

Community of courage and commitment to success

The Oaks WELCOMES YOU





WHO ARE WE?



The Oaks at Thomas Estley is an enhanced resource provision for children with autism. Children who are admitted to the provision must be in receipt of an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) and best suited to a mainly, but not solely mainstream provision. The local authority and college will only admit children who reside in Leicestershire and admission is limited to no more than three students per year group, to best target support around individual needs.

The unit is based on site at Thomas Estley and provides specialist support for both boys and girls aged 11-16 (years 7 to 11), with significant, complex and high functioning autism, but of mainstream ability, who require specialised intervention and cannot have their needs practically or reasonably met by mainstream education entirely. Students are expected to maintain a 70% mainstream timetable with limited LSA support and be based in the Oaks for the remainder.

Students are taught curriculum subjects in mainstream lessons appropriate to their age, but also access The Oaks for part of each day. Students will take part in group and one to one lessons, based around their individual needs and personalised to the students. Their individuality is encouraged, as is their independence. All students are challenged to learn, aspire and achieve alongside their mainstream peers in order to reach their potential. The Oaks curriculum fosters independence, social interaction skills, social communication skills, life skills and emotional literacy. The Oaks provision is also available for homework, coursework, and times when students cannot access mainstream school.

At the Oaks, we recognise the needs of each individual and endeavour to ensure that the learning opportunities provided for them, and the targets, reflect and address their needs. Programmes and timetables are students centred and designed for the individual students, so they have significant differences to those of a mainstream timetable. Access to mainstream lessons in school is dependent on the student's ability to cope with the demands of the subject or environment, so we are able to adapt timetables according to the students needs. We aim to provide a mainstream experience, with autism specific support, also providing firm expectations and clear boundaries for our students.

Students are expected to wear the appropriate uniform and the target for all is to access between 60-80% of the mainstream curriculum. This includes most students having time in school to complete homework as this can be a specific area of difficulty for students with autism who like to have clearly defined boundaries between school and home. All students are supported throughout their school day by a teaching assistant and consistency of staffing helps to allow continuity and security. However, all students work with several members of staff to avoid issues around dependence.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT



We believe in providing the best mix of support and challenge to help your child achieve their academic potential whilst maximising their growth as a young person, ready to tackle the complex and competitive world of further study and work.

Our college motto is 'A Community of Courage and Commitment to Success', and as we are passionate about developing young people who make a positive difference to the society around them whilst developing their own potential and overcoming barriers.

We are fully committed to a learning environment that is inclusive of all abilities and needs, personalising learning within a family and community ethos. We have high standards of work and behaviour at the college, and we believe that the focus for each of our children is achieving their personal best, whatever that may be, and celebrating that success together.







OUR UNIQUE CURRICULUM

Thomas Estley Community College is dedicated to providing an enriching, excellent quality comprehensive community education service for all learners and the wider community.

We ensure that learning is engaging and effective through establishing consistently high quality teaching and learning, and aim to develop our students into positive citizens through our enriched curriculum. Thomas Estley will ensure that every student fulfils their potential, enjoy their learning experience and develop a positive set of values, leadership, and character traits needed to set them up for a successful future. We prioritise Kindness, Respect, Resilience, Perseverance and Courage in addition to our student leadership focus.

Alongside the mainstream curriculum, The Oaks offers designated 'Catch Up' lessons and cover a comprehensive 'Life Skills' curriculum. Catch up gives the students additional time to complete homework with the support from a member staff within the Oaks as well as using this time to recap and cover missed or complex learning content from the mainstream curriculum. Life Skills focuses on teaching the students the skills they need to cope with various challenges and situations in life, promoting as much independence as possible. Topics such as self-awareness, decision making, empathy, communication, relationships, problem solving and managing emotions will be covered.

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IMPACT OF OUR CURRICULUM



We are proud to have achieved outcomes above or well above national and local averages over the last four years across all key performance indicators. The main performance indicator for secondary schools is progress 8, which reflects value added across the five years a child is in secondary school, from their end of primary school individual starting point and across all subject areas. A score of 0 means that the child has made average progress in all areas compared with all schools nationally. A score of +0.25 means that the child has achieved a quarter of a grade higher than expected in every area, given their end of primary school starting points.

In 2022, our progress 8 score was +0.47 In 2023, our progress 8 score was +0.24

Full information about our curriculum outcomes in Year Eleven can be found here:

<u>Secondary - Thomas Estley Community College - Compare school and college performance data in England - GOV.UK (compare-school-</u>

performance.service.gov.uk)

and a summary of this year's key performance indicators are shown in the gallery below?

If you would like more curriculum information, please contact admin@thomasestley.org.uk with 'Curriculum Query' in the email heading

"The Oaks school struck an excellent balance between a disciplined school environment and real welcoming warmth.

As a result, all children appeared to feel happy and safe."

Local Authority Quality Assurance Report - March 2023



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AROUND THE OAKS











Student Voice

Gathering student voice is a regular feature of our work.

Our student voice groups and surveys allow students to put forward their ideas and opinions and participate in decision making at the college and our **Student Ambassadors** meet regularly to bring about student-led change.

Student panels are a regular feature of staff interviews and many of our policies and procedures take student views into account.





"Leaders ensure that students' spiritual moral, social and cultural understanding is an integral part of school life.

Students develop as well-rounded individuals who value diversity and equality, across a range of different religions and cultures.

in the words of one parent - 'My child is happy and maturing well with kindness and tolerance"

Ofsted - January 2019





Student Care & Guidance

On admission, students are assigned to Mr Ahmed's tutor group and spend all tutor time within The Oaks base.

Tutor groups belong to one of our four college teams each led by a Team Leader, who supports students to overcome any barriers to learning in order to achieve their full potential.

The Pastoral Team work in partnership with parents as well as other agencies to ensure good behaviour and attendance.

Positive Behaviour for Learning -

We will act, in co-operation and collaboration, with courtesy and consideration for others at all times".

















Inclusion and Well-being

Our aim is to ensure that every child, whatever their individual needs, achieves their potential through a wide range of learning opportunities and that provision is made to help young people feel that they are in every way a part of life of the college.

Our Inclusion Support Zone and Well-being Zone enhance our offer.

The Centre

We are proud of our longstanding and strong partnership with a local Special school, welcoming young people into mainstream classes and activities. Our unique provision incorporates a permanent base. The Centre is a beacon of excellence for inclusion both locally and nationally.







Kindness and Respect for others

We celebrate Kindness and Respect through our Positive Choices recognition system, Student Wellbeing Ambassadors and Community Kindness Ambassadors work with adults to ensure kind behaviour in the college.

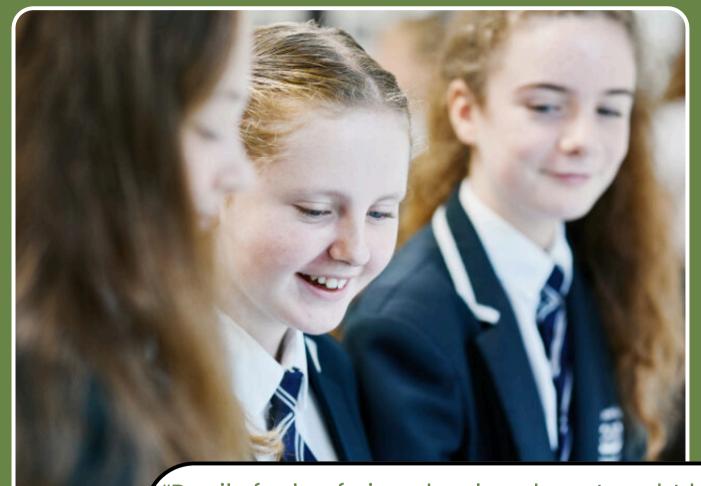
Bullying is taken seriously and dealt with promptly.

Safeguarding

The safeguarding of our students is paramount and is at the core of everything that we do at Thomas Estley.

Our safe guarding team are on hand to offer support when required.

We teach all students about the importance of keeping themselves safe through lessons, assemblies, theatre productions and in liaison with the Leicestershire Police.



"Pupils feel safe in school and are taught how to stay safe.

Bullying is rare.

Pupils are able to identify different types of bullying. Most say

they have an adult to talk with if they have any concerns.

They are confident that any issues would be resolved."

Ofsted - January 2019





THE OAKS TEAM









Mr Ahmed
Unit Lead Teacher



Mrs Horrex
Higher Level
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Riley-Rheeders
Learning
Support Assistant



Mrs Rhodes
School Councillor



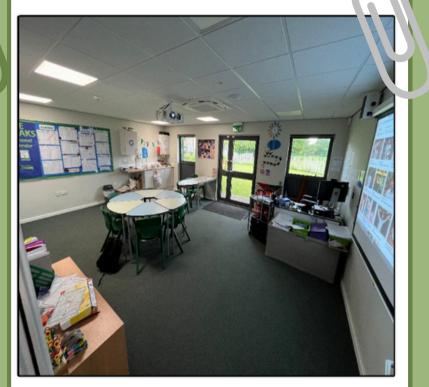
OUR PROVISION



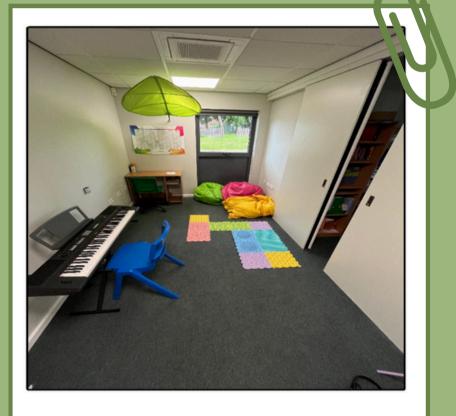




Classroom 1



Classroom 2



Sensory Room



Oaks Garden

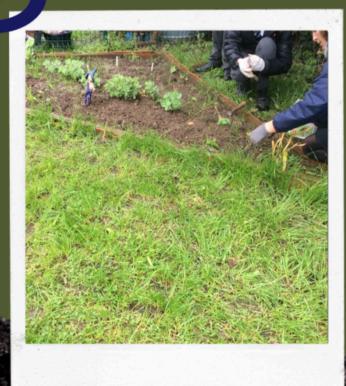


The Oaks garden









The pupils in the Oaks have continued to do great work in making the garden a lovely space for everyone to enjoy. It's been fantastic to see the flowers that they planted earlier in the year start to flourish and bloom. The pupils have taken great pride in their community gardening project and have taken on some of the responsibility for maintaining it, mowing the grass and weeding the flowerbeds when needed!

They have also made some improvements to the overall look of the garden. Students from Y10 ASDAN have been helping by putting up screening around the fences and planting bamboo along the edge of the perimeter so the garden feels more enclosed. Now with the weather starting to improve, we have been using the garden as a place for students to blow off some steam, work or have some quiet and calm in the middle of a busy school day. We look forward to making the most of it over the summer term!





SUCCESS ACADEMY TRUST

Success Academy Trust is a multi academy trust providing learning for children and young people aged from 2 to 16 years, including primary and secondary schools as well as preschools. We focus on improving school performance, while building leadership and character together.

We are passionate about the power of leadership and character development to maximise life chances, to build wellbeing and confidence, and to equip our young people, whatever their background, ability, interest or need, to make a positive difference in their local community and beyond. We believe that alongside great academic results, this focus ensures that our children will grow to shape the world around them, to make it a fairer, kinder and better place to live in. We believe that our focus on Building Leadership and Character together for both children and adults makes us a special place to work and to learn.







CONTACTUS

Please contact us or if you require more detailed information -



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