



LOCAL AUTISM AND SOCIAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE Y6 TRANSITION NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the first Y6 Transition newsletter October 2020.

In this newsletter we will introduce ourselves, provide you with some questions to ask prospective high schools and provide links to St Helens high schools and those on our borders. We understand that this is a difficult time for many of you as you try to decide on your child's next school, at a time where you are unable to visit and the only option is a virtual tour of the school.

When filling out the admissions form you need to **name 3 high schools** for your child and send the form back by **31st October**.

<https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/schools-education/school-admissions/secondary-schools/>

Meet your LASCs team



Lisa



Julie



Michelle



Adel

We are the LASCs Specialist Support Workers; working together with schools, families and children to support those with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder or social communication difficulties.

In St Helens high schools are fortunate to have access to a variety of services from the local authority including LASCs who provide advice, guidance and support to them, their children with ASD and their families. We work in a variety of ways, focusing on individual needs; supporting your children in their mainstream schools, ensuring they can access the curriculum, make friends and become independent young adults.

When choosing a high school for your child, make sure that you have read the secondary education booklet on the St Helen's council website and follow the advice given regarding choosing 3 mainstream schools, even if you are requesting a specific school through the EHCP process.

Gather as much information as you can about your chosen schools to enable you to make an informed choice.

When considering a school, it is worth finding out about the school's experience, provision and resources for children with similar needs. Talk to the SENCO and find out about how they will communicate with you and your child. Ask specific questions like the ones below.

Future newsletters will provide you with more detailed advice and support

COMING SOON!

We are holding an online question and answer session - look out for more details!

Questions to ask

In addition to the Core curriculum (English, Maths and Science) what other subjects do you offer?

What does the schools pastoral support look like, how does it work?

Do you have a SEN base and how many teaching assistants do you have to support children with SEN across the school?

Will you access support from the local authority or any other external agencies to support my child's needs?

Do you differentiate work to support my child, if needed, and can you give me some examples of what this would look like?

What strategies do you use to support children with ASD and social communication needs?

How are children with SEN being included into school life?

What have previous children with SEN achieved and/or gone on to achieve?

St Helens School contact details

LASC worker for the schools below adelfoxall@sthelens.gov.uk

Cowley International College www.cowley.st-helens.sch.uk 01744 678030

De La Salle High School www.delasalle.st-helens.sch.uk 01744 20511

Rainford High School www.rainford.org.uk 01744 885914

LASC worker for the schools below lisabaker@sthelens.gov.uk

Haydock High School www.haydockhigh.org.uk 01744 678833

Hope Academy www.hopeacademy.org.uk 01744 671930

LASC worker for the schools below michellecunliffe@sthelens.gov.uk

Rainhill High School www.rainhillhighschool.org.uk 01744 677205

St Augustine's Catholic High School www.staughs.org.uk 01744 678112

LASC worker for the schools below juliecross@sthelens.gov.uk

St Cuthbert's Catholic High School www.stcuthberts.com 01744 678123

The Sutton Academy www.thesuttonacademy.org.uk 01744 678859

Brychall High School www.byrchall.wigan.sch.uk 01942 728221

Here you will be able to access any virtual tours of the schools. Information regarding the school vision and ethos, curriculum, after school programmes, pastoral support and SEN information is available to read. School policies will also be on there and a message from the headteacher.

Schools can refer to LASCs and have details on current criteria for support from the service.

email address: SchoolAgeTeam@sthelens.gov.uk

Visit: <https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/send/support-services/local-autism-and-social-communication-service/>