



PROSPECTUS

A specialist school and college for children and young people with language disorders



2023/24

HELPING ACHIEVE EXTRAORDINARY OUTCOMES



Mill Lane, Hurst Green,
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www.moorhouseoxted.co.uk

Registered charity number 31187



FOREWARD

CONTENTS

About

p4

School

p5

College

p6

Residential

p7

Research/Governance/ Policies

p8

Parents/PSA/Open mornings

p9



HRH THE DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH GCVO PATRON

I could not be more delighted to lend my continuing support to Moor House and the life changing contribution it makes to children and young people with Developmental Language Disorder (DLD).

The expert team of teachers, therapists and support staff at Moor House ensures that children and young people at the School and College both fulfil their learning and communication potential and overcome barriers, allowing them to become confident, independent people, frequently exceeding all early expectations.

The Charity's incredible passion and commitment to its students, families, the wider community and those more widely who have DLD, both in the UK and globally, is a source of pride for us all.

The school adheres to education and equality legislation, including the SEND Code of Practice (2014), The Education Act 1996, The Children and Families Act 2014 and to its Equality and Diversity Policy

About Moor House

A specialist school and college with residential provision for children and young people with language disorders.



Moor House is a non-maintained specialist school for day and residential students from age 7 to 19. Our students come from across the country, with places funded by Local Education Authorities.

Our school provides a mainstream curriculum which is differentiated for language. Speech and Language therapy is integrated throughout the curriculum through the consistent use of specialist systems such as the SHAPE CODING™ system, signing with grammatical markers and Cued Articulation.

Our approach ensures that our students achieve their learning potential, maximise their communications skills, and become happy, confident, independent and valued members of society.
Moor House is consistently rated Outstanding by Ofsted.

Our Aims

Be happy and safe



Be happy
and safe



Achieve their
learning potential



Develop their
skills in speech,
language and
communications



Build and
maintain good
relationships
and friendships



Become confident
and independent
members of
society

School

Founded by neurologist Dr Worster-Drought and Mrs Hudson Smith, a speech therapist, Moor House was the first school of its kind when it opened in 1947.

Our first patron was Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, who visited in 1953 (pictured right).



A specialist setting

We provide a environment where the educational needs of each individual student can be met.

We follow a differentiated mainstream curriculum, offering a specialist, safe, caring and stimulating setting where students are empowered to reach their potential in language, learning and independence.

Our approach

Our teachers plan and deliver lessons collaboratively with Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Special Teaching Assistants as part of a whole school approach to support each student's development.



College

Working in collaboration with a range of partners, our co-educational sixth form provision was established in 2012.

Partner colleges deliver the vocational course curriculum, including theory and practical sessions, with Moor House staff providing off site specialist support to students.



Curriculum

Curriculum content includes additional functional life skills lessons in English and Maths, weekly PSHE sessions and GCSE re-sits in English and Maths where appropriate.

Provision for college students includes supported study, such as assistance with homework and assignments, time management and proofreading.

Our approach

Collaborative working plays an integral role in supporting our students. Lesson notes, assignment briefs and homework tasks are shared with all members of our Multi Disciplinary Team (MDT).

Therapy provision includes Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy.

"The impressive, collaborative, multidisciplinary approach ensures pupils make outstanding progress with their speech and language."

OFSTED Report 2022

Residential

Our residential provision provides a warm, friendly, inclusive and welcoming environment where great importance is attached to pastoral care, student wellbeing and to being a supportive and tolerant community where students feel safe in their surroundings.



Recreation

Recreation plays a vital part in the students' development and all residential students undertake a range of activities in-house and in the community.

A life skills programme is run throughout the residential care time to support social skills and independence.

Outstanding provider

Our residential provision consistently meets and exceeds the National Minimum Standards for residential special schools and we are proud to have achieved 'Outstanding' grades from the OFSTED Care Inspectorate.



"The school's excellent integration of the residential care provision with the school ensures that children are able to achieve beyond all expectations."

OFSTED Report 2022

Research & Training

For 75 years Moor House has been a pioneer in speech and language therapy and teaching methods.

Today the work of our Research & Training Institute is at the forefront of global research and training, taking the benefits of our work and sharing it through training and resources.



Governance

Our school and college governors work with Senior Leadership to provide clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction, oversee financial performance and ensure educational performance is maintained to the highest of standards.

Trustees sit across six committees, each with different roles and policy responsibilities.

Policies

All relevant policies including Accessibility, Admissions, Child Protection and Safeguarding, Behaviour, Complaints and Equal Opportunities and Diversity are published on our website.



Parents

We believe strong school-parent links are essential in ensuring our students achieve their potential.

We aim to help parents to support their child at home and work together to learn from parents' experiences.



PSA

The PSA provides an ongoing framework for support and communication between parents and staff. All parents and carers are automatically free members.

The PSA is run by a committee of volunteers and lead fundraising events on behalf of the whole school community.

Open Mornings

We hold open mornings for prospective parents, providing a great opportunity to see our classes in action, hear about our admissions process and find out more about the school and college.

Please call our admissions team on 01883 712271 (option 1) to find out more.



Ofsted Double


In 2022 Moor we celebrated an Ofsted double after being rated Outstanding twice in as many months.

Inspectors rated Moor House School & College Outstanding in all areas following a Social Care Inspection in October, whilst the same outcome was achieved from an ungraded education inspection in November.



The reports highlighted:

- The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.
- Highly skilled staff enable pupils to realise that they can overcome their barriers to learning.
- The impressive, collaborative, multidisciplinary approach ensures pupils make outstanding progress with their speech and language.
- Pupils benefit from a wide range of helpful strategies and approaches, which are used consistently by staff.
- Pupils learn to use a wide range of useful assistive technologies.
- Pupils are helped to understand their own emotions and develop a positive self-image.
- Staff appreciate the support they get from leaders and how well everyone works together to share expertise.
- Staff truly care about the children and talk fondly about them.
- Activities and trips are tailored to the interests of children and give them new and stimulating experiences.
- There is a strong culture in the school of understanding a sense of duty to raise awareness of DLD in the world outside.
- A bespoke 'Wheel of Independence' programme helps to ensure that every child can develop their life skills, which add value to their lives away from school.
- The whole school has a clear understanding of the importance of safeguarding and the need for vigilance by all members of staff.
- Information-sharing is prompt and centred around the child.



**"My child has thrived in
this setting. We are very
fortunate to have such a
well organised,
compassionate and
modern setting for our
son."**

Moor House Parent



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