

Cornerstone's Offer

Cornerstone Alternative provision will be the latest addition to join the Youth Engagement Trust. The provision will build on the success of The Fermain Academy who recently was graded as an Outstanding School for Alternative provision in their recent Ofsted inspection. Inspectors stated that since the school's inception, leaders and governors have worked together to establish a thriving school that realises their ambition to re-engage pupils who have disengaged from education. Underpinning the school's success is leaders' infectious passion for changing pupils' lives.

Cornerstone's Vision

Cornerstone AP aims to help every primary school re-engage their most disengaged children ultimately preventing any child from reception to year 6 in Cheshire East receiving a permanent exclusion. Our key focus is to help children make a successful return to full time education or where this is not possible help identify the best forms of provision to meet a child's specific needs.

What we do

We are here to help you, help your cohort working with primary aged children who are at risk of exclusion to enable them to return to full time education by helping children:

- + Build positive feelings of self- worth and resilience
- + Develop their communication skills
- + Foster positive attitudes to family and society
- + Develop a range of life and social skills
- + Identify personal feelings and coping strategies
- + Make increased academic progress

Our setup

From January 2019 there will be one new provision in Congleton, with another site opening in September situated in the Crewe area. These sites offer early intervention allowing children to overcome their barriers to learning.

Our offer

We will work with children on a Cornerstone site, for a period of time, generally over a six to twelve-week period, although this timeframe is flexible and is tailored to the needs of each child. Assessment places will receive a bespoke package based on need and further assessment timelines. We are further supported in our work by a range of professionals including an Educational Psychologist, SENCo and Family Support Services.

From referral, identified children are observed and assessed in their home school by a member of the Cornerstone team.

We always endeavour to tailor the curriculum to children's individual needs. Though core literacy and numeracy along with Outdoor Learning is embedded in our focused practise, this in turn develops vital skills needed to engage in a wider curriculum as well as helping the children to learn and value cooperation, team-building, trust and friendship.

Both the **Congleton** and **Crewe** sites will provide 10 places to provide further intervention from reception children up to the age of 11 in year 6. Students at these sites will have bespoke timetables and be supported through a range of whole group work, small group work and 1-1 sessions. All schools must show evidence that they have employed strategies and where ever appropriate linked this to the SEN toolkit strategies as well as have specific evidence such as personalised learning plans / behaviour plans and or plan, do, review cycles as well as any other supporting evidence. Once referred and placement agreed, a member of the Cornerstone team will visit the child in school and speak to school staff and a home visit will also take place.

Three places in each provision will be specifically for needs assessments, helping students who are at imminent risk of permanent exclusion and where alternative provision has struggled to engage the child. For a child to access an assessment place they must also be on the EHCP pathway with two plan, do review cycles or have undergone a significant trauma which is detrimental to their ability to access mainstream education.

Moving forward it is envisaged to open a third site in the Wilmslow Area. Once the three sites are in operation traveling time for children will be reduced and there will be capacity to work with up to 28 children at any one time.

Costs

£250 per child, per week for academies, £200 per child, per week for maintained schools + transport; there is no longer any need to supply a teaching assistant or member of staff until the time of transition back to the home school. Supplying a member of staff at this point will allow successful strategies to be shared so they can be implemented back at the home school.

Outreach

School support - Cornerstone offers outreach in terms of behaviour management advice and techniques, training and behaviour audits.

Home support – Cornerstone offers advice and support in the home from a support worker, helping parents and carers with practical advice around behaviour and routines in the home.

Transition

Towards the end of the placement we require a member of staff from the sending school to attend Cornerstone to understand the process the child has been through understand the strategies used and working ideas to ensure a smooth transition back to school.

Referrals to Cornerstone will need to come directly to the Head of Cornerstone:

Damien Sweeney – Head of Cornerstone Email – head@cornerstoneap.org