

# Just Learn Aims and Ethos

Just Learn is an Independent School for students aged between 11 to 16. We are an alternative provision provider facilitating a curriculum to learners who are not in mainstream education, have got special education needs, need a smaller more nurturing setting or have been in receipt of an EHCP. We operate on several sites; one dedicated to educating girls, one that is a pupil referral unit and one for pupils who speak English as an additional language. Our provision accommodates predominantly learners within various London Boroughs. We provide education for: learners who are on respite from mainstream schools and other alternative provisions, Key stage 3 learners requiring a nurturing programme, girls only at a separate site for learners requiring a nurturing environment and education for EAL learners at a satellite site.

Pupils arrive having experienced disjointed education and often with a lack of indicative data. Benchmarking of all pupils on entry to the school gives an indication of their starting points and are well below national averages. Prior attainment is significantly low. Individual pupil progress, relative to that starting point, is monitored and evaluated constantly. Severe gaps in learning and emotional literacy are addressed through individualised learning programmes.

Our aim is to actively work towards student reintegration into their mainstream school or reintegration into their next appropriate step. The objective of our interventions is to move the student to a level, socially, emotionally and educationally, where they are better placed to achieve academically. We provide opportunities for pupils to follow accredited courses including GCSE and Functional Skills.

Our vision and strategic direction of education focus on a holistic approach to learning which is broader than examination results and targets as well as recognises the provisions' role in developing responsible citizens and an effective workforce. This includes personalising learning: Personal Development Plans and Individual Learning Plans, supported by Care Plans. Pupils receive bespoke support and guidance to meet their very often complex needs. All are allocated a key worker who is available to discuss their various social and academic options. Each term, there is a review date set for each learner. We are working towards a policy of no exclusions through using the tools of conflict resolution and rewarding learning by building relationships based on high expectations and choice.

The learning experience of all our pupils focuses on supporting them to achieve more, through integrated educational pathways. As well as developing curriculum-based skills; young people will be encouraged to celebrate their own progress with acquiring skills such as listening and sharing ideas through discussion. Our curriculum is supplemented by a wide range of specialist workshops, events and trips.

Our school has an inclusive ethos that supports the learning and wellbeing of all pupils. We provide a restorative experience of education within a structured and safe environment. Teaching staff and teaching assistants' model positive relationships and there is an emphasis on the development of language and communication skills and a focus on social and emotional behaviour.

Some children have an increased risk of abuse, and additional barriers can exist for some children with respect to recognising or disclosing it. We are committed to anti-discriminatory practice and recognise

children’s diverse circumstances. We ensure that all children have the same protection, regardless of any barriers they may face, preventing the impairment of children’s mental health and physical health. We strive to ensure that children grow up in the circumstances and environment consistent with the provision of working together to safeguard children.

### **KS3 Provision and All Girls group KS3 and KS4**

Both provisions at Just Learn Independent School is a means of supporting mainstream schools that have identified the need for additional intervention for students who require additional support outside a mainstream environment.

### **This provision is the only all girl’s intervention in the London Borough of Merton.**

The aim of both these provisions/interventions are to provide a restorative experience of education within a structured and safe environment, adopting a “nurture” style of education. The objectives of these provision’s aim:

- to actively work towards student reintegration into their mainstream school or reintegration into their next appropriate step
- to move pupils to a level, socially, emotionally, where they are better placed to achieve academically
- the learning experience focuses on supporting them to achieve more, through integrated educational pathways promoting trust, communication skills enabling young people to grow in confidence and self-esteem

### **EAL Satellite Group**

We have developed our curriculum for young people who are new arrivals to the UK in year 11 with limited English with care, considering their life experiences and needs.

The curriculum is designed to provide students with a platform for their next steps. English and Mathematics is of the highest priority. The learning programs are academic, vocational, flexible and personalised, meeting the needs of individual students.

We reward learning by building relationships based on high expectations and choice.

Overall, the school is designed to support learners to want to achieve and do well. The school environment focuses on pupils’ achievements and not only their academic skills but also their social, moral and cultural development to understand and prosper within society.

**Just Learn Independent School is committed to supporting learners in “building the pathway to their future.”**