



Ellern Mede School
LEADERS IN SUPPORTIVE EDUCATION



Ellern Mede School **Parent Guide**



Message from the Head Teacher

Ellern Mede School is for young people between the ages of 8 and 18 years. Students may come to Ellern Mede School because they are being treated at one of our hospitals or because they are finding it hard in to learn in their home school. We successfully support students who may be suffering from school phobia, anxiety or depression by delivering “Outstanding” education.

We don't believe young people or their parents should feel a fear of judgement in such situations. We aim to reduce the impact of such disruption and do as much as possible to maintain educational progress and help the student return to their usual school with improved attendance.

Our dedicated teachers help every young person to recover lost academic ground, get back into studies and prepare for the next step in their life. We support each student's individual wish to pursue their own future goals.

Students at Ellern Mede engage in personalised health and education based recovery plans. We offer a broad curriculum of academic, personal and social education. An Inclusion Lead supervises student engagement, assessment and identifies future learning pathways.

Personal development is as important as educational development. We believe that feeling safe, respected, supported and relaxed is essential to their ability to learn. Our teaching staff are expert in helping young people to achieve this.

We engender in each child an enthusiasm for learning.

Adel Shirbini, Headmaster



About Ellern Mede School

Founded in 2002, Ellern Mede School has been rated “Outstanding” by Ofsted consecutively in 2014 and 2018. The school offers high quality education in a therapeutic environment, for children and young people aged 8 to 18 years, who have self-excluded from mainstream school for a variety of reasons.

Ellern Mede School is a calm, safe and academically stimulating environment. We aim for each student to achieve their best in both learning and personal growth. We are committed to the development of every student so they can reengage with education and their community.

At Ellern Mede School we wish to create an environment in which students:

- contribute to school and enjoy learning
- achieve their best and become lifelong learners
- become independent young adults, willing to play their part in shaping the world around them
- develop a positive self-image, respecting themselves and others
- show good motivation
- develop confidence when interacting with their peers
- accept praise, tolerate mistakes and experience pride and satisfaction from their own achievements



Ofsted

Ellern Mede School has been judged consecutively by Ofsted as “Outstanding” in both 2014 and 2018 across all categories. You can read the full report on our website or you can request a full report from the school. In 2018 Ofsted said of Ellern Mede School:

“The Head Teacher and proprietor provide excellent leadership. They ensure that teaching staff and health professionals work together exceptionally well to improve pupils’ life chances. The provision for pupils’ personal development, behaviour and welfare is a strength of this school. Staff promote a caring learning environment where pupils are valued and grow in confidence. Teachers enable pupils to learn very effectively through individual timetables which take account of their health needs. Leaders ensure that pupils have access to specialist teaching and a suitable range of subjects. Pupils make substantial progress and achieve success in external examinations by the end of Year”.



Therapeutic Learning Environment

Ellern Mede School has access to the clinical and therapeutic staff at Ellern Mede Services. Together we improve the prospects of young people, during a time of illness by offering the right environment for education so students can return to mainstream education, employment or training. In addition to the option of accessing therapeutic input we also offer each student a personalised timetable, career guidance and support in their choices once they leave Ellern Mede School.

More than 60% of our pupils have attained A or A* exam results over the past seven years.

Subjects taught at Ellern Mede School:

- Maths
- English Literature
- English Language
- Science
- History
- Drama
- Art & Design
- French
- German
- Spanish
- Psychology
- RE
- Geography
- Health and Social Care
- Music
- Design Technologies (Textiles and Resistant Materials)
- ICT/Computer Science
- Business Studies

In addition to the curriculum, students will be able to enjoy school projects, trips and outside the classroom learning projects. We offer music sessions which include singing, playing piano, guitar and many other instruments. The last lesson on a Friday is called "Creative Time and Study" here students choose to listen to music, watch films or decide which creative activity to do.

Student support

When a student enrolls at Ellern Mede School they will be allocated a Key Teacher. A Key Teacher is responsible for helping students to settle in, they will also keep in contact with student's home-school and you, their family. They will find out what students have been studying, exam boards and syllabus details. A Key Teacher will ask a student's home school to send subject work, pastoral reports and previous grades if applicable, so there is a smooth transition between schools.

Key Teachers also create an Individual Education Plan (IEP) which includes targets and strategies to help students achieve and a progress section to evaluate how you are doing. If it is required they will arrange for music or language (Spanish, German or French) lessons to be scheduled. If a student is also a patient within Ellern Mede Services, they will write education reports to be included in CPA and MDT meetings with our clinicians.

Partnership working

We provide a stimulating, caring, therapeutic and calm learning environment where we work in partnership with families and students. To ensure successful outcomes we ask all our students to agree to the following:

- acknowledge the need for help and support
- desire to get well and participate in the education and health programme
- desire to learn and make academic progress
- behave with respect and consideration in the hospital and school community



Staff Team



Head Teacher, Adel Shirbini, University of Nottingham, Geography, BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH

Adel joined Ellern Mede School in January 2011 as Head Teacher, prior

to this he held the position of Senior School Improvement Professional, Harrow Council. During this time he served as an Attached Adviser to four "Outstanding" secondary schools, holding the remit for 14-19 Education, 16-19 Commissioning and was Strategic Lead for ICT across all Harrow schools. Adel also managed the Governor Services Support Team, and the Teachers' International Professional Development Programme. Adel has served on senior leadership teams in secondary schools in London, and the South East of England, including inner London. After qualifying, he trained as a teacher at the Institute of Education, London University. Adel has recently qualified as an Associate Inspector with Ofsted on the new September 2012 Framework. Although he has spent most of his time in education, he has also gained commercial experience having spent seven years in senior roles in industry.

E: Adel.Shirbini@ellernmede.org

Guidelines

Like any school, there are guidelines and in particular for use of the internet and ICT equipment. This is to ensure that students do not access material which is violent, criminal or extreme. A complete list of guidelines and expectations are issued prior to students enrolling at the school.

We do not have a uniform at Ellern Mede School, students can wear their own clothes.

Key Teachers and Curriculum Managers

English and Media

Samreen Shah, University of Westminster, English, BA (Hons), PGCE

E: Samreen.Shah@ellernmede.org

Art & Design Technology

Phillip Evans, Middlesex University, 3D Design, BA (Hons), PGCE

E: Phillip.evans@ellernmede.org

Mathematics

Marcin Nikodem, University of Zielona Gora, Poland, Magister Degree

E: marcin.nikodem@ellernmede.org

Science

Barbara Maleki, Bachelor Science & Master's degree

E: barbara.maleki@ellernmede.org

Inclusion Lead, Psychology, Health & Social Care

Marianne Marino, University of Westminster, BSc Psychology. City University London, Graduate Certificate in Counselling Psychology.

E: Marianne.marino@ellernmede.org

Drama & French

Robert Salter, MA, Hull University

E: robert.salter@ellernmede.org



Special Educational Needs Consultancy

Ellern Mede's Special Educational Needs Consultancy Service advises and supports schools, local authorities, commissioners and parents to meet the needs of young people who self-exclude from school. We recognise that there are many young people who, for a variety of reasons, may benefit from therapeutic education; for example, young people who are struggling with anxiety, school phobia, trauma and bullying.

We create support packages for children in mainstream schools and carry out Educational Health Care (EHC) needs assessments, plans and annual reviews.

Get in touch

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