

*Specialist education services in Asperger's Syndrome
(high-functioning autism) and complex needs*

Stratford Lodge

Post-16 provision for Grateley House School

Mixed gender | 16-19 years | Up to 38 weeks | Day placements





The Cambian Group is one of the largest providers of specialist services in education, health and care for children and adults in the UK. We provide services for over 2,400 individuals across 250 services; we work with 140 public authorities and employ more than 6,000 people.

Although our work embraces many specialist disciplines, it is united by a common purpose: To actively enable each and every one of the people in our care to achieve their personal best; however it is defined by them or for them.

Everything we do is directed towards achieving this aim.

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Stratford Lodge

Welcome

It is a privilege for me to lead and manage Stratford Lodge, a residential centre which offers post-16 education services to students at Grateley House School.

Stratford Lodge offers further educational opportunities for students unable to access mainstream education after completion of their compulsory schooling. We provide an environment geared to meet the needs of young people with Asperger's Syndrome and similar conditions. We work very hard to support a diverse range of needs.

We appreciate that choosing a post-16 residential centre may be a difficult experience. We will do our best to make this transition as smooth as possible, ensuring our young people feel safe, secure and comfortable in their new surroundings.

Once you have read our prospectus I would encourage you to visit us. This will be an opportunity to have your questions answered, meet with students and staff and gain a greater understanding about Stratford Lodge.

Sue King
Executive Principal



Student profile

Achieving their personal best

Cambian has a history of delivering 'Outstanding' education and care for students with Asperger's Syndrome or high-functioning autism and other associated needs.

Stratford Lodge is a 38-week residential and day centre offering supported education and guidance to post-16 students at nearby Grateley House School. Students have a diagnoses of Asperger's Syndrome or high-functioning autism and associated conditions.

The provision of a waking day curriculum has a very significant effect on the whole ethos of this school, and students gain a tremendous advantage having staff to support them when they are not in class.

Above all, students thrive at Stratford Lodge, and enjoy the learning experience.

Student profile

- ✓ Mixed gender, ages 16-19yrs
- ✓ Primary diagnosis of Asperger's Syndrome or high-functioning autism and associated conditions
- ✓ Complex needs and associated challenging behaviour
- ✓ Often multiple exclusions and placement breakdowns
- ✓ A history of school refusal and periods of time out of school
- ✓ May have experienced previous admission to a CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) inpatient unit
- ✓ Specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia and dyspraxia
- ✓ May have ADHD, Tourette's syndrome or similar conditions
- ✓ Issued with a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) or Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)





Our approach

Dedicated to each and every student

Our work is based upon understanding the ability of the student to manage academically, socially and emotionally as an individual, part of a group and part of their family.

The school's approach to behaviour change is positive and non-aversive. The teaching styles and strategies are developed with Asperger's Syndrome / high-functioning autism in mind and are very much led by the needs of the students.

The curriculum is tailored to individual needs and it is supported by Individual Education Plans (IEPs). These plans allow each student to have access to a challenging, broad, relevant and differentiated curriculum that is designed to be Asperger's Syndrome / high-functioning autism friendly. Importantly, they form the basis of the four-way partnership between the student, school, family and local authority.

Therapeutic services

Stratford Lodge makes use of the therapeutic services and the crisis prevention intervention framework. The therapeutic services approach ensures difficulties are detected and allows students to receive support as needed.

Our overall aim is for our multidisciplinary team to work alongside the care and

education teams, enabling students to overcome their difficulties and promote their individual strengths.

Students are supported by:

- ✓ High staff ratio of between 1:3 and 1:1
- ✓ On-site therapeutic team
- ✓ Weekly personal tutor sessions

The school day provides opportunities for academic, personal and social skills to be developed. Full use is also made of resources in the local environment.

Our educational programmes allow individuals to engage and participate in activities such as shopping, sports, swimming, horse riding, social skills, library visits and country walks.

Every member of staff is dedicated to help all students achieve their potential through a personalised curriculum. This approach is designed to assist the students develop academic, social and life skills that will enable them to achieve the maximum amount of independence in their adult lives.

Our specialist team:

- ✓ Specialist teachers
- ✓ Teaching assistants
- ✓ Residential staff / keyworkers
- ✓ Speech and language therapists
- ✓ Clinical psychologist
- ✓ Consultant child and adolescent psychiatrist
- ✓ Cognitive behaviour therapist
- ✓ Occupational therapists
- ✓ Massage therapist
- ✓ School nurse
- ✓ Dietician

Therapeutic services

Specialist interventions for students

Our therapy team contributes to our therapeutic environment through staff training, support and personalised intervention for all students.

Tailored AS-friendly environments

Classroom layouts are flexible, allowing for individual needs. There is plenty of room for students who perform better alone and equipment can easily be arranged to accommodate those who thrive on collaborative approaches to learning.

Holistic approaches

Stratford Lodge has access to a full range of qualified clinicians accommodating for students’ individual clinical needs.

Training in life / work skills

Work related learning gives our students real life experiences in the local community. This develops not only their working skills but also self-esteem, confidence, team work and communication skills.

Curriculum flexibility

We allow for all types of learners and all abilities, entering students for qualifications ranging from Entry Level and Level 1 courses right up through to GCSE, Level 3 equivalents and AS level.

In the first 3 months of a student joining Stratford Lodge, they are assessed by the multidisciplinary therapy team. In addition, students can be referred for further individual therapy appointments throughout their time at the school. Following an assessment, an individualised programme will be developed. Sessions will take the form of a 1:1 with the therapist, indirect sessions via the key worker and teacher, and group sessions with a selected peer group.

Appointments with therapists are confidential, however parents will receive feedback alongside other aspects of their schooling, and will be aware that their son or daughter is receiving support. Telephone appointments can be made with therapists, and there is an opportunity to meet and talk with them at our annual consultation day or by individual appointment.

Students may suffer from additional mental health disorders such as anxiety and depression. These students are given the opportunity to attend sessions with therapists. Where students struggle

to engage with the therapy team, care can be provided indirectly through the care and education staff and local services. Our overall aim is to work alongside the care and education teams to allow students to overcome their difficulties and promote their individual strengths. In addition, the therapy team devise and implement anger/anxiety management programmes through 1:1 and indirect work with the students.

Each term, a student has an education review meeting with staff members who are closely involved in their care. This meeting is an opportunity to discuss a student’s overall care, education and therapy needs.

Speech and language therapy (SaLT) aims

- ✓ Assist students to use their existing communication skills effectively.
- ✓ Enable students to develop and learn new functional communication skills.
- ✓ Support students to develop their social integration skills with an increased ability to consider the thoughts and feelings of others.

Occupational therapy services aims

Occupational therapy supports young people to meet a wide range of needs in:

- ✓ Sensory difficulties.
- ✓ Life skills including personal care, food preparation and eating, domestic skills and independence skills.
- ✓ Coordination of the arms, legs to allow actions such as running, crawling, and swimming.
- ✓ Self-regulation to improve concentration and management of emotions.
- ✓ Organisational skills.

Psychology service (including clinical psychologist and cognitive behaviour therapist)

The psychology service is integrated within the school’s multidisciplinary service and works jointly with psychiatry, occupational therapy and speech and language therapy, nursing to deliver a service that is holistic and collaborative dependent on each individual student’s needs.

Aims of this service:

- ✓ Promote emotional health and well-being.
- ✓ Support the individual to develop positive and more secure relationships.
- ✓ Promote positive behaviour.
- ✓ Encourage individuals to learn and employ appropriate coping strategies to regulate their behaviour and support their own emotional wellbeing.

- ✓ Support individuals to make their own treatment decisions and act as an advocate for them when necessary.
- ✓ Support those that care for these individuals to reinforce positive behaviour and promote emotional wellbeing.
- ✓ Develop environments and a culture that promotes positive behaviour and emotional wellbeing.
- ✓ Deliver regular training to staff teams, supporting them to promote positive behaviour and emotional wellbeing.



Teaching and learning

A varied and fulfilling education

Vocational opportunities, work experience, careers education and guidance, and mainstream college access are a strong element of post-16 provision.

Curriculum

At Stratford Lodge we aim to provide consistent, diverse, enjoyable and structured learning opportunities through a waking day curriculum, seven days a week.

We understand that not all young people with Asperger's Syndrome / high-functioning autism will learn new skills at the same pace. Our curriculum caters for students with a wide range of needs regardless of the speed of their progress.

We offer one, two, and occasionally three year programmes (usually two years) for students with Asperger's Syndrome and associated conditions.

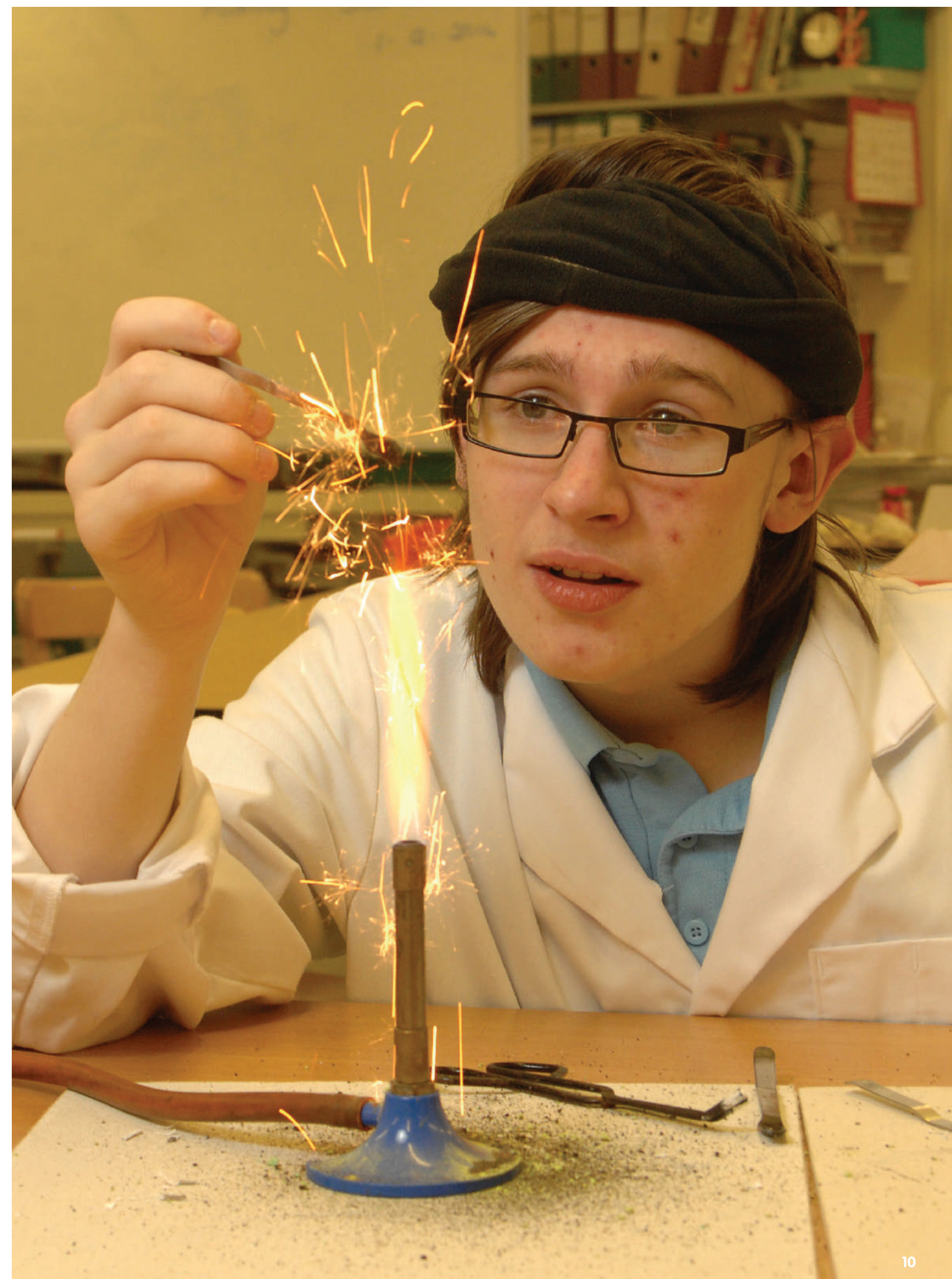
We believe that our students are entitled to a curriculum that is characterised by breadth, balance, relevance, differentiation and progression.

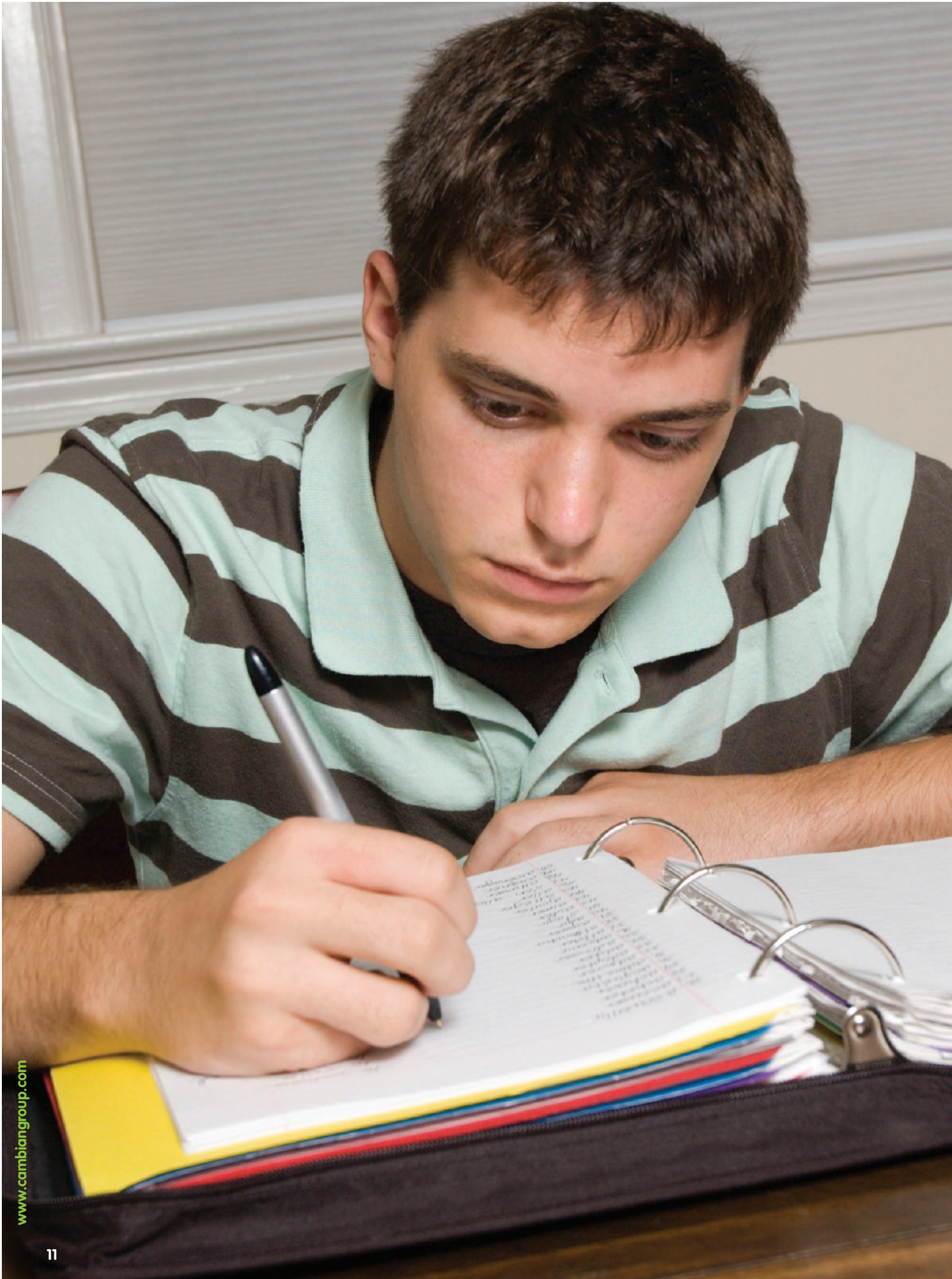
Personalised approach

The curriculum followed is broadly based on the statutory requirements of the new national curriculum, but the delivery of subjects is adapted to meet the very particular needs of our students.

Our curriculum offers a range of options that can lead to accreditation and qualifications. There is also an opportunity for students to undertake work experience where appropriate. Where possible the school places students with local employers and works with partner organisations to ensure the suitability of placements.

Consistent teaching and learning takes place over a longer period than in mainstream day schools. Class groups are small, allowing for individual programmes of study. Alongside the formal curriculum, behaviour management strategies and the development of social skills are also an integral part of every lesson on the timetable.





Qualifications and achievements

Ensuring progress

Our students make good progress in all aspects of learning, whether it's social, emotional, behavioural or academic.

We offer a range of qualifications, including:

- ✓ GCSEs
- ✓ ASDAN qualifications
- ✓ Information Technology Qualification Level 1 and 2
- ✓ AQA Unit Awards
- ✓ Entry Level
- ✓ Functional Skills
- ✓ Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- ✓ Cycling Proficiency
- ✓ Sports Leaders Award
- ✓ ASA swimming and gymnastics
- ✓ Sailing RSA Certificate

Access to local colleges

We enable students to access a local college to gain nationally-recognised qualifications. At the same time, we encourage independence and the motivation to take greater responsibility for actions and decisions.

These qualifications include:

- ✓ AS/A levels
- ✓ Hair & Beauty

- ✓ Equine Studies
- ✓ Land Based Studies
- ✓ Computer Literacy and Information Technology
- ✓ Catering
- ✓ Music Technology
- ✓ Health & Social Care
- ✓ Outdoor Pursuits
- ✓ Public Uniform
- ✓ Services and general foundation programmes (Skills for Life).

In addition to academic attainment, students are provided with the opportunity to develop their full personal potential in the following areas:

- ✓ Physical health and wellbeing
- ✓ Independence, life skills and self-help
- ✓ Social acceptability
- ✓ Communication skills
- ✓ The development of relationships with adults and peers
- ✓ The ability to make informed choices
- ✓ Intellectual development and problem-solving

- ✓ Spiritual, moral, social, cultural and emotional fulfilment
- ✓ Positive self-esteem, self-awareness and self-confidence
- ✓ Leisure and self-occupation skills



Our environment

A home away from home

Stratford Lodge is situated in the cathedral city of Salisbury in Wiltshire, surrounded by a beautiful landscape.



Stratford Lodge is a mixed gender large Edwardian house with nine single study en-suite bedrooms in a family group setting. Students share communal living rooms and a dining room and have access to a games room and a small, networked ICT suite.

We can accommodate up to twenty one places in our post-16 provision, comprising nine at Stratford Lodge and a further twelve places in a two house base in Grateley. The houses are run as individual communities under a team manager and assistant team manager. There are several care staff attached to each house base, but students have their own personal tutor.





Family contact

Supporting students and their families

Our aim at Stratford Lodge is to work in partnership with parents and siblings to create an environment where families feel supported.

Access to staff

We understand that families may be anxious when their son or daughter joins a new school. All parents and carers have access to members of staff that are involved in the education and care of their young person, including our therapy team. We welcome questions and are happy to provide advice to help parents. Residential staff also provide a weekly report to parents and carers.

The therapy and care teams are an important link for families. They are available to offer practical support to parents in transferring strategies from school to home and management of challenging behaviour in the home environment. Appointments can be made with members of the therapy team to discuss individual needs.

Keeping in touch

We encourage students to maintain close contact with their families, supporting them in remembering family birthdays, and special or seasonal occasions.

They are also encouraged to regularly contact their families and are given support to email, text and phone them as often as possible. Students also benefit in receiving mail and calls from parents and their wider families. This enables the students to feel they have a continuing role in, and knowledge of, family life.

Two-way support

We operate an open door policy for parents who are welcome to arrange visits with the school at any time. Telephone can be a crucial link, as well as email communication and/or Skype. We have a firm commitment to two-way support and openness of attitude where partnership with parents is concerned, and we involve families in care, target-setting and individual programme content, to achieve a greater degree of consistency.



Case study

AT's Journey

A student's story



When we first met AT

AT arrived at Grateley House School, which caters for our younger students, and had a primary diagnosis of ASD; ADHD, PDA. In KS3 and KS4 the initial constraints of a formal curriculum caused him to present with challenging behaviour. Teachers had to be incredibly flexible and creative in order to sustain his placement at the school which remained at risk until the end of KS4.

AT's progress

AT was disappointed with his GCSE results but was fortunate enough to be funded to remain at the school and move into post-16 provision at Stratford Lodge. The following year can best be described as his 'breakthrough' year. He responded to the disappointment of his GCSE results with a change of attitude which resulted in him achieving qualifications that enabled him to go to college. The option to choose his own pathway and access a mainstream college for A-Levels resulted in exceptional achievement including an A*GCSE.

AT's care

The care which AT received was focused on developing his confidence and improving his social communication skills. He established a good, trusting relationship with the staff which benefited his overall progress. AT was educated on what life would be like living with Asperger's Syndrome and was taught coping strategies which put him at ease. AT's time at Grateley House School and Stratford Lodge has inspired him to embrace his education and set goals.

Today

AT has enjoyed two successful years at college and developed sufficient life skills to live independently on a student budget. He has also passed his driving test which has given him new levels of independence.

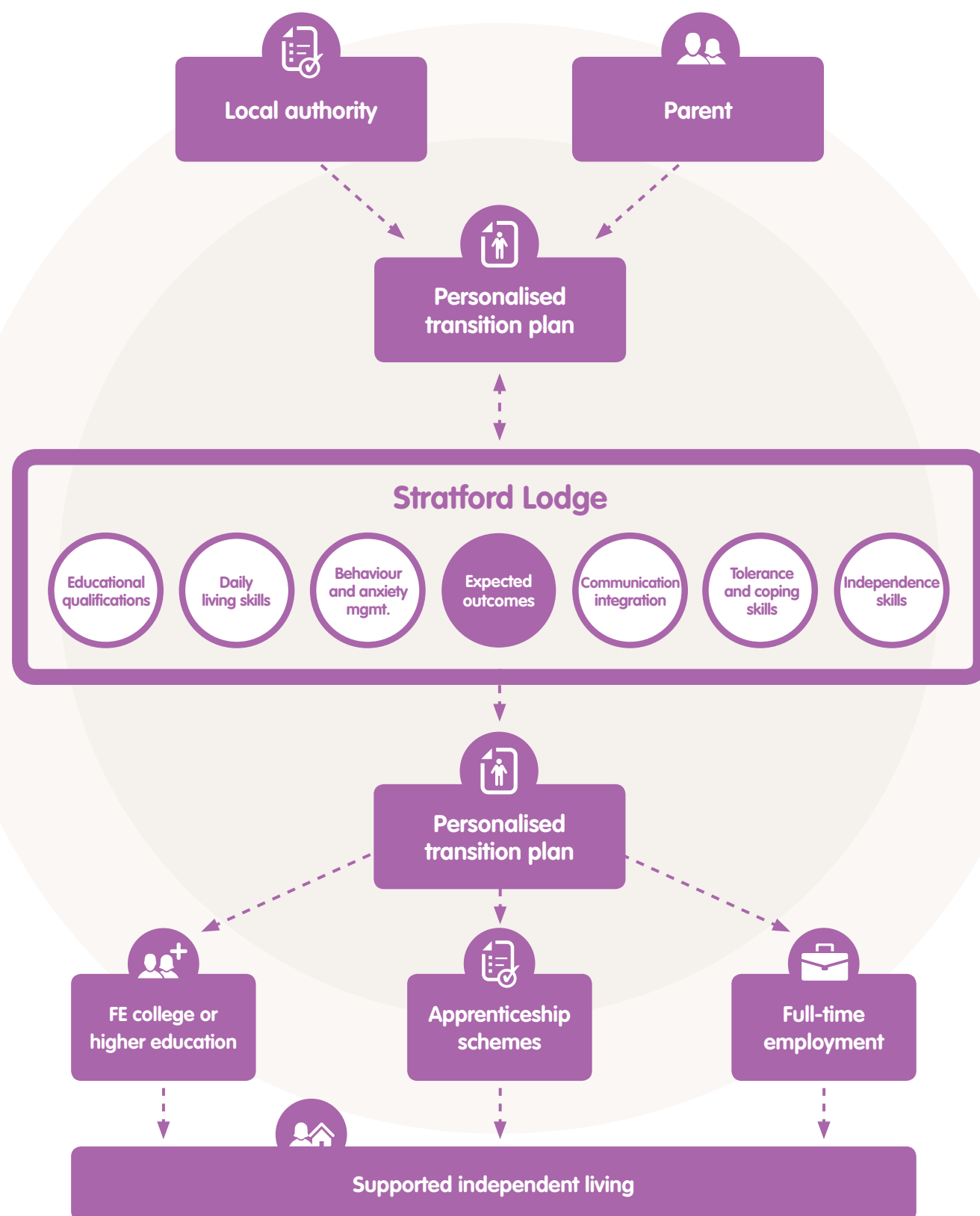
What is the future like for AT?

AT has now gone on to take a degree in Art and Design at university after completing his A-levels at a local mainstream college of further education. After years of many ups and downs, AT's parents thanked the school for his transformation and "giving us back our son".

*Name has been changed to protect his identity.

Transition pathway

We focus on developing education, life and vocational skills that support a successful transition into adulthood.



Community links

Opportunities in and out of school

It is important to ensure our students are supported to live in the community and not just in their education setting, so every opportunity is taken to teach in real-life situations.

Interacting with the community

We aim to provide plenty of opportunities for our students to be included in life outside of Stratford Lodge, while still allowing them to remain in their comfort zone. Students are given a range of experiences within the area and contact with the local community is an essential part of our weekly routine.

Students are encouraged to take up small jobs internally in the kitchens and some find themselves part-time jobs locally. The school has links with local religious communities, and arrangements can be made for students who wish to attend their own denominational churches and places of worship.

Opportunities to become involved in community projects are provided throughout the year, such as local fêtes, competitions, Red Nose Day, Children in Need, Remembrance Day, and other festivals and events.

Extra curricular activities

Opportunities are available locally for students to join clubs and successful links have been forged with the following: sailing club, golf club, a football club, athletics, youth club, riding schools, drama club, trampolining and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. At weekends, activities take place further afield and visits to the New Forest and the south coast beaches are always popular.

Students participate in independence training in the community, teaching them how to go off site into town and make safe use of public transport, local amenities and shopping centres.

Statford Lodge is at the very heart of our local community. It has built excellent links with local businesses and leisure facilities, offering work experience, learning opportunities and life skills.



Admissions

Securing your child's future

For more information on Stratford Lodge and our staff, and an in-depth look at our curriculum, services, outcomes and approach, visit www.cambiangroup.com.

To discuss a placement in confidence, call us on **0800 138 1184** or email education@cambiangroup.com.

We understand that choosing the right school for your child can be a difficult decision. To support this process we have parent liaison officers available who can offer further support and guidance on how we could be the right school for your child. We encourage you to visit our school to meet students and staff, as well as find answers to those questions not easily answered in this prospectus or on our website.

To initiate the assessment process, local authorities and/or children's services departments make formal requests for a placement. Parents should involve their local authorities at an early stage. This ensures that visits by local authority educational psychologists or other professionals can be arranged to ascertain the appropriateness of the school for each prospective student.

Prospective students are initially assessed in their own settings to determine whether Stratford Lodge may be the right placement; these assessments are conducted free of charge. Information gathered during this visit is added to that

made available by local authorities, other placing bodies and parents, such as a statement of educational needs plan or an education, health and care plan.

Throughout the admissions procedure, the student is kept at the centre of the process. We believe it is unhelpful for the prospective student to see the school before the initial assessment, as it can be a disruption or a disappointment if we ultimately feel we cannot meet their needs. Sometimes this strategy is changed, however we always work in partnership with the local authority and parents/carers to determine the best way forward. Following the assessment and review of reports, the head teacher is then able to make a decision as to whether Stratford Lodge is the right placement for the prospective student. The majority of students are referred and placed by their local education authorities, often supported by children's services and their health colleagues. There are cases in which some students are privately funded.

Additional information

Our policies can be requested by contacting us on 0800 138 1184 or by emailing education@cambiangroup.com.

Safeguarding statement

The parents of students at Stratford Lodge should be aware that the school has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of their students. This responsibility necessitates a safeguarding policy and the school may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child's welfare. This policy on child protection is in accordance with the locally agreed inter-agency procedures and Hampshire Child Protection procedures. The policy also complies with guidance from the DfE and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The school recognises it is an agent of referral and not of investigation.

Anyone can make a referral to children's social care, if necessary. The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) for the school is Rebecca Heath and the deputy DSL is Nicky Docking.

Complaints procedures

We know there will be times when students, carers, parents or placing authorities will want to give us feedback about our school and we will always be happy to hear from you. If you feel that you would like to make a suggestion, let us know about

something you were pleased with, or tell us we did not meet your expectations, please contact the school via the contact details at the back of this prospectus. A complaints procedure allows for both formal and informal complaints.

Informal complaints will be dealt with quickly, while formal complaints can be made in writing. Our full complaints policy is available from the school on request. This policy is designed to help you raise concerns and ensures your complaint will be listened to and dealt with fairly. Should you wish to take your complaint further or if you feel you are unable to discuss the details with the school, please contact the director of education via the contact details at the back of this prospectus, especially if your complaint relates to the school leadership.

The proprietor

The proprietor can be contacted at the following address during both term time and holidays:

The Cambian Group, The Waterfront, 4th floor, Waterfront, Chancellors Row, Hammersmith, London, W6 9RU.

Telephone: **0800 138 1418**
Email: education@cambiangroup.com



Stratford Lodge



How to find us

By rail

Stratford Lodge is located just 1.5 miles away from Salisbury railway station.

By car

Stratford Lodge is located just off the A345, which links to the A36 and A303.

To receive an application pack or to discuss a referral in confidence, please call us on **0800 138 1184** or email **education@cambianguroup.com**

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