



Thornhill
Community
Academy

A School • A Family • A Community

ASC Specialist Provision

Additional Information

Excellence TOGETHER



Mission: “Thornhill Community Academy values its students, staff and community, celebrates diversity and ensures all students fulfil their potential.”

Vision: A School . A Family . A Community

A School

The Academy is, first and foremost, a school and will remain faithful to the true values of what a school should be. We will offer the very best education possible to ensure every student achieves his or her potential in a safe, stimulating and purposeful environment.

A Family

Every member of the Academy family has a significant part to play in our successes. The Academy is committed to ensuring students, staff and parents work together effectively, sharing each other's successes.

A Community

The Academy will strive to offer students a broad, balanced and rich curriculum which promotes fairness, cohesion, cooperation and community spirit.

We want to ensure our students and staff are proud of the community to which they belong and work hard to improve the life chances of everyone in it.

Specialist Provision

The provision provides an educational base for students with complex communication and interaction needs, primarily autism spectrum conditions (ASC). We have 20 places in the provision which are allocated by the local authority. The Provision was recently renovated creating a purposeful and calming environment for our most vulnerable students. Students based in the Provision have access to a kitchen, sensory room and chill-out room as well as low stimulus classrooms.

Our large team of specialist teachers and teaching assistants work closely with our students and their families/carers, to enable us to meet their needs and develop their social and emotional skills. All staff have specific training in ASC with a focus on de-escalation strategies and SCERTS.

Students from the Provision access a differentiated timetable based on their current needs and ability to access mainstream. The support they receive and the amount of time they spend in mainstream is reviewed regularly and can be altered at any point to offer tailored interventions to meet the students' particular needs.

Below is a list of some of the interventions and support we offer as a Specialist Provision:

Intervention/Support	
Access arrangement testing	Laptop use
Extra curricular enrichment activities	PDA Interventions
Anger management	Personal handling plan
Daily Support Sheets	Personalised timetable
Mentor system	Speech and language intervention
CAMHS referral	Single Assessment
Change of placement request	Study skills support / interventions
Daily check-in	Pupil Progress Tracker
Dyslexia screening	Referral to School Nurse
Dyslexia intervention – Toe to Toe	Rewards card/system
Dyslexia overlays	Risk assessment
Dyslexia – coloured exercise book	Safe space
Family support	SALT referral
ASC Outreach and In-reach	Student 1:1s
Handwriting intervention	SCERTS intervention
In-class support ETA	Supported P7s in RP & mainstream
In-class observations	Social, communication intervention
OT programmes	SULP
Visual timetable	Social stories
Visual environmental cues	Time out card / visual passes / intervention

Over their time with us, students access a range of tailor made schemes of work which match with their developmental stage and support them to grow the life skills required to go on to successful Post-16 placements. Examples of these schemes are shown below:

Schemes of Work	
Anger Management	Money basics
Shopping and Money	My Autism and Me
Traditional Cooking	Plan Shop and Cook
Managing Change	Road Safety
Cooking Easter Treats	Sensory Integration
AQA Qualifications	Social use of language
Art	Talkabout Friendship
Confidence in Conversation	Team Work Skills
Dealing with emotions – anger	Year 7 Sulp
Dinosaurs	Curriculum Day Board Games
Facing your fears	Curriculum Day Top Trumps
Games	Post 16 and careers lessons
Honesty	PSHCE & Citizenship lessons
Inference	Study Skills Lessons
Reading and inference	Write from the start
Life Skills	

Prospective parents are welcome to visit the Provision. Tours of the Academy and Provision can be made by contacting Sarah Summersall-Frith (Teacher in Charge) on 01924 487733.

Outreach

As well as supporting colleagues and students at TCA, we also offer support around ASC to other local secondary schools. This can be through:

- 1:1 work with specific students
- Sharing of ASC specific resources
- Training on ASC for staff
- Training sessions held at TCA
- ETA visits to TCA to see strategies in practice
- Support through the EHCP process
- Support for transition into Post-16

We are also responsible for the Y6 transition for students with ASC moving to local high schools on the North Kirklees side of the authority.