



PROSPECTUS 2023/2024

St Elizabeth's Children's Services



Positive living and learning for people with epilepsy and other complex needs



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Welcome

It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to our Children's Services at St Elizabeth's.

St Elizabeth's provides specialist care, education and health services to people with learning disabilities, epilepsy and other complex health conditions. Our education and skills development programmes are targeted to meet the needs and ambitions of every child and young person.

Within our School and Children's Homes, we have very high aspirations for pupils, their families and the community and do not see disability as a barrier to living a full life.

Every child at St Elizabeth's is given the opportunity to achieve their very best, and we pride ourselves on providing the highest quality learning experiences; we make learning fun, practical, and engaging. The opportunities we provide give students the confidence and self-belief that they can achieve anything they set their mind to.

Together with our health and therapy teams, we provide our pupils with a holistic approach to learning, and ensure school and home life is a thriving and enjoyable experience for everyone. Each young person has the opportunity to live and learn in a safe and nurturing environment, where differences are acknowledged, respected and valued, where abilities are recognised and achievement is celebrated.

I hope that our prospectus gives you some insight into the ethos and values which enable pupils at St Elizabeth's to achieve their full potential. St Elizabeth's at its very heart is a community which comprises of over 100 individuals, 500 staff, and 60 acres of beautiful parkland for everyone to enjoy, and we would love for you to be a part of it.

Jill Rankin, Chief Executive

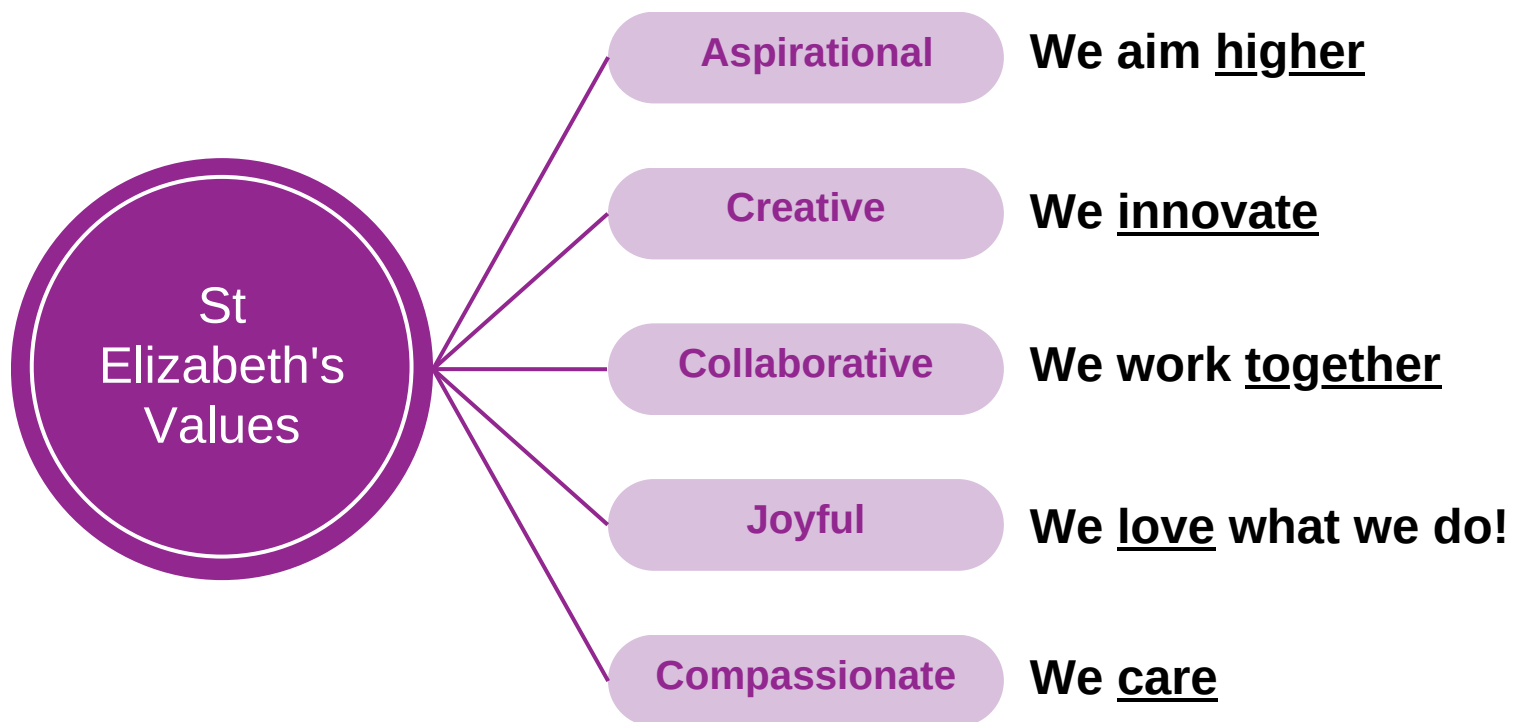
Vision & Values



Hope, Joy, Dignity and Respect

Our vision is to demonstrate how love of God and love of neighbour can be combined to enable everyone at St Elizabeth's to ***'live life to the full'***.

St Elizabeth's School is committed to ensuring the students receive a high quality, world class education. Our values are principles that drive behaviour, influence our actions and attitudes, and become our scaffold for life. They influence our relationship with ourselves, others and the wider society.



Academic Leadership



St Elizabeth's School - the United Kingdom

Most Supportive Specialist Learning Disability School 2023 - Hertfordshire



Our School is a happy, welcoming place; our aim is to help young people grow in confidence as they acquire new knowledge and skills, in their own way, at their own pace – socially, emotionally and academically.

Our ultimate goal is to support each child and young person to become successful, confident individuals, who make positive contributions to the community and society, both now and in the future.

We care deeply about every child's personal journey, and take an active approach to ensure every child has the opportunity to learn, have fun and thrive throughout their school and home life.

Teresa Glynn

Director of Learning

Designated Safeguarding Officer

St Elizabeth's advocates that all our young people feel empowered to make their own decisions and choices, and we have a very 'can-do' attitude towards everything. No problem is too big or too small; we encourage all of our children and young people to feel comfortable in expressing themselves in a safe and caring environment.

Rated 'Good' in our most recent School Ofsted inspection and with excellent results in our end-of-year assessments and accreditation, supporting pupils to make progress and develop independence skills is at the heart of everything we do.

Our School benefits from the consistent support of an active team of Governors, who ensure that the school fulfils its duties and provides a nurturing and safe setting for all pupils. They challenge the school to ensure that children can achieve goals within the spirit of the school's vision and aims.



Lisa Tooley

Head Teacher






Designated Safeguarding Officer



Our Mission

To create a world class educational establishment for children with epilepsy and other complex learning, care and health needs, where lifelong learning is at the front and centre of all aspects of all our work.

Over the next three years, 2022 - 2025, we will be relentless in:

-  Pursuing excellence in the curriculum to achieve outstanding progress for all students
-  Raising standards in students' attainment and progress through teaching, learning and assessment of the highest quality
-  Establishing a world class leadership for staff and students
-  To ensure rapid and sustained progress with the Catholic ethos and organisational values
-  St Elizabeth's places safeguarding of children and young people of paramount importance. Safeguarding and the promotion of welfare and safety is the golden thread that informs all that we do

Our students



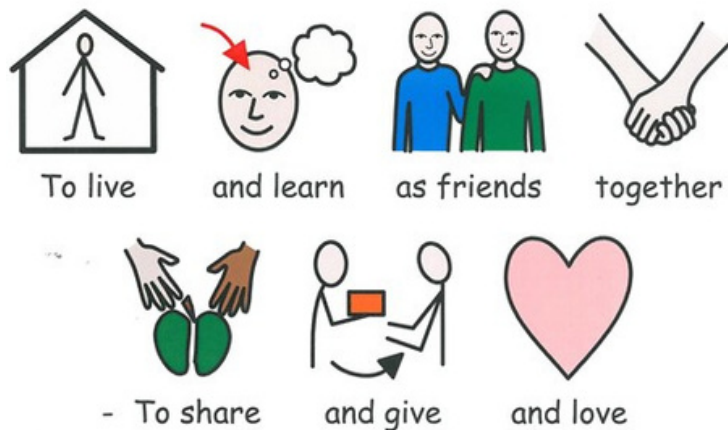
St Elizabeth's supports and educates young people (KS1-KS5) with moderate, severe, or profound and multiple learning difficulties, or with other complex neurological conditions potentially caused or complicated by epilepsy. As either a residential (38-week and 52-week) student or day pupil, every young person we welcome to our school is unique and valued.

Our therapy, care and nursing team work holistically with education to ensure our child centred ethos. Our multi-disciplinary approach supports young people to manage their complex health needs, overcome language and communication barriers and support their social and emotional wellbeing.

Did you know?

We offer placements all year round, so children can join us at any point in the year!

"To live and learn as friends together. To Share and Give and Love."



St Elizabeth's School offer a warm, welcoming and safe setting for children from all over the UK. The school is Roman Catholic within the Christian Faith, but welcomes children from all faiths and none.

We believe that every child deserves to thrive and learn in an environment suited to their needs, aspirations and goals.

Every single one of us, from teacher, to therapist to care worker has a shared aim: we want to support the children at St Elizabeth's to 'live life to the full'.

We want all children:

- To know and feel that they are safe
- To be able to access a full and meaningful education through a curriculum that is adapted to individual learning profiles
- To have an understanding of children's rights and advocacy services, assisting them to make choices and communicate their needs
- To have access to excellent health and therapy care which enables them to enjoy varied life experiences and retain a good level of general well being
- To reduce barriers to living ordinary lives as much as possible
- For children receiving residential care to live in youthful and fun houses which offer a sense of security and belonging
- To become as independent as possible
- To be included in their own and local community as much as they are able
- To be prepared for a transition into adult provision or alternative learning services as and when appropriate.

Learning at St Elizabeth's

Our offer to children and young people is carefully developed and refined to enable a personalised approach to learning and developing knowledge, skills that support their independence, health and self-esteem.



All children have access to:

- **Fully equipped classrooms** that include interactive whiteboards, safe and open outside spaces, and hoisting and specialist equipment
- **'The Reading Garden'** - an interactive, dedicated space for reading and literacy skills using the 'Read, Write, Inc.' framework
- **'The Drawing Room'** - a creative space with its own kiln
- **'Ashvale'** - a horticulture area with free-range chickens and organic produce
- **60 acres of countryside** to ride bikes and go-karts safely
- An interactive, **sensory 'OMI' room** available for 1-2-1 and group sessions
- An **outside playground** with 7 fun pieces of play equipment
- **Two outside gyms** built especially for easy access (age restrictions apply)
- A therapy-based **ball pit and soft play** area
- A fully equipped **Food Technology Room**
- A **music suite** and specially adapted **sensory room**

We place great importance on the curriculum that develops the whole student through pathways of learning. These pathways are developed specifically to meet the individual needs of our students and align them with the goals set out in their EHCPs. Through our core values, we foster an environment where the emotional, physical, academic, social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of each individual student is considered.

Religious Education is taught by all teachers, and supported by our Catholic Ethos Advocate and the Diocese of Westminster. Parents and children of Catholic faith can be prepared to receive their First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation. We celebrate many local and national initiatives including CAFOD and BBC Children in Need - all faiths and beliefs are celebrated through our curriculum as part of our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.

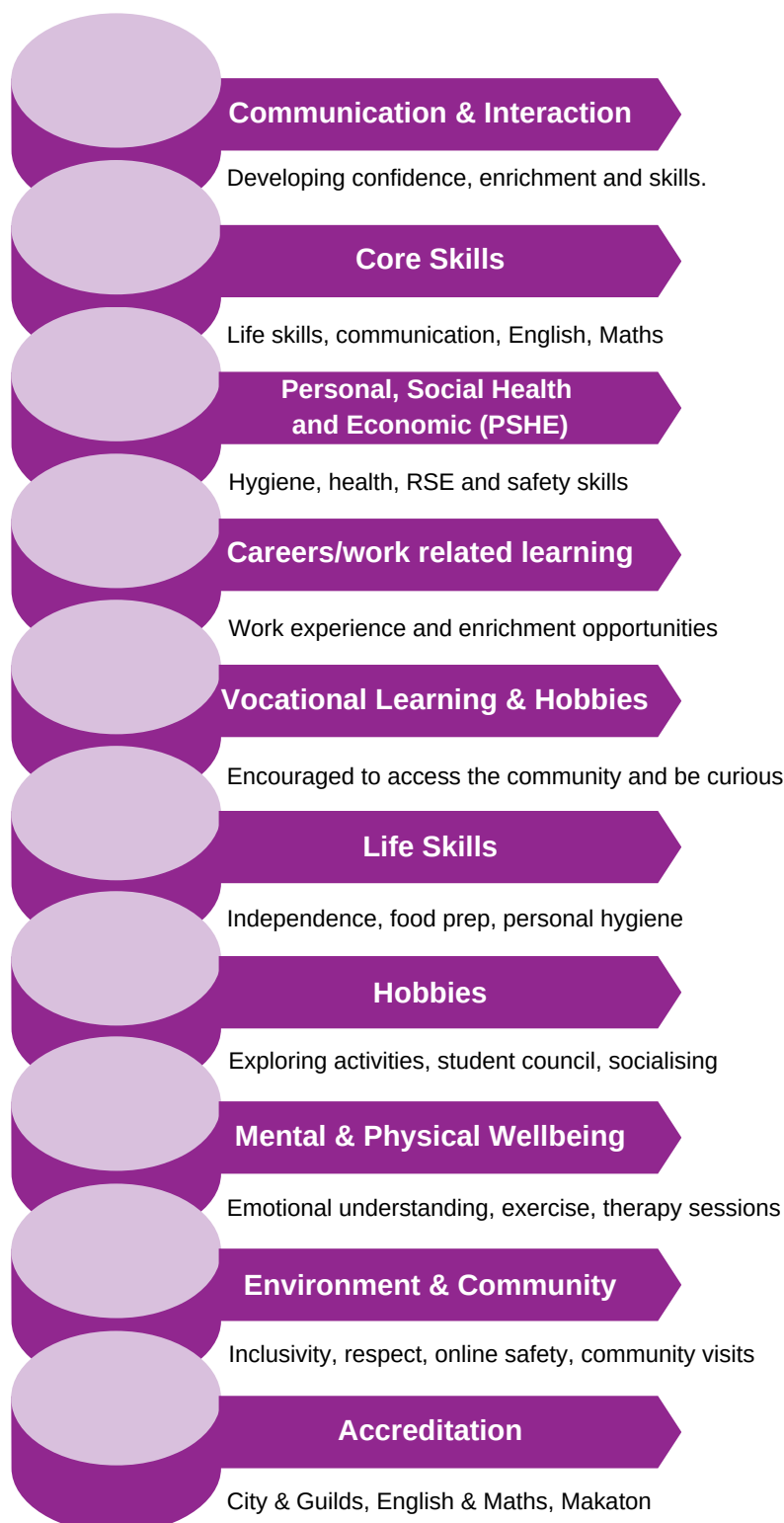
Our wrap around 24 hour curriculum ensures that knowledge and skills are replicated and transferred outside of the classroom - whether that be in the home or out in the community.

Learning pathways

At St Elizabeth's, we have **3 Pathways** that all have their own curriculum.

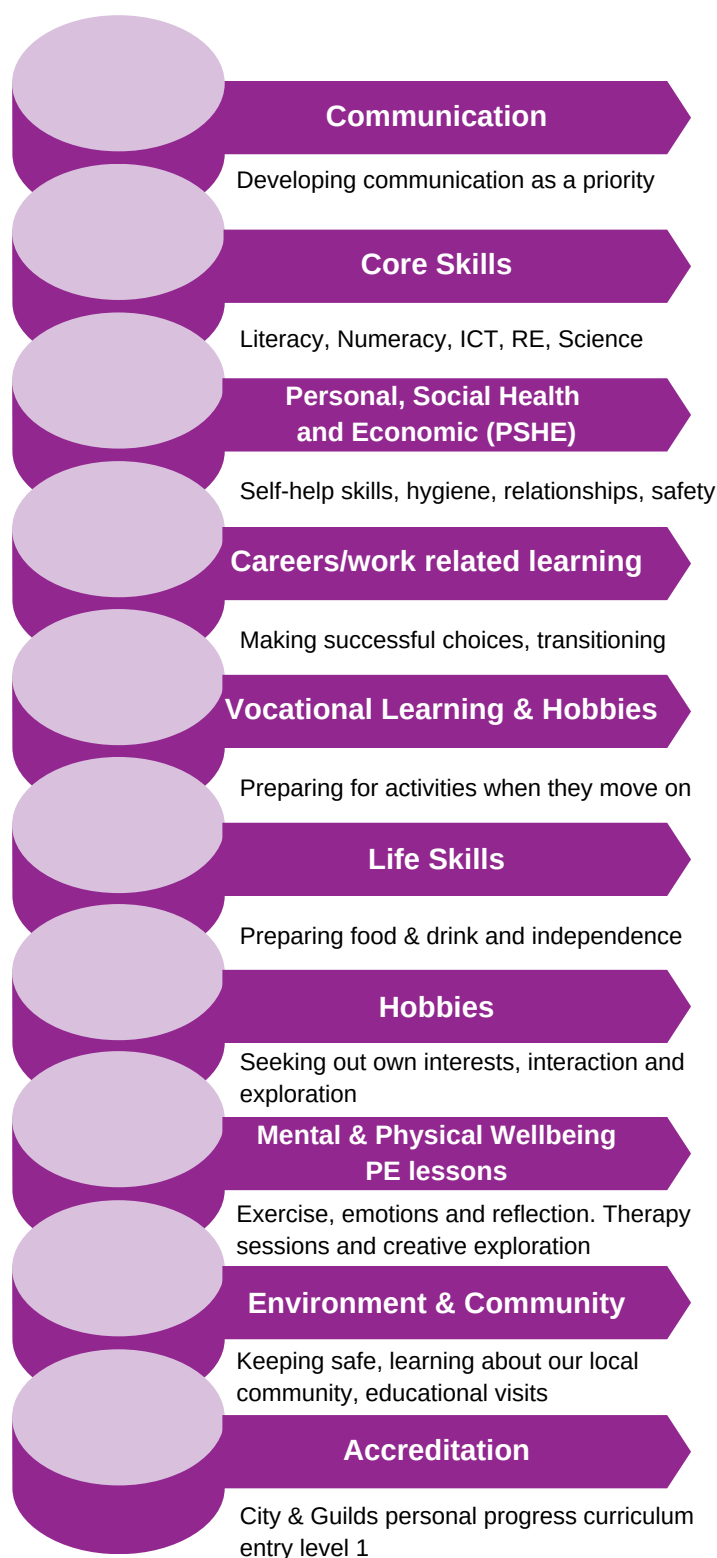
Pathway 1

Pathway 1 intends to develop and widen the range of experiences offered to students by devising a curriculum that is challenging, relevant and functional to the needs of our learners with an individualised approach.



Pathway 2

Pathway 2 provides opportunities to develop independent skills in activities of daily living, increase the range of safe and health leisure activities and enable them to participate in small group activities.



Learning pathways

Pathway 3

Pathway 3 centres on lessons that are sensory and therapeutic, and focus on the main outcomes set out in a child's EHCP. The EHCP's focus predominantly on developing personal and life skills as well as engaging in activities which encourage learning through interest and routine, and learning about RE to support the ethos of St Elizabeth's.



Communication & Interaction

Learning functional communication skills, use of augmentative and alternative communication aids to ensure a personalised approach

Cognition & Learning

Cognitive and problem solving skills, sensory stimulation to aid processing of new information

Sensory & Physical

The seven senses are integrated across the school day to ensure students are able to learn self-regulation skills. Fine and gross motor skills, therapy sessions

Social, Emotional and Mental Health

Encouragement to participate in daily routines of self-care and personal care. Daily circle times to promote social interaction. Routine that lowers potential anxiety and boosts self-confidence

Enrichment and Community

Opportunities to interact with peers to support meaningful community participation. Enrichment and exploring the wider community with a focus on EHCP outcomes

Accreditation

City & Guilds Personal Progress where suitable

We have more information in our **FAQs** on how we decide the most suitable pathway for each child.

Every child's learning journey is different - we pride ourselves on successfully adapting our curriculum to meet the individual needs and aspirations of each student, while meeting the standards of the national curriculum framework.



"For me St Elizabeth's go over and above and this provides great confidence that my son is safe."

- Parent

Broad & balanced curriculum

Enrichment is an important part of life at St Elizabeth's, with opportunities and activities occurring all year round.

We have a fully accessible playground, tennis court and sports pitches for our young people to enjoy, as well as indoor sports facilities including soft play and ball pits. We are lucky to be situated in a beautiful rural setting, perfect for walks, bike rides or just to explore! We have a 3-acre apple orchard, and run a specialist organic horticultural area with chickens and allotments.

Enrichment at school include magic shows, creative workshops and travelling pantomimes, as well as seasonal activities ranging from visits with Father Christmas to religious studies trips to local places of worship, to name a few.

We have a fleet of vehicles including specially adapted people carriers and minibuses, used to accommodate a variety of outings.

Student Voice

Student Council elections are conducted through a democratic process on a yearly basis, where students are encouraged to put themselves forward to act as their class representatives. Student Council meetings provide opportunities for pupils to discuss and vote on various topics, and put forward questions and suggestions to the School & Children's Home. Every student's voice is at the heart of our provision, and where possible we act on their feedback through 'You Said, We Did'.

Pupils living with us are supported by staff to shop, cook and clean together, and to plan evening and weekend activities together, which support their individual independence plans.

We commission Services for Young People to provide impartial advice and career guidance - this is also available **free of charge** to families.

"My work related learning helps me feel myself and not be scared to talk to different people."

- School student

'The wide range of opportunities to enrich learning effectively promotes pupils' enjoyment, well-being and achievement.'

- Ofsted

School FAQs

How do I know my child will progress?

In school we use Earwig Academic, an online platform that tracks your child's progress throughout. This includes setting short, medium and long term targets aligned to their individual EHCP outcomes as well as the curriculum they are following. If appropriate, some of our students also undertake recognised vocational qualifications, accredited by City and Guilds. We organise regular meetings with parents/carers and local authorities to review your son/daughters progress.

How do you determine which pathway my child takes in school?

We have 3 pathways of learning in school. Each pathway is designed to meet the bespoke needs of every student. We determine the most appropriate pathway at the time of assessment for a place at school. For example, a child/young person with profound, multiple and complex needs will follow Pathway 3, which is a therapeutic, encountering and engaging curriculum.

Is there a school uniform?

Yes there is a school uniform. We support costs for 3 jumpers and 3 polo shirts at the start of the placement. We do have a small pot of funding that may be able to support further purchases later on during your son/daughter's school years.

Can you provide specialist equipment if needed?

When we undertake the assessment prior to starting at school equipment and resources are considered and arrangements made with the appropriate local authority or other stakeholder as to who will provide this. Our students needs may change over time and when this happens we meet as a multi-disciplinary team to review this.

Can St Elizabeth's arrange for my child to have transport to and from school?

For our day students transport is organised by parents/carers and provided by the local authority. It is really important you have this conversation with your local authority as soon as possible so that they can source the right transport and trained staff to support your son/daughter. There have been occasions when transport hasn't arrived to collect a student, although this is very infrequent. Where possible we will try to support with this, but normally the transport provider advises all parties and finds a solution.

Who are you regulated by?

St Elizabeth's is a non-maintained specialist school. We are regulated by Ofsted and as a Catholic School the Diocese of Westminster.

Residential Leadership



Amaka Williams
Director of Children's Health & Care

As parents, we are all keen to make the right choices for our children, to ensure that they are nurtured in environments where they can thrive and be loved. With this in mind, welcome to our Children's Homes! A collection of safe, beautifully furnished, bespoke and purpose-built bungalows within walking distance of the school.

We are devoted to ensuring that every child is valued and experiences a strong sense of belonging and achievement and that is why in everything we do, or change, or develop, we ask ourselves 'is that good enough for my child?' This is a constant frame of reference for us and has been at the heart of developing the child-centred, ambitious service that we deliver today.

Rated a Good provider by Ofsted in all areas, across all our homes, we pride ourselves on quality, consistency of care and keeping your children safe. Through working with a talented multi-disciplinary team of skilled nurses and therapists, we can respond effectively, implementing changes to care planning that meet your child's ever-changing needs.

Our care and support teams are devoted and passionate. Their practice centres around building positive relationships with children to bring out their full potential and provide them with meaningful childhood experiences despite their complexities.



Matthew Gorvin
Head of Residential Childcare Services
Designated Safeguarding Officer



Our registered Children's Homes feature 7 bespoke, fit for purpose bungalows, all situated within walking distance of all the school facilities. We ensure our children are living with individuals who share similar interests, by carefully matching the dynamics and compatibility of each house group.

Each bedroom has its own en-suite facilities; within each bungalow there is a communal sitting room, dining/kitchen area and a utility room. Where necessary, mobile and ceiling hoists are installed, and all bungalows are fully wheelchair accessible.

Each bedroom can be connected to our state of the art Night Monitoring System, with additional bed monitors and audio systems where needed. Houses are staffed by a waking-night team to support those who might experience seizures at night.

Our team of experienced support staff work with children both in school and at home, ensuring consistency in their learning and care.

Each home has an experienced Manager and committed team, who provide weekly reports and updates to parents and families. Family and friends are an important and integral part of each person's life, who we consider part of the St Elizabeth's family from the moment we meet.

We are **risk informed not risk adverse** - we find strategies to overcome potential risks, so your children can live their lives to the full and gain the full range of childhood experiences regardless of their needs.

A meaningful place to grow



A place to build important relationships

Each child is assigned a key worker(s). This is someone who will take a keen interest and a lead on your child, making sure their wishes, feeling and voices are heard and that they have the opportunity to contribute to the home. It is important all children feel able to make new friends, and build a family and a home away from home.

A place to have fun!

Childhood is all about having fun and creating special memories. We do all that we can to ensure children take part in new adventures, trips, activities and even holidays, that give them experiences they will never forget.

A place to develop and achieve

We spend time with each child and the people who know them best to set bespoke goals and ambitions. We pride ourselves on recognising all achievements and each milestone in a child's development. We have tools for tracking progress, no matter how big or small. We capture key moments in various ways to empower and encourage children and regularly make time to celebrate every individual success. This contributes to and is in line with our waking day curriculum.

Staff Development & Training

At St Elizabeth's, we prioritise the well-being and development of each child entrusted to our care. Our dedicated staff members are at the heart of our commitment to creating a safe, loving, and enriching environment that promotes growth, learning, and happiness. Our team's qualifications and training are central to our ability to provide exceptional care, making us a leading provider in the field of education and residential childcare.

Children's Home Team

As an Ofsted requirement, all Managers working in our Children's Home must complete their level 5 diploma in Leadership & Management for Residential Children's Care within 3 years, and care staff must complete their level 3 diploma in Residential Childcare within 2 years.

School Team

All teachers at St Elizabeth's School hold a minimum of QTS or QTLS status. We want to develop our own teachers through the Teacher Training Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training, to progress on to becoming qualified teachers. We support our LSA's to complete level 3 training courses in education and understanding Autism.

All staff working with children and young people

All staff complete up to level 2 in Safeguarding Children, and Managers complete level 3 as designated Safeguarding Leads. We have care staff trained in administering medication based in every children's home, and all staff are trained in Crisis Prevention and Intervention Training (CPI), Epilepsy, Safeguarding, Radicalisation and many more on our own Learning and Development System.



AFFILIATE
ORGANISATION

HERTFORDSHIRE

safeguardingchildren
PARTNERSHIP



Children's Home FAQs

How do I know my child will progress?

In the children's homes, we set targets for children based on a waking day curriculum model. Targets are bespoke to each child in line with their EHCP, and opportunities are sought and planned throughout the day to give your child an opportunity to develop in those specific areas. We believe that precious opportunities for learning and development of key life, social and academic skills happen in and out of the classroom. We use monthly progress trackers, photos and an interactive app called 'Evidence for Learning' (EFL) to demonstrate progress for each child. We organise regular meetings with parents/ carers and local authorities to review each child's progress.

Can I visit my child at any time?

For consistency, we will always pre-agree contact arrangements that are suitable for parents/carers and families. However, if outside of these arrangements parents wish to visit, they can simply call the home and let the manager and staff know. We will always be sensitive to any court orders that may be in place and adhere to them. However, outside of any such orders, where a parent retains parental responsibility for their child, we pride ourselves on being flexible and welcoming to all parents, carers and families.

Can my child phone or video call me any time?

Yes, children can contact their parents at any time, assuming there are no court orders in place prohibiting or limiting phone contact. Routine is an essential part of daily life for the children we care for and as such, we will encourage this to be managed in line with daily routines and activities.

Can my child choose their evening and weekend activities?

Absolutely! Children are empowered to choose their own evening and weekend activities, whether these are group or individual interests. Joy is one of our five core values and within the children's homes, we express this value by encouraging children to take part in activities that they find fun, are interested in, or are naturally gifted. Every week, children are a part of 'house meetings' where they choose their activities for the week. Children can also request activities with any member of staff from their home or their key worker.

Who are you regulated by?

St Elizabeth's Children's Home is regulated by Ofsted under the Children's Home Regulations (England) 2015 and in line with the Social Care Common Inspection Framework (SCCIF) 2023.

Children's Home FAQs

Can my child attend if they do not have a diagnosis of epilepsy?

Yes. We care for and educate children with a range of complex health, learning and neurological needs not limited to epilepsy. As a multi-disciplinary team, we assess every referral for a child into our care on an individual basis and make a decision as to whether we are able to meet their needs and support them to achieve positive outcomes. This is all covered as part of our robust admissions process.

If my child has a 52-week place, can they still come home for visits and holidays?

Absolutely, as long as there are no court orders in place prohibiting or limiting visits to the family home. Parents are asked to arrange home visits directly with the children's home manager giving as much advance notice as is possible so that appropriate preparation can be made.

Can parents/families stay the night?

Unfortunately parents and families cannot stay the night within our children's homes. Our bungalows are shared residential spaces for up to six children and as such, it is not appropriate for parents to remain overnight and there are no delegated spaces for this. Where overnight stays are being considered, parents can be supported to find appropriate accommodation nearby.

Who can I call to have an update on my child?

The manager of the home where your child resides would be the best person to contact for an update on your child. You may also wish to contact your child's named key worker who will provide you with weekly reports on your child's progress and activity. However, if the update you are seeking is specific to a certain department, you can contact the named link/duty nurse, therapist or behaviour support practitioner directly by phone or email.

Who is keeping my child safe out of hours?

Our children's home and nursing services are staffed 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. This means that outside of working hours there are always trained and competent staff caring for your child on site.

“The staff are caring, treating my son with respect and compassion. His house is always clean and welcoming; overall, I feel that there is a warm atmosphere towards our son and the other young people living at St Elizabeth’s.”

-- Parent



“The manager was amazing, so were the staff team and I thoroughly enjoyed my visit. Overall, I was happy staff were knowledgeable, and a credit to your organisation - they were very helpful”.

- Social Worker

24 hour nursing

Inspected and rated

Good



All young people living and learning at St Elizabeth's School and Children's Home benefit from our specialist on-site 24-hour nursing provision. As a result, education is not disrupted - such services on site means children can quickly return to school once they feel better.

Our team of dedicated nurses are on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The safety and health of your child is paramount to us.

Specialist staff play a key part in the multidisciplinary assessment of all referrals to ensure we can meet the on-going needs of each individual. We can support those with very rare forms of epilepsy, other rare syndromes and conditions, those with VNS devices and those who require PEG feeding and dysphagia support. We can also monitor and tract seizure activity and changes in behaviour, overseen by rigorous medication administration protocols.

The on-site team work with external health providers and can make referrals and host on-site clinics for specialists from Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust and Great Ormond Street.

Our on-site clinics reduce the need for children to receive treatment externally, reducing the chance of any disruption to their routines.

Nursing team:

- Senior Epilepsy Specialist Nurse
- School Nurse
- Learning Disability Nurses
- Mental Health Nurse
- Senior Paediatric Nurses
- Children's Nurse
- Nursing Assistants
- Medical Secretary

Clinics:

- GP
- Optician
- Dentist
- Neurology
- Nutrition/Dietician
- Chiropody

Nursing FAQs

What happens if my child becomes unwell?

If your child becomes unwell, care support workers will inform a duty nurse who will come to assess. Care support workers are trained to follow care plans in place for each child, and will always adhere to these. If interventions and strategies set out in your child's care plans are not improving your child's health or presentation, nurses can make a clinical decision to involve emergency services or seek additional clinical support. You will be informed of your child becoming unwell and all steps taken to support your child as soon as it is possible to do so.

An incident report will then be drawn up to detail all information surrounding your child becoming unwell for our records and your reference, as well as to review and decide next steps. The safety and health of your child is paramount to us and we exercise due diligence in every instance where a child is taken ill.

What if my child has to go to hospital?

If your child attends the hospital you will be informed and made aware of the circumstances as soon as possible. We will always aim to ensure that a care support worker who your child knows and is familiar with attends the hospital and remains for the duration of their stay; this includes overnight. Care support workers will ensure that key information such as your child's hospital passport, intervention care plans and medication are taken along and NHS staff are made aware of your child's needs.

Our Health Agency have built credible relationships with key professionals within our local hospital - Princess Alexandra Hospital. This supports us to keep in regular communication with lead nurses and doctors for your child whilst they are in the hospital, and also allows us to negotiate care and appropriate discharge for your child. You will be kept informed on your child's health for the duration of their stay and we will inform all key stakeholders such as local authority social workers and Ofsted (where relevant) of developments.

How often will my child see a nurse?

Our team of dedicated nurses are on-site 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Nurses will go on rounds to the children's homes regularly throughout the day and night and maintain good communication with the care staff at all times. The care of each child is individualised and some of the children require regular health checks, such as weighing and taking of blood pressure, on a weekly basis and would therefore attend the Health Hub for these, usually before the start of the school day.

Therapeutic Support



All young people living and learning at St Elizabeth's School and Children's Home benefit from our therapy support throughout the week. Therapy is incorporated throughout the curriculum and daily routines, supporting our holistic approach to learning.

Therapeutic input runs concurrent with academic programmes and are integrated into the day as part of individualised timetables and daily routines.

Therapy sessions are provided in a format that is best suited to an individual's needs and preferences. This may be in 1:1 or group sessions, or work indirectly by supporting teaching staff, care staff and families to implement new initiatives. For sessions provided in our therapy rooms, these have been carefully developed to ensure it is an engaging and purposeful environment, created for each individual attending.

We specialise in a range of therapeutic input including Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC), Rebound Therapy, Sensory Integration and Hydrotherapy, to name a few. This allows us to provide expertise in the use of specialist equipment such as eye gaze systems, communication apps, specialised sensory assessment and delivering extensive physiotherapy driven hydrotherapy for those attending offsite sessions.

As well as working closely with our onsite teams, we have close links with our local orthotics department, our therapy colleagues at Princess Alexandra Hospital, our local communication aid service and wheelchair services.

Our group activities help to deliver therapies in fun and engaging ways whilst combining motor co-ordination, mobility, cognition and total communication approaches, helping to develop social interactions alongside peers.

Therapy team:

- Speech and Language Therapists
- Physiotherapists
- Senior Occupational Therapist
- Behaviour Support Practitioners
- Therapy Assistants

Some of our exciting therapy groups include:

Cheerleading Group - a dance group which aims to develop gross motor skills, coordination, body/spatial awareness and shoulder/arm strength and stability.

Snack Chat Group – a food preparation group, run jointly between Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy. The aim of this group is to promote functional performance in food preparation tasks, making choices, language development and team working.

Star Club – an exercise session working on core physical skills such as balance, flexibility, fitness, strength and turn taking skills.

Therapy FAQs

What happens if my child need a referral to a specialist?

We have established links with our local GP surgery who provide a weekly clinic, we also provide clinics throughout the year for visiting neurologists, foot clinics, dentist and other specialists as required. Alongside this, our therapists work closely with the local orthotics department to ensure support and maintenance of required orthotics input. In therapy and nursing, as well as the specialist therapist, practitioners and nurses we provide onsite there may be times we need to refer to external services for additional input for our children and young people. At these times, we work collaboratively with our external partners to ensure referrals are completed as appropriate and these are completed in agreement with families, the multi-disciplinary teams at St Elizabeth's and, of course, with the children and young people. Where required, a capacity assessment would be completed and action continued in line with the child's wishes and best interests as appropriate.

How often will my child access therapy?

Each child is assessed prior to admission and then follow up assessments completed upon admission. These assessments alongside outcomes set in the EHCP will provide the clinical need for your child. Therapy is delivered in a range of ways including 1:1 sessions, group therapy, whole class sessions and programmes, care plans and protocols which are integrated throughout their day to ensure they receive the therapy input they require. The frequency and duration of this input will vary depending on your child's needs. All needs are continually reviewed and assessed throughout the year to ensure their input is appropriate to meet their needs and continue to help them to maintain and develop their skills to the best of their ability.

Do you work with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)?

Our nursing and Positive Behaviour Support teams work closely with the wider multi-disciplinary team to refer to CAMHS if this is felt to be required. For those individuals who are moving to St Elizabeth's and are currently seen by CAMHS, this would be part of the admission and transition process as to how their input would continue depending on the placement your child would have at St Elizabeth's. Some may continue their current CAMHS input at home or this may be transferred to our local services. However, whether your child is a day student or attends as residential our teams will work closely with their current CAMHS provider to ensure the current input and support is continued and maintained.

How do you work with existing health care providers and therapists such as teachers of children with visual impairments or private therapists?

During the pre admission process through to the admission stage, we work with those currently involved with your child and their needs to ensure we have the most up to date and accurate information to ensure continuity of care and input. Your child may already be seen by a private therapist, so depending on the need this input may be transferred over to an allocated therapist on site, however we are also able to accommodate continuation of the private therapist input alongside the input of our onsite therapists. For some children and young people, their private therapists are very well known to them and it is important their input is continued. This agreement would be made as part of the transition process. This would also be the case for other specialist professionals such as teachers of children with visual impairments who may continue to provide input during your child's time at St Elizabeth's.



'Children receive excellent healthcare support from a multidisciplinary team of nurses, physiotherapists and speech and language therapists.'

- OFSTED, 2023

Life after St Elizabeth's



Moving on from school is a big step for all children - it is a crucial time for every child and young person, whether that is to the next year group, to another provider or at the end of their time in our school.

All children have the chance to take part in college taster days, work based learning and engagement with our commissioned Careers Advice Service.

We work closely with external providers to ensure that the transition of an individual into or out of our service is conducted with consistent support throughout their transition and beyond, keeping them safe and happy.

What makes us unique?

We have worked hard to refine our strong multi-disciplinary approach - teachers, therapists, nurses and care staff work in partnership to ensure we meet the health education and therapy requirements set out in EHCPs. We are not a shared resource - we exist solely to provide excellent standards of care for our children and young people.

We are creative and innovative, creating bespoke packages which can always be adapted depending on the level of need.

'The maximum waiting time for NHS non-urgent, consultant-led treatments is 18 weeks from the day your appointment is booked or when the hospital or service receives your referral letter.'^{*}

At St Elizabeth's, children can be seen and treated by a member of our health and therapy teams within 24-48 hours, often avoiding admissions into hospital and long community wait times.



up to 18 weeks



24 - 48 hours

^{*}Stats taken from <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/hospitals/guide-to-nhs-waiting-times-in-england/>

Our promise to you

Family and friends are a huge part of our St Elizabeth's family. We understand that starting on the St Elizabeth's journey can be daunting, scary and a worrying time for everyone involved.

Our promise is to ensure our care is always individualised with a caring approach, high quality and centred around the individual. That our children and young people are listened to, respected, safe and happy, and St Elizabeth's feels like a home away from home. We promise to always look after our staff teams, so they are providing the best possible care for your child, and to maintain high training standards across the board.

We promise to be transparent and honest with you at every step, and will be consistent in our communication and engagement with local authorities, health providers, regulators and families.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is of paramount importance to us, and is at the heart of everything we do. Every staff member, regardless of department, undergoes an enhanced disclosure and barring service check, as well as rigorous regular safeguarding training to ensure everyone we support is safe, well and happy while in our care. We adopt a multi agency approach, so everyone is working together to achieve the same outcome. We operate under the Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership, which encourages all childcare agencies to work together to safeguard children.

Read and adhere to Care Plans and Risk Assessments

Robust policy & procedures to keep children safe

Raise any concerns without delay

See it, Stop it, Report it

Record the right information in the right way

Be accurate, fair and true

Take pride in everything I do

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Treat everyone with dignity and respect

Our children deserve the highest standards of care



"I don't think I have the words to express my thanks and gratitude for all you have done for my daughter. You have not only helped her to develop and flourish but also helped our mother and daughter relationship build and strengthen. I can't thank you enough for that. You have become her family and like my friends."

- Parent

Next steps

If you are interested in finding out more about accessing our Children's Services, our friendly admissions team are on hand to help.

Your first step would be to get in touch for an informal chat or to book a tour with our admissions team. You do not have to disclose personal information on your child at this stage, but the more information we know the better informed we can be when we come to meet you.

If you would like to go ahead with putting forward an application, we will ask for a copy of your child's EHCP (Education Healthcare Plan) and any other supporting documents.

Please note, we can only consider placements for children with an EHCP in place.

Before considering a placement, we will need to have seen or met your child so we can assess whether or not we can meet their needs. If putting together an application yourself, please inform your local authority and your child's social worker so they are aware.

We understand that many families are looking for reassurance and support through what can be a difficult and stressful time. We are proud to offer a very personal approach, and provide consistency and strong communication throughout the entire admissions process - we will always do as much as we can to support you.



Contact:

E: admissions@stelizabeths.org.uk

T: 01279 843451 (Ext. 415)

W: www.stelizabeths.org.uk

Did you know?

You can also fill out a 'Book a Visit' request on our website!

Contact Us

E: admissions@stelizabeths.org.uk

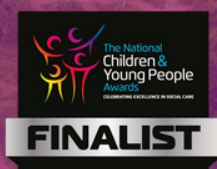
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**AFFILIATE
ORGANISATION**

**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**



St Elizabeth's Centre is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (No. 11087989)
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