

# Specialist further education college

## Cambian Wing College, Dorset

- ✓ Asperger's Syndrome
- ✓ High-functioning autism
- ✓ Complex needs
- ✓ Mixed gender, 16-25 years
- ✓ Day and up to 52-week residential 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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# Welcome

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Welcome to Cambian Wing College, an independent and specialist further education college for young people aged 16-25 with high-functioning autism and complex needs. Many of our learners display challenging behaviour and may also suffer with mental health conditions that impact their ability to achieve their potential.

The college is located in Bournemouth, a vibrant local community in Dorset. All sites are within easy reach of fantastic beaches, the New Forest and town centre tourist attractions.

Our role is to provide every young person with a study programme that meets their individual needs and enables them to reach their potential in all aspects of their life.

This is a place where our learners flourish - our absolute priority is to ensure each learner achieves their goals and leaves prepared for adulthood.

Young people come to us from across the UK and we are able to consistently provide excellent outcomes through our team of specialist education, care and therapy staff.

We provide a holistic experience that is personalised for every learner and we are so proud of their achievements.

We always welcome visitors and I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to come and see our work for yourself. Please do not hesitate to get in touch and I look forward to welcoming you.



Cassandra Pollitt  
Head of College



# What we stand for

All of the young people we work with face difficulties in everyday life as a result of their learning difficulties and associated mental health conditions; so we are set up to provide bespoke programmes that ensure they can experience appropriate and holistic support to improve their health and well-being, as well as their educational outcomes.

We are fully funded by the Education Funding Agency to deliver high-quality, bespoke study programmes\* for all of our learners.

Based on each learner's ability and ambitions, these programmes are designed to include a broad range of academic and vocational learning opportunities, alongside work based learning, enrichment and tutorial.

Overall, we aim to meet the four preparing for adulthood outcomes:

- Employment
- Independence
- Community Inclusion
- Health

\*All programmes include a focus on the development of English and maths skills at an appropriate level and achievements are accredited through a wide range of recognised awarding bodies.

## How we work

We recognise that learners with additional needs may require support that is not ordinarily available. With this in mind, teaching groups are usually no larger than six learners and support is provided by specialist education, care and therapy staff. All environments are carefully designed to provide the best possible sensory environment to encourage engagement and learning.

## Keeping in touch

We believe that our learners are most successful when their education is supported by their whole family, so we are committed to maintaining communication with parents on a weekly basis.

We take our learners' views into consideration at every stage and are dedicated to supporting their aspirations.



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# Admissions

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## Referrals

Young people are referred to us by their local authority, their school or their parents. Our dedicated admissions team will support every referral at each stage of the process to ensure that the right placement is agreed.

### The referral process has 8 stages:

1. Initial enquiry made



2. If suitable, the local authority and/or parent/ carer will submit the young person's EHCP and other relevant documents to the college



3. Admissions team from college will book the prospective student for an assessment



4. Assessments are completed and observed by educational, therapeutic and care staff



5. If assessment outcomes deem the prospective student suitable, a placement will be offered by the college



6. Local authority agree funding and terms of the placement



7. Pre admission meeting is held prior to placement commencing with parents/ carers, the young person and the local authority



8. New student starts their journey at Cambian Wing College

To receive an application pack or to discuss a referral in confidence, please call us on **0800 138 1184** or email [\*\*education@cambianguroup.com\*\*](mailto:education@cambianguroup.com)



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# Employment

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During their time at Cambian Wing College, our learners are encouraged to participate in work-based learning, supported internships and work experience placements as part of their study programme.

Learners take the confidence gained and skills learnt from their placements and transfer them, along with employer references, to increase the opportunities available to them after they leave college.

We have established strong links with local organisations and employers that support the college by providing community based learning, leisure, volunteering, social enterprise and work experience opportunities.





# Independence

All learners at Cambian Wing College are supported to develop their independence while they are with us. Part of every study programme will focus on the core skills of self-advocacy and independent living and we offer a wide range of support to develop learners' confidence in managing their own lives as they move into adulthood.

Some of the ways we do this include:

- Learner voice & student representatives
- Study skills
- Peer mentoring
- Independent shopping
- Money management & budgeting
- Travel training
- Independent cookery
- Personal care

## Learner voice

Learners are encouraged and supported to express their views on the things that are important to them via regular questionnaires, 1:1 meetings and group tutorial sessions with their education tutor, and personal care tutor.

Learners are involved in the decisions and processes that affect college life including staff recruitment. They also have access to an advocacy service and an independent listener who visits regularly.

## Student Council

The student council consists of elected officers and leads a whole college learner meeting every half term. The council then raises any suggestions or ideas with the senior management team.

They work to solve problems, influence and make changes in the best interests of the college. They also decide and drive the yearly fundraising focus.

*"I look forward to Student Council meetings. They give me an opportunity to get involved in what's going on at the college." - Learner*



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# Community inclusion

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An important aspect of our holistic curriculum is community inclusion – encouraging learners to develop a wide range of interests and supporting them to access the wider community as a young adult.

As part of the study programme, all learners are included in an individualised programme of practical life skills within real-life supported living and community environments - these activities are proven to be highly effective in increasing young people's confidence, self-esteem and employability skills.

## Enrichment

Additionally, our curriculum is supplemented by enrichment activities that enable learners to access the community and develop their social interactions in real-life contexts.

Some of the most popular activities include:

- Fundraising and volunteering
- Arts & crafts
- Sports & fitness
- Cooking
- Gardening
- Creative writing & poetry
- Nature & Fishing
- Music
- Outdoor adventure & camping
- Languages





# Health & wellbeing

Throughout their time at Cambian Wing College, all of our learners are encouraged and supported to develop and maintain healthy lifestyles, with a strong focus on good, sustainable physical and emotional health.

We support learners through a multi-disciplinary approach, utilising our specialist therapy, education and care teams to deliver programmes that ensure all learners take an active role in managing their own health and wellbeing.

## Physical Health

Our staff deliver regular individual and group sessions to promote good health and are available to answer any individual health queries. Diet and nutrition are regularly reviewed and physical activities are offered and encouraged as part of all study programmes.

Learners are supported to coordinate all necessary health appointments and staff monitor the general health of students and any medication requirements as necessary. All learners are coached in good personal care, sleep and hygiene routines.

## Emotional Health

To ensure a strong focus on positive emotional health, all learners follow a varied tutorial programme which includes themes that explore individual roles and responsibilities in different contexts - including topics such as:

- Substance misuse
- Keeping safe at night
- Alcohol misuse
- Cyber-safety
- Smoking
- Sex and relationships
- Vulnerability within the community
- Equality & diversity



# Therapy & clinical services

Understanding the individual needs of our learners is essential to supporting their development - we believe that a diagnosis of Asperger's syndrome or high-functioning autism does not predict behaviour, or dictate support requirements. Every one of our learners is unique and our positive approaches are embedded across education and our waking-day curriculum.

Our range of multidisciplinary therapies are delivered by a highly skilled and passionate team who work together to create a holistic, caring environment.

Our specialist team:	This team supports the delivery of:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Day Support Workers (Education)</li><li>✓ Personal Tutors (Care)</li><li>✓ Teachers &amp; Lecturers</li><li>✓ Speech and Language Therapist</li><li>✓ Occupational Therapists</li><li>✓ Holistic Therapists</li><li>✓ Assistant Psychologists</li><li>✓ Clinical Psychologist</li><li>✓ Psychiatrist</li><li>✓ Mental health practitioner</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Proactive approach to behaviour management through use of MAPA</li><li>✓ Anxiety management strategies</li><li>✓ Cognitive behaviour therapy</li><li>✓ Emotional management</li><li>✓ Positive communication environment</li><li>✓ Social interactions and social thinking groups</li><li>✓ Personal relationship support</li><li>✓ Sensory diets</li><li>✓ Alert programme</li><li>✓ Preparation for adulthood through individual roles and responsibilities groups</li></ul>





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# Care

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For learners who require a residential placement at Cambian Wing College, we offer a range of high quality detached homes in the local community, close to the coastal town of Bournemouth. Each of our homes is located close to the main college campus and all are accessible with strong public transport links.

All of our residential accommodation is regularly refurbished, with well-appointed single bedrooms that learners are responsible for and for which they hold their own keys.

Most rooms have en-suite bathrooms with showers and every house has a communal sitting room, separate dining room and large modern kitchen/dining areas.

All of the houses and the college campus have outdoor space that can be enjoyed by learners for relaxation and entertainment.

Our team of care staff are highly skilled in supporting learners within the residential setting and input to the waking-day curriculum, providing activities and enrichment during evenings and weekends.





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# Transition

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At Cambian Wing College all of our provision is designed to support our young people to achieve their long-term goals and meet the four preparing for adulthood outcomes:

- Employment
- Independence
- Community Inclusion
- Health

To achieve this, planning for transition begins as soon as a young person joins us, and is central to all aspects of our work.

Effective transition requires the active involvement of the learner, their family and all connected agencies to ensure the process is as smooth as possible. Our transition manager will work closely with each learner to listen to their opinions and to those of their family and other professionals.

Transition activities may include:

- Visits to the next placement so learners become familiar with the new accommodation, staff and local amenities
- Advice and guidance regarding choices of university or college
- UCAS applications
- Applications for student finance and accommodation
- Supported living assessments

