

Meldreth Manor School

Supporting severe and complex learning difficulties



About Our School

Meldreth Manor supports children and young people age 6-19 years who have highly complex learning difficulties and is one of the few schools in the country that also supports young people with complex health needs and associated difficulties. These may be as a result of conditions such as cerebral palsy, acquired brain injury, degenerative conditions or autism requiring a specialist approach.

Key Information

- **Placements:** 38 week day, up to 52 week residential, short breaks
- **Age:** 6-19 years
- **Gender:** Mixed
- **Location:** Meldreth, Cambridgeshire

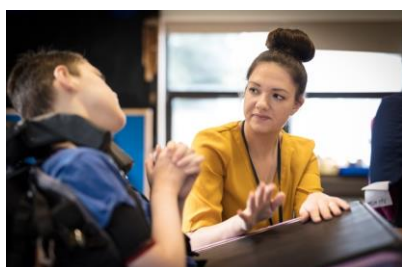
Young people may have multiple disabilities, including sensory and physical impairments and benefit from the specialist facilities which are designed to meet their needs. The highly skilled team of teaching, care and clinical staff take a holistic approach that considers physical, emotional, social, medical, sensory and therapeutic needs within an educational context and across the waking day.



The support provided enables each young person to engage and progress at their own level within a living and learning environment that is all about enriching individual lives and helping everyone to achieve their full potential as they reach adulthood. Our aim is quite simple, to empower young people to grow in their own unique and inspiring way.

Facilities

The school provides day placements for 38 weeks of the year and the children's home offers flexible residential placements for up to 52 weeks of the year, including weekly boarding and shared care arrangements or residential care placements for young people accessing other local schools. Short breaks are also available for a small number of children who are looking for overnight stays during term time and in the holidays at a caring and homely facility able to meet their complex needs.



Set within 14-acres, the site provides creative spaces for living and learning which are currently undergoing a multimillion pound redesign and refurbishment to include interior designed living areas, upgraded school, a new hydrotherapy pool and landscaped gardens with a multi-use activity area. There will be a café and hub in the front of the school, providing opportunities for young people to undertake social enterprises including running the café and events.

The service provides:

- High staff ratios
- Small classes of up to six students
- Hydrotherapy pool
- Rebound therapy
- Multi-media room
- Multi-sensory areas
- Individual learning areas for break out time and quiet time
- Therapy including physiotherapy, speech and language and occupational therapy
- Nursing support
- Accessible site with hoisting throughout

Education

All students access the IMPACTS curriculum. This is a needs-led curriculum that focuses on the key areas of communication, cognition, physical development, environmental control technology and personal, emotional and social wellbeing which includes self-help and self-advocacy skills. Our curriculum is personalised around the needs and the starting points of our students, recognising their individual strengths and abilities. Each class has students grouped with consideration to their sensory needs, cognitive understanding and compatibility.

We aim to provide students with memorable experiences and stimulate them through the activities they undertake – the goal is to promote self-esteem and personal independence for all our students, who have complex learning difficulties and may have accompanying physical disabilities and medical needs.



Every student has personalised targets. These are referenced and reviewed regularly by staff, who are skilled in breaking down common learning themes into discrete activities, which enable students to work towards and achieve their personal goals. Teaching staff work as part of a multidisciplinary team together with therapists and learning support assistants to develop strategies to deliver a meaningful, appropriate and personalised curriculum.

This approach is enhanced by the imaginative use of a variety of interesting and appropriate resources and the environments they learn in - from the rich experiences of sound, colour and touch in the sensory room, through to visits at the local garden centre, physical work in the hydrotherapy pool or during energizing rebound therapy. Regular trips provide opportunities for students to experience the local and wider communities and put their life skills into practice.

Enterprise activities are also explored by students and have included Meldreth Manor Apple Juice using the fruits of the orchard and creating handmade greetings cards.

Residential

Meldreth Manor is also a registered children's home and provides flexible accommodation designed to meet the needs of the children and young people. The extensive refurbishment programme will provide highly desirable themed rooms and a vibrant yet homely space in which to live, whether throughout the year or just occasionally if undertaking a short break.



Our care team is passionate about ensuring that every individual is happy, healthy and well supported to meet their individual needs, embracing their abilities and nurturing them to make choices about the lives they want to live. Developing friendships, exploring new and favourite interests, taking advantage of the many opportunities for after school and social activities are all part of life at Meldreth.

Supporting the complex physical, sensory and health needs of children and young people is crucial to maintaining good health for young people so they can access education and take part in their daily activities. Skills include delivering personal care and medications, posture management, managing epilepsy and other conditions.

Houses have spacious living/dining room with TV, games and eating areas and individual bedrooms with a mix of bathing facilities and hoisting throughout for safe and easy movement for those with physical conditions. For those that can eat orally, fresh food is prepared daily by our chef and a variety of tastes and diets are catered for. We encourage families to visit regularly and are able to offer limited family accommodation, which is also undergoing a makeover.

Contact Details

Aurora Meldreth Manor School
Fenny Lane
Meldreth, Royston
SG8 6LG
Tel: 01763 268 000

Email: Meldreth.Manor@the-aurora-group.com
Website www.the-aurora-group.com

Head of Education: Janis Rogers
Head of Operations: Denise Grayston