



Secondary Provision at Vranch House

Education

The Secondary phase of learning at Vranch House builds upon all the knowledge and skills our pupils have acquired in the lower school, or primary and junior phases in another setting, to access information and make informed decisions about the things that really matter to them. Whilst the Vranch House Individual Education & Wellbeing (VIEW) curriculum still forms the mainstay and ethos of education for our Post 16 pupils, this is heavily supplemented by our 'Transitions Pathway' program (see below) and AQA Functional Skills accreditation (see also the Vranch House *Education Provision Narrative*).

Therapies

All secondary age pupils at Vranch House enjoy unparalleled access to a wide range and breadth of high-quality therapeutic inputs, delivered by qualified therapists, therapy assistants and highly trained class-based staff. These therapies include:

Physiotherapy – Hydrotherapy, Hippotherapy (mechanical horse), Rebound therapy and use of our highly specialist Innowalk machines (custom-made devices designed to make movement possible for children, adolescents and adults with moderate to severe physical disabilities) are all included in the Core Offer for **all pupils** who can benefit from these bespoke therapies.

Occupational Therapy (OT) –all pupils are assessed, and monitored by our Occupational Therapist throughout their time at Vranch House. In line with our Core Offer, every pupil has an individualised, bespoke OT plan to promote fine motor skills, effective postural management and optimised self-help skills (including maximising independence in eating, drinking and personal hygiene routines)

Speech & Language Therapy (S<) –our dedicated Speech & Language therapist leads our Total Communication environment, which means that any and all methods of communication are encouraged and supported at our school and college. As part of our Core Offer and Education Offer as a school and college, our highly experienced and trained staff support our pupils with signing (Makaton and British Sign Language [BSL]), the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) and their use of Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC) including high tech AAC such as voice output communication devices (VOCAs), Eye Gaze and auditory-scanning switch activated AAC devices.

Music Therapy – our Music Therapist works closely with our teachers, and all the other therapist at Vranch House, to deliver Music Therapy in individual and small group sessions. The innovative NMT approach to this therapy supports our pupils in meeting their physiotherapy, OT and S< goals as well as contributing massively to their social interaction skills and mental wellbeing.



Careers

Career= *an occupation undertaken for a significant period of a person's life and with opportunities for progress.* Nationally, as few as 5% of SEN pupils leave school and stay in paid employment.

At Vranch House we do not endorse sending pupils into 'tick-box' work experience placements, but promote aspects of working life that should be available to all. If working for money is not the priority then this opens a number of careers that might be engaging and bring a sense of achievement for our pupils. By intelligent use of high and low-tech Augmentative Alternative Communications (AAC), we also explore realistic, alternative career paths of interest to our students, including: author, journalist, photographer, music producer, blogger, vlogger and artist to name a few.

Transitions

One of the ways we prepare our pupils for adult life, and to avoid social isolation post-college, is through our carefully planned 'Transition Pathways'. The Transition Pathways at Vranch House are built around pupils experiencing different places and activities in the community and are:

- **Education pathway** - we create a 'vocational profile' with these pupils and work with the Start Programme (Free online careers platform designed to connect 11-18 year olds with their future career potential). We facilitate opportunities to visit employability events, jobs fairs and college/workplace discovery days.
- **Social Care Package pathway** -includes a focus on independent living and avoiding social isolation. Pupils will be experiencing and choosing different leisure activities and hobbies. Regular sessions encourage experiencing activities in the community that can structure part of pupils' lives after Vranch House.
- **NHS Package pathway** – focus on transitioning pupils to the Physical therapies needed throughout adulthood, and to experience how they will be delivered. This Pathway also includes a focus on mental health with exploration of publicly and privately available sensory sessions to promote wellbeing and mental stimulation.

All Pathways also include planning for transition to Adult Service to ensure physical therapies and other health services needed throughout adulthood will be in place, and to experience how they will be accessed and delivered.