

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



For pupils accessing education in hospitals and health services



NEWCASTLE BRIDGES SCHOOL

INTRODUCTION

Newcastle Bridges School is a community special school, it was founded in September 2002, previously the constituent parts had been centrally held services of the Local Education Authority.

There are nine departments in the school.

Ashlyns – a unit for pregnant school-girls and school aged mothers. The number of pupils varies but an average yearly total number would be 24.

There is a registered nursery provision offering full day-care for up to 20 babies. There are qualified nursery staff to look after the babies.

There are 2.6 full time equivalent teachers at Ashlyns a Learning Support Assistant and a Reintegration Officer.

Pupils are able to sit a variety of external exams.

Fleming Nuffield Unit – this is a psychiatric unit for children up to the age of 14 ½ years.

There are three teaching groups staffed by 3.3 f.t.e. teachers, including the Language Class where pre-school children with communication problems are assessed. The other two classes are for school aged pupils. The pupils suffer from a wide range of psychological or psychiatric disorders. Pupils are supported by a Support Assistant in lessons and when they reintegrate in to school.

Freeman Hospital – Teaching occurs for patients usually up to 16 years of age, who are long-stay or who have frequent admissions to hospital. The pupils are in the Orthopaedic, Heart and Ear, Nose and Throat wards. There is a 0.8 f.t.e. teacher.

Harbour West – this is a unit for anxious and vulnerable pupils who have been clinically diagnosed as having a school phobia or whose anxieties lead to school phobic behaviours. Harbour West is co-located with All Saints' College and many pupils are able to take advantage of the College's mainstream provision.

There are 24 places for pupils of Key Stage 3 and 4.

There are 3.1 full time equivalent teachers who deliver a curriculum that leads to external accreditation.

Pupils are supported by Support Assistants in their efforts to reintegrate into the mainstream setting.

Home Tuition – This is a service offered to those pupils of Newcastle Schools who are unable to attend their mainstream school due to illness. The service is available to pupils up to 16 years of age.



Newcastle General Hospital – Teaching occurs for patients usually up to 16 years of age, who are long-stay or who have frequent admissions to hospital. We teach pupils in the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, pupils with neurological problems and those admitted from general accident and emergency. There is one full time teacher and the pupils' education is supported by a Support Assistant.

Royal Victoria Infirmary – Teaching occurs for patients usually up to 16 years of age, who are long-stay or who have frequent admissions to hospital. Pupils are taught on the Renal Dialysis Unit, on the oncology, gastro, burns and plastics, general surgical wards, and those admitted from general accident and emergency. There are 2 full time equivalent teachers and 2.6 Support Assistants.

Roycroft Unit – This is a unit for adolescents who have mental health issues and are detained through the court system. The pupils are aged between 12 -19. The pupils suffer from a wide range of behavioural, psychological and psychiatric disorders, some are also diagnosed with a Learning Disability. There are 10 teachers due to the intensive small group sessions required.

Prudhoe Site;

The Ridings – this is an assessment and treatment unit for young people aged 4-19 with mild/moderate and severe learning difficulties or disabilities who have complex psychiatric, neuropsychiatric or neurological problems likely to respond to patient assessment and treatment.

Fraser House – this is an assessment and treatment unit for young people aged 13-19 with mild to moderate learning difficulties with additional psychiatric, behavioural, emotional or developmental difficulties. This is an open unit.

Stephenson House – this is a low secure, forensic assessment and treatment unit for young people aged 13-19 with mild to moderate learning difficulties with additional psychiatric, behavioural, emotional or developmental difficulties and require high levels of supervision in a safe environment.

The Young People's unit - this is a psychiatric unit for young people 14 ½ -19 years of age. The pupils suffer from a wide range of behavioural, psychological or psychiatric disorders. Pupils are supported when they reintegrate in to school.

There will be a team of 3.8 full time teachers and 1.8 Support Assistants available on the site.



MISSION STATEMENT

Newcastle Bridges School believes that all children have a right to education and exists to provide educational opportunities of a high standard to pupils whose education has been interrupted by mental or physical ill-health, school phobia or pregnancy.

Newcastle Bridges School recognises the benefit of helping pupils reach their educational potential not only in preparing them for adult life, but in the therapeutic process of intellectual and emotional development and/or recovery.

We endeavour to ensure that educational disadvantage is minimized by providing structured and appropriate education in liaison with home schools, in a caring environment.

Newcastle Bridges School gives advice with regard to the multi-disciplinary assessment of the pupils.

On average there are 150 pupils attending at any one time. Newcastle Bridges School is not affiliated to any religion or religious denomination.

OUR CURRICULUM

Newcastle Bridges School aims to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the individual needs and circumstances of all our pupils.

Where a pupil remains on the role of another school, information will be sought from that school regarding the prior attainment and any future targets for the pupil. Statements of Special Educational Need and Individual Education Plans will be requested where in place. It is essential that all involved parties work in partnership in order to provide the best continuity of education and support for each pupil.

Newcastle Bridges School will provide relevant teaching in line with the National Curriculum for pupils appropriate to both their emotional and educational situation. The curriculum is delivered by highly experienced and qualified teachers who are supported by a team of Learning Support Assistants, this enables us to offer a high level of support for the pupils. The school is supported by the LEA services and therefore delivers up-to-date curriculum material according to the latest guidance.

Religious education is taught to those pupils studying this subject for G.C.S.E. Elements of the R.E. curriculum may be included in topic work. There is no Act of Collective Worship.

Curriculum policies are available from the Headteacher.

Home schools will be informed of the academic progress of the pupils and encouraged to involve the staff of Newcastle Bridges School in issues relating to our shared pupils.



OUR PUPILS

Our pupils are taught in one of the following departments:

ASHLYNS

Ashlyns is a unit for pregnant school girls and school age mothers, who are resident in Newcastle.

The unit usually has between 20 – 30 pupils.

Pupils follow the National Curriculum and are actively encouraged to pursue programmes of study leading to external examinations.

The pupils' babies can be supervised by experienced staff in order to maximize the learning opportunities available. Homework is regularly set to reinforce learning and meet the deadlines of external examinations.

ADMISSIONS AND REFERRAL PROCESS

Ashlyns operates an open referral system where referrals come from a variety of sources, e.g. the girl's school, Community Midwives, School Health Advisors, Educational Welfare Officers, School or Community Medical Officers.

The pupil and parents/carers will then discuss options with the Education Welfare Officer and make an informed decision after having visited Ashlyns, as to the most appropriate action.

Pupils will then decide on realistic educational targets, reflecting the expected delivery date of their baby and agree a programme of study with the Unit Manager.

If after a period of six weeks the pupil has refused to engage and attend the placement will be terminated.

HARBOUR WEST

Harbour West is a unit for secondary aged pupils from schools in Newcastle who have established patterns of school non-attendance due to school phobia or severe anxieties that have resulted in school phobic behaviours. One of the main aims of this unit is to re-engage pupils with mainstream education.

Harbour West is hosted on the site of All Saints' College, West Denton. The unit can accommodate up to 28 pupils. Pupils are taught in one of two classes dependent upon their age and/or ability. Pupils are able to follow the National Curriculum and are entered for external examinations. Homework is set to reinforce learning and meet the deadlines of external examinations.

ADMISSIONS AND REFERRAL PROCESS

In all cases it is necessary for:

- All referrals must come through the involved Educational Welfare Officer, using the referral form attached, no application will be considered if the Educational Welfare Service cannot demonstrate their involvement with the pupil and the strategies considered while attempting to re-engage the pupil in education. (Evidence of non-attendance is required-previous year's attendance data).
- All pupils must have had involvement with the CAMHS team, (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service). This involvement must have resulted in a diagnosis of a "school phobic" problem. The CAMHS team must refer in writing.
- Referrals should also include supporting evidence from the Educational Psychology Service, who will most probably have been involved in all cases. This should be requested by the referring persons.

Supporting material can be submitted from other involved agencies but will not be considered on its own.

Referrals should be sent to the Headteacher of Newcastle Bridges School and will be considered at the fortnightly management meetings with the Manager of Harbour West, this will prevent unnecessary delays in admission if vacancies exist. Pupils will be placed on a waiting list till a vacancy becomes available. Referring agencies will be notified of the decisions made.

Successful candidates and their parents/carers will be informed of the placement and offered "taster sessions" for a gradual introduction to Harbour West.

If after a period of six weeks the pupil has refused to engage and attend, the placement will be terminated and re-referred to appropriate psychological/medical channels. This does not preclude future placement for the pupil, but re-referral has to be through the above route.



HOME TUITION

Home Tuition is a service offered by Newcastle Bridges School for Newcastle schools' pupils unable to attend their usual school for reasons of long-term illness.

ADMISSIONS AND REFERRAL PROCESS

Pupils can be referred for Home Tuition in the following circumstances:

1. When absence from school due to a serious illness or accident is expected to be in excess of three school weeks.
2. When after discharge from hospital the period of convalescence is likely to be three school weeks.
3. When serious illness causes regular intermittent absences from school over a prolonged period of time.
4. Prolonged and regular absence due to an ongoing medical condition.

Referrals are made by the hospital Consultants or by the School Medical Officer, and are made directly to the Headteacher of The Newcastle Bridges School.

GUIDELINES

A Home Tutor will be assigned to the pupil and their school will be informed by letter.

The Home Tutor will contact both parents/carers and school.

Schools should name a person through whom liaison should occur.

Where possible the pupil will continue with current programmes of study. The school should provide the tutor with the relevant materials for the pupil.

The Home Tutor will make additional visits to the school in order to exchange work and materials.

If possible the tutor may be able to work with the pupil in reintegrating to the school environment.

Key Stage 1 –3 pupils will receive 5 hours tuition per week and Key Stage 4 pupils studying for G.C.S.E.s will receive up to 10 hours.

Homework can be set to reinforce learning and meet the deadlines of external examinations.



HOSPITAL EDUCATION

Patients attending the Freeman Hospital, Newcastle General Hospital or Royal Victoria Infirmary may become pupils of the Newcastle Bridges School. These hospitals are tertiary referral centres for the North of England, some patients are referred from further afield.

Pupils attending the city's hospitals will be educated if they meet the following criteria: -

- They will be in hospital for five school days or more.
- Their illness spans over three school weeks and includes a stay in hospital.
- They have frequent and/or recurrent admissions to hospital.

All pupils are therefore referred on medical grounds and are taught from day one if they are well enough. If the pupil requires a period of convalescence at home after admission to hospital that results in an absence from school of over three weeks, then Newcastle Bridges School will refer that pupil for Home Tuition.

Pupils working towards external examinations whilst in hospital can maintain their studies. Arrangements for them to sit external examinations whilst in hospital can be made with agreement of their own school.

Homework can be set to reinforce learning and meet the deadlines of external examinations.



CAMHS

Educational assessment and teaching occur at both the Fleming Nuffield Unit and Prudhoe Units. These units are tertiary referral centres. They are multi-disciplinary in their approach and so education plays a vital role in the assessment and treatment of the patients.

ADMISSIONS AND REFERRAL PROCESS

Referrals are made to the units because patients require assessment, treatment or therapeutic interventions at a high level Tier 4. All patients are referred by medical clinicians.

There are facilities for young people as In-patients and Day-patients, these young people become pupils at Newcastle Bridges School whilst attending the units.

ROYCROFT

The Roycroft Clinic is a centrally-funded national forensic psychiatric service for the treatment and rehabilitation of young people with mental health problems. The service has medium-secure provision for up to twenty five inpatients in the age range 13 – 19 years. 7 of the beds are specifically for pupils with Learning Disabilities.

Educational provision is seen as an essential element in the therapeutic process offered to the patients, together with clinical therapeutic inputs and recreational/leisure activities. The Clinic's education department offers learning programmes to students whose age, ability, aptitude, education history, motivation and mental state all combine to form a wide spectrum of educational needs and requirements.

ADMISSIONS AND REFERRAL PROCESS

All pupils are inpatients as they are detained and referred for placement through the court systems and mental health services.



STRUCTURE OF THE NEWCASTLE BRIDGES SCHOOL

Name

Position

Margaret Dover

Headteacher

Maggie Pivars

Assistant Headteacher

Department Managers

Helen McGowan

Manager of Ward Teaching

Alana Bennet

Manager of Ashlyns

Linda Young

Manager of Harbour West

Mark Jones

Manager of Roycroft

Tricia Breslin

Manager of CAMHS

Contact Address

Contact No.

Margaret Dover
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Royal Victoria Infirmary
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Newcastle upon Tyne
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Ashlyns
C/o Kenton Comp School
Drayton Road
Newcastle
NE3 3RU

Tel. No. 0191 2866889
Fax. No. 0191 2749843

Harbour West
C/o All Saints College
Off West Denton Way
West Denton
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE5 2SZ

Tel. No. 0191 2640590
Fax. No. 0191 2641929



**Fleming Nuffield Unit
Burdon Terrace
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 3AE**

**Tel. No. 0191 2196415
Fax. No. 0191 2196432**

**Roycroft Teaching Unit
Roycroft Clinic
St. Nicholas' Hospital
Jubilee Rd
Gosforth
Newcastle
NE3 3XT**

**Tel. No. 0191 2232210 ext: 28564
Fax. No. 0191 2232235**

**c/o Ward 26
Newcastle General Hospital
West Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 6BE**

**Tel. No. 0191 2336161 Ext 22325
Fax. No. 0191 2261471**

**Prudhoe Unit
Prudhoe Hospital
Prudhoe
Northumberland
NE42 5NT
Young People's Unit
Fraser House
The Ridings
Stephenson House**

Tel. No. 08448115522

**Tel. No. 01661 514323
Tel. No. 01661 514539
Tel. No. 01661 514 542
Tel. No. 01661 514536**

**c/o Ward 17
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Freeman Hospital
High Heaton
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE7 7DN**

**Tel. No. 0191 2336161 Ext 26049
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**Home Tuition Service
c/o Katherine Garrett
Secretary
Newcastle Bridges School**

**Tel. No. 0191 2330764
Fax. No. 0191 2330765**



GOVERNORS

Mr. W. Muir Chair of Governors
Mr. M. Crilly Vice Chair of Governors
Dr. J. Smith
Mrs. C. Preston
Mrs. A. Dobby
Dr. L. Jones
Mrs. J. Laing
Mrs. S. Gough
Mrs. K. O'Dowd

PARENTAL/CARER INVOLVEMENT

Parental/carer involvement and cooperation is essential to the success of education of all children, this is very true for the pupils of Newcastle Bridges School who are all disadvantaged due to ill health or current circumstances.

Newcastle Bridges School therefore actively promotes parental/carer participation and support, the extent of which depends upon the department in which the pupil is taught.

We actively seek the opinion of pupils' parents/carers in order to evaluate the service provided.

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS

The school promotes and encourages activities that enhance the curriculum, sometimes there may be a cost associated with these activities. Generally the school endeavours to cover this cost from within our own budget, but occasionally parents may be asked to contribute. If a parent/carer receives income support or family credit it is their right to claim exemption from this contribution. There are currently no activities where the school would need to charge outside agencies for use of facilities.

EXAMINATIONS

Where appropriate pupils are prepared for National SATs and GCSEs. Certificate of Achievement is available in some subjects. The results of end of Key Stage 4 exams are published in the parents Annual Report.

LOST STOLEN OR DAMAGED PROPERTY

Parents are advised to not allow their children to bring expensive items to school. The school cannot be held responsible for any lost or damaged items. Labels should be attached to items of clothing.

Mobile phones are not encouraged, but must be turned off during the school day.



COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

A complaint is an expression of dissatisfaction however made, about the standard of service, action or lack of action by the school or the staff affecting an individual or group.

A full copy of the school's Complaints Procedure is available on written request.

TEACHING TIMES FOR ALL SITES OF NEWCASTLE BRIDGES SCHOOL

School sessions are as follows, but teachers are available outside of these times.

<u>SITE</u>	A.M.	P.M.	<u>COMMENTS</u>
Ashlyns	9:30	3:00	12:00-12:45
Fleming Nuffield	9:00-12:30	1:30-3:15	Break 10:30-11:00
Freeman Hospital	9:30-12:15	1:15-3:15	No Break
Harbour West	8:30-11:30	12:15-3:00	Staggered Breaks
Newcastle General Hospital	9:30-12:15	1:15-3:15	No Break
Prudhoe Unit	9:30-12:15	1:15-4:00	Breaks 10:30-11:00 2:30-3:00
Royal Victoria Infirmary	9:30-12:15	1:15-3:15	No Break
Roycroft Unit	9:15-12:10	1:00-3:20	Breaks 11:00-11:20 2:00-2:20

CHILD PROTECTION

The School is committed to promoting the health and welfare of all pupils and if staff see signs that suggest that one of the pupils may have been the victim of abuse (or is at risk of abuse) staff will follow the procedures laid down by the Safeguarding Children Board.

N.B. Such action in no way infers that any parent/carer or other individual is being accused of wrongdoing.

A full version of the school's Child Protection policy is available on written request.



SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The school is committed to meeting the educational needs of all pupils and children in our care. Therefore the special educational needs of each individual are taken into consideration in the planning and differentiation of the curriculum, with due regard to existing Individual Education Plans (IEPs), any subsequent IEPs, and pupils' Statements of Special educational Needs.

A full version of the schools' Special Educational Needs policy is available on written request.

ABSENCE

Levels of attendance for a Special school based in a hospital tend to be less than those of mainstream schools, this is an obvious reflection of the reasoning why the pupils need to attend our school.

In the hospitals and psychiatric and Roycroft units the patients are tertiary referrals due to the severity of their illnesses.

At Harbour West children may not have attended previous schools for several years.

The attendance of Ashlyns pupils is obviously affected by pregnancy and child birth.

Medical Home Tuition is given on the grounds pupils are still too ill to return to normal school.

The school aims to promote as high levels of attendance as possible bearing in mind the circumstances of individual pupils.

The school liaises closely with families, medical staff and the Education Welfare Service in order to do this.

The school follows national guidance on the recording and authorization of absence.



WHOLE SCHOOL RESULTS 2008

SUBJECT	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	%A-C	%A-E
ENG LANG	2	1	5	8	6	2	1		32	88
ENG LIT	1	2		2	1				50	100
MATHS		2	4	6	5	2	1		30	85
SCI		1	4	6	2				38	100
HP&HEALTH			3	1	2	3		1	33	66
ART&DESIGN		2	4	2					75	100
GEOG			2	2	1				40	100
HISTORY			1						100	100
H&SOC CARE			4	6					40	100
RE	1	1			1				66	100
CITZ			4	1	1				66	100
CHILD DEV			2		1				66	100
LAW			1	1					50	50
PERF ARTS		8							100	100
Imedia		3							100	100
ICT		4	1						100	100
CALC FIN		1							100	100
PREP WORK LIFE			10	7					59	100
HAIR DRESSING			10						100	100
CHILD CARE			18							
	4	25	73	42	20	7	2	1	174	
Entry Level 3 English	1									
Entry Level 3 Maths	9									
Entry Level 2 Maths	1									
Entry Level ICT	3									

GCSEs:

Overall % A-C= 59%

Overall % A-E= 94%

GCSE pupils with 5A-C = 25% GCSE pupils with 5 A-C incl . Maths and English= 14%

GCSE pupils with 5A-E = 50%

GCSE pupils with 1A-G = 100%

100% pupils obtained a form of accreditation



