them with qualifications, life skills, and work experience (for those ready) while also helping them gain a true sense of self, enabling them to discover their passions.



Therapeutic Support

Therapeutic Team

The work of our highly-skilled teachers and mentors is supplemented by a wider team, including licensed **Thrive Practitioners, Play Therapists, Counsellors and Speech and Language consultants** who operate on a directed and individual basis, as required.

Personalised Timetables

Every student has a personalised timetable which is focused on wrapping care around their individual needs. Within individual student timetables, we can schedule 1-to-1 interventions for young people who need additional support alongside therapy and counselling sessions.

This holistic approach is integrated throughout the school.

Pastoral Care

Haven Nook has a team of pastoral staff who support our young people's engagement and well-being. The pastoral team works collaboratively with all teachers, staff, students and parents or carers to ensure effective strategies for learning. Students at Haven Nook have an allocated key adult who they have access to throughout the school day to provide encouragement, support or just a friendly face.

The Thrive Approach

Emotional well-being is an essential prerequisite for academic success.

The Thrive Approach is a systematic way of working with children and young people. In essence, Thrive enables emotional regulation. A young person's distressed behaviour can be their way of communicating complex social and emotional needs, as often they do not yet have the language to tell us. Thrive enables students to emotionally progress, to recognise their fluctuating needs and express them safely.

Our Thrive team at Haven Nook creates detailed 'Thrive Action Plans' according to individual student requirements, with specific strategies and creative activities; gardening, cooking and more!

This develops and supports their social and emotional needs in a cross-curricular manner. These activities are included in lessons to link well-being and mental health to positive academic outcomes and emotional resilience for life.



Thrive Ambassador School with Excellence in Relationship 2023

Supporting Our Families

Our care extends to parents, carers and family units, and our team is here to offer encouragement, support and guidance whenever it is needed.

When life at home is supported and valued, our young people achieve better outcomes in school.

Our Thrive team works hard to support the adults and families in our young people's lives. We welcome the opportunity to talk through concerns and achievements and in many cases, families appreciate having someone they can trust and confide in - we are here to remove barriers to education and to help as much as we can.

Fantastic Facilities

Our Premises

Haven Nook offers a range of therapeutic counselling areas and sensory rooms that provide calming and tactile experiences for students. Quiet spaces are available for students to retreat to, and our team of key staff members are always on hand to connect with students throughout the day.

The Haven Nook kitchen, as well as being a learning environment for our BTEC Catering students, is also a place where the rest of our students can develop key independent living skills and create positive memories based on sensory experiences. Our beautiful walled, kitchen garden provides opportunities for hands-on experience of growing fruit and vegetables; it supports our Science curriculum and is a calming space in which to relax.

Vocational Activities

We are committed to helping our students excel in their desired fields. That's why, if a student expresses an interest in a particular subject, whether it's Performing Arts, Wildlife Conservation, Carpentry, Interior Design, Photography, Astronomy, Astrophysics, we will make every effort to accommodate it.

Outside spaces

Our Ancient Woodland and Farm, accessed through a third-party collaboration, offer a unique eco-conscious learning experience that inspires imagination and healing. At Haven Nook, we cultivate a deep and meaningful connection to nature, helping our young people understand their place within it.

ee to try out new techniques

and see what happens.



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