

Every child, no matter what their starting point or background, has the right to an education that prepares them for adult life. We help students to accept their past, build a successful future, and feel safe and happy in the present.



Lotus
SCHOOL

Thrive and learn

LOTUS SCHOOL

Lotus School was purpose built to accommodate students who have an Education, Health and Care plan for Social, Emotional and Mental Health as their primary need.

We can cater for 48 students ranging from Year 6 to Year 11, in an environment where we can really get to know our students and offer them a personalised curriculum that fully meets their needs.

We have big ambitions for our students and offer a timetable that includes a wide range of subjects such as English, Maths, Science, Humanities, Religious Studies, Sport and Creative subjects.

An emphasis is placed on the Personal, Social and Health needs of our students, and includes weekly PHSE sessions.

Key Stage 4 students will have opportunities to engage with local businesses and undertake work experience.

Being an integral part of our local community is incredibly important to us, and we already work in partnership with Blackpool Headstart and Blackpool Football Club.

We are forging links with our local residents through local church and community groups, and hold events such as coffee afternoons for residents within our community.



VISION

We understand that for some children, their journey so far has been difficult, but this can change, and with patience and the right support, every student can thrive and learn.

We know that relationships are vital in helping to build a student's self-esteem and willingness to learn, and that just one 'champion' can make a real difference. Our approach is student centred and they are at the

forefront of everything we do, from the design of the building, to the staff and curriculum.

We will build strong and lasting relationships with the families and key adults of the students who join Lotus, as we know how important this is in securing a successful future for the young person. We believe in looking to the future and showing students that nothing in their past is too great to overcome.

"We will be driven by a moral purpose to transform opportunities and change life chances of children and young people, who live in challenging times as well as challenging areas."



SCHOOL DAY

Each student will follow a bespoke timetable that meets their individual needs, but this is an example of a typical school day at Lotus:

8:45 – 9:00am Family Start. We place a strong emphasis on building positive relationships and meaningful connections, so students sit with classmates and staff to enjoy a healthy breakfast. Students may also have some one-to-one time with their keyworker or enjoy some mindful colouring.

9:00am – 9:30am Targeted Intervention. This may include DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) in a small group, taking part in a Maths or Literacy intervention or completing a sensory circuit so they are calm and ready to learn.

9:30am – 10:20am English. All students take part in English lessons each day.

10:20am - 11:30am Maths. All students take part in Maths lessons each day.

11:30am – 11:45am Break.

11:45am – 12:30pm Humanities/Creative. Students study History, Geography, Religious Studies, Art, or Food Technology each week.

12:30pm – 1:15pm Lunch.

1:15pm – 1:30pm DEAR/Intervention. Drop Everything and Read or specific subject intervention.

1:30pm – 2:15pm Science/PSHE. Students study Science twice a week, and PSHE once a week.

2:15pm – 2:45pm Reward Time. Students who make the right choices during the day get to choose a reward which may include time on the computers, outside activities, or constructive Lego time.

2:45pm Finish*

*On Friday we finish at 1:00pm to allow school staff to receive vital training and prepare for the following week. In the future we will offer students the chance to take part in extra-curricular activities such as Youth group or visits to local attractions.

PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

We prepare students for further education and eventually for long term employment.

We are developing links with local businesses, so our students will have the opportunity to gain longer periods of work experience.

Students will be able to sit the following qualifications:

- Entry Level, Level 1 or 2, or GCSE qualifications in English, Maths and Science
- Level 1/2 BTEC in Hospitality and Catering, Health and Social Care or Land based learning
- Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze and Silver Awards

Uniform

We understand the cost of uniform can be an issue so we will provide all students with a school jumper each year.

- School jumper with logo
- Polo shirt in pale blue
- Grey trousers or grey school skirt
- Black closed toe footwear
- Black or dark blue socks
- Appropriate P.E. kit

Therapeutic Interventions

We place an emphasis on supporting the whole child, and understand that each student is unique with individual needs, so this is why all interventions are bespoke to the student and their EHC plan outcomes.

We offer daily sessions for students focusing on Speech and Language, Social Skills development, Art Therapy, Lego Therapy and Sensory Circuits.

We work closely with service providers such as play therapists, educational psychologists, and advisory teachers to provide further support for our students.

We also employ a counsellor one day a week and have a full time Behaviour Lead and a Pastoral/Family Support worker, who offer targeted interventions to students in small groups or a one-to-one basis.

We have developed a curriculum model that encourages our students to become more resilient learners. We regularly share the Headstart resilience framework with students and encourage them to recognise when they have made a resilient move.

Transport

We encourage students to make their own way to school, however, support will be available from the local Council to transport your child to Lotus School.

SCHOOL BUILDING

Our state of the art building has been carefully designed to meet the needs of SEMH learners. Each classroom is smaller than in a traditional school, as there will be no more than 8 students to a class.

We have a fully functional Science Lab, Food Technology, Art and Design rooms, a Music Space and Sports Hall alongside 6 other classrooms. The school also has a number of dedicated sensory and therapy rooms for use by Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language teams, and Occupational Therapists.

Students are able to develop their independent living skills in our Life Experience flat, such as learning how to use a washing machine and budgeting for food and other bills.

“I am incredibly excited to develop a specialist school from the ground up, especially in Blackpool, a town that I have a strong connection to.”

Rachel Kenworthy, Headteacher



FAMILY SUPPORT

We recognise that no student can succeed without the support you provide, however, we also understand managing teenagers is not always easy.

Our dedicated Family Support worker offers families practical support such as specialist help, aid filling in forms, and provide a key link between home and school.

We want you to be involved in the life of Lotus, so we will provide opportunities for you to attend events such as family Christmas lunch, regular coffee and cake mornings and afternoons, and other celebrations. Parent and child groups plus family network meetings will be organised where you can meet other like-minded parents.

TRANSITION

Transition is carefully planned as there is often anxiety for students and carers when moving school. We can offer a personalised programme and this will be discussed and agreed before your child begins with us.

EXPERIENCING THE WORLD

Becoming a successful adult is not only about classroom education but also about taking part in cultural experiences in the wider world.

With this in mind every child is entitled to experiences outside of the classroom. These may involve visiting local attractions, such as Marton Mere nature reserve, seeing performances at Winter Gardens or visiting the Judges Lodgings in Lancaster.

Every child can take part in at least one of these experiences a term, which will be linked to the Creative Curriculum projects worked on every Monday and Wednesday afternoon.

“We believe in looking to the future and showing students that nothing in their past is too great to overcome.”

HEADTEACHER RACHEL KENWORTHY



I have always had a passion for supporting students who have additional needs. Every child, no matter what their starting point or background, has the right to an education that prepares them for adult life. As Headteacher of Lotus School, I will provide safety, stability and success for every child.

I believe in the value of building relationships, and I have seen many times, first-hand how successful students can be, when they feel valued and cared for. I want all of our students and their parents or carers to feel part of our school family, and to understand we all want the same goal, for the students to be happy, safe and successful.

I am incredibly proud of how hard all of our staff work, to provide a school that truly cares for each individual child.

CHAMPION EDUCATION TRUST

Champion Education Trust is a Multi Academy Trust founded by Blackburn Central High School and Crosshill Special School.

Champion provide a first-class education through partnership and innovation; this includes world class teaching, unique in school therapy solutions, inspiring environments and an innovative curriculum. All students will achieve highly and go beyond what others thought possible, regardless of background, need or prior attainment, in a culture of high expectations and support.



Champion
EDUCATION TRUST

A family of Schools



“One of the best parts of my job is getting to watch our students grow and mature into hard working and determined young people.”

Mrs Diane Atkinson, Trust Leader



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Lotus
SCHOOL

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*“Just like the lotus we
too have the ability to
rise from the mud, bloom
out of the darkness and
radiate into the world.”*

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