



West Heath School

DEFINING THE FEE STRUCTURE

2024/2025



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Introduction

West Heath School is an Independent Special School set up specifically to support vulnerable children for whom mainstream schools were unable to meet need due to significant and complex needs. Our designation is SEMH difficulties and our cohort includes children and young persons with significant mental health difficulties, High Functioning ASD, and co-morbid diagnosis.

The varying needs of this cohort impacts upon their ability to engage with their academic and personal development. West Heath School has created a number of different learning environments and approaches to education to enable the broadest cohort of learners to successfully access provision and support to make learning possible. However, we have identified that a small number of learners need a significant uplift in the levels of support and on this basis our provision now incorporates an area for our most vulnerable students who may have significant mental health difficulties, (HEART). HEART differs from the main part of the school in that it is an even more nurturing environment with a higher level of support. Many of our HEART students join us directly from psychiatric hospitals.

The Residential provision is fully connected to the school's Vision, Mission and Values. Our purpose is to support students to make progress with their learning in its widest sense, including academic, personal and social learning. We particularly focus on enabling students to develop their skills for life and independent living skills. The residential experience and environment play an important role with our students learning and development.

Standard Placement

KS2, KS3 & KS4: £61,152

For the majority of our students, West Heath follows the same programme of study as a mainstream environment. The opportunities and choices students have are aligned with mainstream schooling. This ensures that inclusion and opportunity are aligned with the spirit and focus of the Children and Families Act (2014). What we do differently is often unseen, with a seamless integration of therapeutic interventions embedded within the classroom environment and teaching pedagogies. Our range of studies is also adapted to allow for social development alongside that of academic, with bespoke programmes of study (e.g. Self-Science) taking a lead role in reflecting social responsibility as a core aspect of personal development.

Where a specific therapy has been identified within a student's EHCP, and their diagnosis and levels meet our entry criteria, then this is provided as part of the standard provision. All students have access to our therapy team. If interventions are identified, and short sessions of a particular therapy are required to support a student pass a particular hurdle; this falls within our standard fee structure and will be implemented once it has been established with professionals and parents that this is the right course of action.

There is also a degree of flexibility we take to supporting students, with a range of approaches to support access to education and ongoing personal development. This can range from a bespoke timetable to attending courses offsite, educated within different environments, following different approaches. Students may attend any of the following provisions:

- Skills for Employment, Rusthall
- Equilearn Horse Therapy, Edenbridge
- Able Skills, Dartford
- Inspire Me Horse Riding, Sevenoaks
- Skills School Bus, Rusthall
- Challenger Troop, Sittingbourne
- Willow Farm, Yalding
- Box Fit, Sevenoaks

Sixth Form: £54,746

Provision:

College Placement:

Our standard provision for Sixth Form is based at one of our partner colleges. Working primarily with Hadlow College and North Kent College, we provide a supported transition back into a mainstream environment. For those students studying with us on this basis, we would expect to see transitioning to independent study in a mainstream environment, or to the world of work the. A general overview of provision is as follows:

- Course fee
- Access to West Heath tutor
- Independent travel training
- Equipment and additional course costs
- Access to weekly counselling in college or offsite
- Access to school-based therapies if identified on the EHCP
- Support in completing course assignments
- Scaffolding relationship development with college staff and college peer group
- Support with meeting the challenges of a Mainstream college environment in relation to needs identified in EHCP
- Work experience
- Core subjects where appropriate

We work with other small independent providers where appropriate:

- SupaJam, Education in Music and Media, Swanley
- TEAL, Oxted
- Able Skills, Dartford
- TLT Academy London, Bromley
- Beechwood Sacred Heart School, Royal Tunbridge Wells
- Sackville School, Hildenborough
- Skills for Employment, Rusthall
- Mid Kent College, Maidstone

Standard Placement with Additional Support (£61,152 + £23,762)

KS2, KS3 & KS4: £84,914

Students who require additional support will normally be identified after placement with us. This is for those students who are struggling to fully meet the demands of even a Special School environment, with reduced class sizes and specialist intervention already in place. The additional support will ordinarily be that of a One-2-One Teaching Assistant, who will work with the student when needed, whether this be in academic subjects, vocational learning and/or social times. They will be put in place when a high level of intervention is needed, ordinarily to ensure a level of engagement, keeping the student and/or others safe or to maintain the general focus of the cohort without a detrimental effect from one person.

Sixth Form with Additional Support (£54,746+ £23,762)

Sixth Form Yr 12,13,14,15 : £78,508

Sixth Form students requiring additional support may study with West Heath at one of our college partners. Requiring ongoing support in meeting the challenges of an educational environment and / or facing continued difficulty with the social world around them; our additional support students will be working toward achieving the qualifications they require to follow the pathway or career path of their choice as well as focusing on the challenges to working independently in a mainstream environment.

College Placements with the provisions as set out on Page 5.

HEART – (Mental Health Provision) – Standard Placement + HEART (£61,152 + £34,944)

KS3, KS4 & Sixth Form: £96,096

For our students whom Mental Health acts as a barrier to accessing their education we have created a bespoke 'independent' unit / school environment. Based in a separate building, HEART, is a bespoke suite of rooms that enables students who are unable to meet the demands of even a specialist placement, to engage in their learning and make steps toward meeting the challenges which are acting as barriers to being active participants to the social aspects of their daily lives. This allows young people for whom their mental fragility has been a barrier to accessing education, to become reintegrated into an educational setting, to build resilience and to have the confidence to meet challenges within their lives.

Most lessons can be contained within the department, with subject teachers delivering core and broader curriculum subjects. Access to therapists and professionals is fluid, with senior professionals having an active involvement in the education of students working within this area. Each student is allocated a Key Worker (please note this is not a 1:1), who will be given dedicated time to ensure close and effective liaison between all those involved in the young person's care and support. Prompt access to specific therapeutic support from the Therapy team is available as and when necessary. Social times can be spent here, and personal and independent living skills can also be taught in this area, allowing for all aspects of learning and social scaffolding to take place in an environment where students feel safe and secure.

Students working within our HEART department are continuously evaluated and moved toward becoming active members of the whole school cohort. Provision is reviewed at the Annual Review unless substantial developments have been seen, where an additional review will be organised. Our older students have a choice of transferring to our 6th Form to attend college if they are ready; alternatively, we offer BTECs (Levels 2 and 3) in Art/Textiles, Creative Media Studies and ICT on-site.

Residential Placement

KS3, KS4 & Sixth Form: £41,350 (Supplement)

Residential Boarding is situated within our Colt Village at West Heath School. Residential Boarding consist of 5 bungalows and 22 beds capacity when full. Aiming to provide a happy family atmosphere, West Heath School welcomes boarding students between the ages of 10 and 20 years. The boarding at West Heath is rather unique. Boarding staff are a purely pastoral team and not actively involved in the day-to-day teaching of lessons, separating a busy day in the classroom from 'home'. That said, the boarding team have strong links with all academic staff to ensure seamless support.

Residential placements are very much part of a 24 hour curriculum approach. Our residential students learn independent living skills as part of their ongoing development, the aim being to provide them with the skills to live independently in the future. Our boarding houses are set up as students' homes, and follow a routine you would ordinarily find within the average family environment.

Each student will be living in one of the houses that we think will be best suited to their needs, they will have their own room which they are able to make their own, and giving them a quiet space to retreat to. Each house runs independently, usually with the same staff member called the House Manager, who develops a care plan catered to each individual student to support their needs. The House Manager will also keep regular contact with parents / guardians.

Each student is encouraged to develop independent living skills such as budgeting, shopping and cooking as well as to participate in daily activities to develop social skills and friendship circles. West Heath Residential offers daily activities such as swimming, sports clubs, art, music and film club. Students are supported in arranging activities specific to their own interests, building upon areas they are likely to take forward into their adult lives either as an ongoing hobby or career.

Education goes beyond the school day, with clubs and activities in the community, selected by our students, in order to provide the best opportunities for continued development. Residential students have access to school facilities late into the evening, including the swimming pool, tennis courts and music room. Our residential students have access to an on site Youth Club, where there is a home cinema, IT Suite and where the Student Boarding Council and workshops are held.

HEART Residential Placement

KS3, KS4 & Sixth Form: £65,113 (Supplement)

Albeit our HEART education provision support students who have directly joined us from psychiatric hospitals, our residential provision is not set up to meet the needs of high-risk students discharged from psychiatric hospitals and secure settings as we are not a CQC regulated provider. Our residential provision is not a step-down psychiatric hospital for discharged mental health patients. The residential provision admission criteria do not accept prospective students with high-risk needs (pseudo-seizures, loss of consciousness, suicidal risk, suicidal ideation risk, schizophrenia/psychosis/ severe personality disorder, cutting, ligatures, overdose, ingestion, etc.) discharged from psychiatric hospitals who require health care and mental health support. We may consider children and young people with 2 years clear since their last admission into a psychiatric hospital with clear evidence of reduced level of risk.

The HEART students we accept through our admissions often display the same characteristics and vulnerabilities in the residential setting as they do during the school day. In order to ensure that a continuity of placement is adopted, with support being put in place at every possible touch-point; our HEART residential placement will allow for additional staffing to be in place to scaffold development and to help maintain a safe and inclusive environment for all students. This may involve the individual student receiving additional support, being encouraged to follow activities where scaffolding learning around individual interests is possible.

Fees Summary

West Heath is a registered charity. As a charity our finances are in the public domain, as well as our service being evaluated by independent companies and Local Authorities as good value for money. With this continued openness and transparency in mind, our fees relating to additional provision and HEART provision are easily explained.

Standard Placement

Key stage 2, 3 & 4:	£61,152
Sixth Form:	£54,746
Residential	£41,350

Additional Support: KS2, KS3 & KS4,

<u>Sixth Form</u>	+£23,762
Additional LSA support	

HEART – Mental Health Day Placement: **+£34,944**

Key Worker support

All HEART staff either have, or are in the process of, obtaining a LEVEL 3 NVQ in Mental Health

Additional contact with Therapy team

Interventions devised by Therapy Team

All provisions overseen by a Chartered Child and Adolescent Psychologist

HEART Residential: **+£65,113**

Additional Support from Residential Staff, (trained in social care), in the form of enhanced staff student ratios and opportunities for additional support when require