



WELCOME TO
LIFE WIRRAL
SPORTS SCHOOL



AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR SCHOOL

I am delighted to introduce you to LIFE Wirral Sports School. We provide specialist education for children and young people up to the age of 18. We are incredibly proud of our unique children, our supportive parents and carers and our dedicated staff – we all work together to make LIFE Wirral Sports School a safe, happy and inspirational place to learn.

We are a small school offering an individualised and bespoke curriculum that enables pupils to thrive, shaped by our principles of Confidence + Resilience = Success. Our curriculum is both academic, offering accreditation of learning programmes from KS3 through to GCSEs in KS4 and A-Levels in KS5 together with the experiential. In addition to mastering the core subjects such as English, Mathematics and Science, pupils access a range of learning opportunities which support the curriculum, for example extensive sports programmes, sport psychology, cooking and yoga.

Our pupils' neurodiversity means that we focus on their social and academic development; this is reinforced by

powerful, pastoral programmes. In addition, we are in the process of putting together an experienced therapy team – for example Speech and Language, Counselling and Occupational Therapy to address our pupils' individual needs. Our specialist staff know all our pupils, parents and carers very well and this forms the bedrock of our approach.

Our ambition for all our pupils is for them to learn and develop their social skills in order that they can embed and apply their learning and create the foundation for further education, training and employment. Where appropriate, work attachments and experiences are provided. We aim to provide holistic learning opportunities with clear outputs and outcomes, working closely with parents and carers to identify and develop the talents and skills of our very special children.

It is our duty and responsibility to provide the right environment to nurture our pupils' confidence, to give them the necessary skills to be resilient and responsible citizens

and to create and celebrate their paths to success. At LIFE Wirral Sports School we offer our pupils a bespoke education package that links to the National Curriculum. In addition, there is an experiential learning element which ensures our children are immersed in their sport programmes and the subject matter.

Our extensive Sport Package provides our students with the best possible chance to achieve their sporting goals. They are encouraged each day to do their very best and to aim as high as possible, having access to the best possible training facilities and a wide variety of highly-skilled coaches. We aim to inspire our students to want to lead a happy and healthy life and for sport to be a big part of this.

We use the vehicle of sport to teach our students social skills, to help them learn the importance of hard work and ultimately to encourage them to be creative, playful and happy young people.

Sarah Quilty

– Headteacher







At LIFE Wirral Sports School our vision is for each child to make progress from their starting point in academic, physical development and social terms, in order that each individual develops the life skills and character necessary to thrive and succeed on the pathway to adulthood. We strive to transform their learning experience, secure their academic achievement and encourage their personal sense of ambition.



OUR STUDENT PROFILE



LIFE Wirral Sports School is an inclusive independent school for young people of both sexes aged between 11 and 18.



We specialise in small group teaching, which is often one-to-one.



Our students come from a wide variety of social and economic backgrounds, some with additional needs, including those with EHCPs.



Our students may have a history of challenging behaviour, multiple exclusions from previous educational establishments and placement or family breakdowns.

OUR CULTURE

LIFE Wirral Sports School is an independent, DfE-registered, co-educational school, providing specialist education for up to 20 students, aged 11-18. The success of the school is based on the flexible and supportive approach taken to provide the highest standards and very personalised education tailored to individual student needs.

At LIFE Wirral Sports School, we provide education for a wide range of special needs, including emotional and social difficulties.

All students are treated as valued individuals and their needs are taken into account when planning the most suitable and effective educational provision for them. The community spirit and positive atmosphere at the school are a key indicator of the hard work and dedication of the staff and the level to which students enjoy and achieve.

Students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. School life also encourages students to develop excellent team working, social and independence skills. This involves students accessing school trips, enrichment activities, social activities and a social, moral, spiritual and cultural education.

Additionally all students have access to support staff who work closely with them on an individual and small group basis to focus on personal development.

We hold high expectations for all our students; a culture of aspiration and learning is palpable. Students and teachers understand that qualifications, social and physical development and clinical interventions are currency and we are unapologetic in our desire to ensure that all of our students both mature and achieve.



Progress, from every starting point, matters to us. We know that every child can realise their potential and our targets for every child do reflect this.

We take every opportunity to support our students in accessing a curriculum both inside and outside the classroom to develop character and to help them grow into well-rounded, passionate and ambitious citizens of the future. We understand that character and cultural capital matters.

We commit to ensuring every individual enjoys a range of experiences designed to develop knowledge and character – through explicit personal development, curriculum link visits, exposure to careers and a range of social, sport and enrichment programmes.

The school specialises in educating young people with special educational needs. This is achieved through

flexible learning experiences and the provision of high quality teaching and pastoral care. LIFE Wirral Sports School's work embraces many specialist disciplines and is united by a common purpose – to actively enable each and every one of the young people in our care to achieve their personal best however it is defined by them or for them. At LIFE Wirral Sports School we aim to develop young people with active, creative minds that can and will make a positive contribution to society.

We strive to transform their learning experience, secure their academic achievement, social and emotional development and personal sense of ambition.

There are learning spaces within the building allocated for the teaching and the nurturing of our young people.



OUR AIMS

+ To create an environment and curriculum which is centered round the individual needs of our young people.

+ To be consistent in our delivery of and education, sport and therapeutic support package for our young people.

To work in partnership with stakeholders (internal and external) to facilitate the progress and outcomes of the young people in our care.

+ To have a team of ‘inspirers’ who are rigorous, efficient and are always positive role models.

+ To enrich the lives of our young people with experiences in and beyond the classroom in preparation for everyday life.



Underpinning the opposite is the desire to prepare students for one, or more of the following at Post-16 and Post-18;

- Further education and study
- Independent or supported living
- Employment or apprenticeships
- Every student at LIFE Wirral Sports School will be given opportunities to develop high self-esteem, respect for others and positive and socially responsible behaviour, enabling individuals to enjoy success and purpose in their wider communities and to be a valuable member of the society in which they live and study.

- Every student will participate in a study programme which facilitates and encourages progress from individual starting points and which enables individuals to achieve their potential in all aspects of their life and in their preparation for adulthood – specifically, employment, independence, community inclusion and sport and health.
- Every staff member at LIFE Wirral Sports School will be able to further their understanding of the complex needs of our students and to progress their own careers within a structured and developmental programme of CPD opportunities.



① WARM-UP
- ∞ A Skips
B Skips
High Knees
Calf Raises
Lunges
Heel Flicks

ADMISSIONS

The school is non-denominational but respects the cultural needs and religious beliefs of all. The young people attending the school are day placement students. Admissions are channelled through Local Authority's Special Needs Departments or through private funding.

Managing the behaviour of the students effectively and appropriately is a key part of the work of the school. Our Behaviour Management Policy dovetails with the school Anti-Bullying Policy to provide a framework within which high standards of personal behaviour can be promoted. Students are given clear guidance about acceptable and unacceptable behaviour. It is emphasised that racism, sexism and other behaviours based on prejudice and discrimination are never acceptable.

Students are expected to adhere to these guidelines, and parents as well as staff are expected to apply them consistently in their dealings with students.

The Behaviour Management Policy is based on recognising that all behaviour, good or bad, is an expression of a student's emotional state, and has to be considered in the wider context of the student's needs, wants, abilities and challenges. We start from the position of asking what the student is intending to communicate or achieve through a particular behaviour.

We feel that every student has a right to be listened to, and that the role of behaviour management is to help our students find appropriate ways to express themselves.

Through support and guidance students can learn strategies that will enable them to communicate their emotional states effectively so that they will be heard and understood in the school, at home and in the wider community. The intention is to empower students through providing them with the skills that they need to monitor and regulate their behaviour and come to a better understanding of how this can affect others.



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