**About us**

**Working in a hospital special school and close liaison with the NHS Trust**

Working in a hospital special school can be very different to working in a mainstream school but there are also many similarities. We want to ensure a safe and effective learning environment for all students and staff and for all learning activities to be meaningful and enjoyable. We encourage close working with the Trust to ensure that the students remain the central focus for us all.

**Cloughside College**:

* Mission Statement: ***Inspiring young people to achieve a brighter future***.
* A college where, together, we aim to provide the very best education for our students, taking into account their mental health needs.
* A secondary (11-19) co-educational school for young people admitted to the two adolescent units situated within the Greater Manchester West Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, on its Prestwich site.
* The College is a Group 3 (Hospital) Community Special School, and is administered by Bury Council’s Children, Young People and Culture Department.
* All of the students have mental health diagnoses and are referred to Prestwich Hospital for medical, psychiatric care with some sectioned under the Mental Health Act 1983.
* The two units are Junction 17 and the Gardener Unit. They are located within close proximity of each other and, whilst the college staff may mix and work on both units, the students cannot.
* The students come from a very wide geographical area, predominantly from the North of England but also nationwide. Lengths of hospital stays can vary widely so there is have a high turnover of students, more so on Junction 17 but also on the Gardener Unit.

Staff must adhere closely to our own and Trust policies and procedures since our school is located on the hospital site. We are keen to work closely with Trust staff and ensure effective collaborative working e.g. through the daily handover, ward reviews and CPA (Care Program Approach) meetings.

Staff must wear their identification badge at all times and ensure that they have their keys secured safely in an approved pouch, on a belt loop, in use for security. This will have been covered as part of the key induction for the Gardener Unit but also applies on Junction 17.

Trust fire procedures must also be adhered to for both units and, if there is ever a fire drill or actual alarm (see also: Fire Safety Review document). The Fire Wardens are a named person on each unit for the college plus the security nurses on duty at the time. College staff are responsible for the students in their care/ in their close proximity at any given time.

We encourage good practice to be shared between college and health staff and beyond. Effective working relationships have already been established in many areas. Cloughside College staff ensure that they are positive ambassadors for the school and represent the College ethos and values consistently.

**Staffing Structure Cloughside College
(members of the Senior Leadership Team or SLT are identified in bold)**

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