

Specialist education services in autism and complex needs

Cambian Spring Hill School

Mixed gender | 8-19 years | Placements for up to 38 weeks and 52 weeks





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 support more than 2,990 individuals across 286 services; we work with over 140 public authorities and employ more than 7,200 staff.

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.

- 03 Student profile
- 06 Our approach
- 07 Teaching and learning
- 10 Qualifications and achievements
- 11 Our environment
- 12 Family contact
- 13 Case study
- 15 Transition pathway
- 16 Community links
- 17 Admissions
- 19 How to find us

Welcome

Welcome to Cambian Spring Hill School situated in Ripon, North Yorkshire.

We are a day and full-time residential school meeting the needs of children and young people aged 8 - 19 who have autism, associated challenging behaviour, learning difficulties and communication difficulties.

We support students with a wide range of difficulties including complex needs supported by a therapy team.

The school provides education and care through a mixture of individualised programmes and a broad curriculum to learn, progress and work towards each student's personal best.

Learning opportunities are provided to facilitate personal aspirations, celebrate success and work towards a meaningful transition into the adult world. There is a focus on personal development especially of independence, social communication, community participation and engagement with employability differentiated to each student's needs and strengths. Students can access a wide variety of work experience opportunities to develop their practical skills including retail, horticulture, administration, construction, animal care and IT.

The school has a very strong range of clinical and therapeutic support on site which focuses on proactively supporting each student's complex needs. We provide an environment where multidisciplinary support is key to ensuring outstanding outcomes for our students.

I am passionate about leading Cambian Spring Hill School and alongside the team, we are committed to high standards and developing positive experiences for the children and young people we educate and care for.

I hope you enjoy reading about our school. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to get in touch or make an appointment to visit us.

Samantha Campbell

Principal



Achieving their personal best

Cambian has a heritage of delivering ‘Outstanding’ education and care for students with autism and associated needs.

Cambian Spring Hill School offers flexible placements for day, 38 weeks and 52 weeks for students of both gender, aged 8 to 19 years old. We have a rich and diverse population and our students typically have a diagnosis of autism and a range of other learning difficulties including behavioural, social, emotional, mental health and communication difficulties.

We support a wide range of young person's needs, from mild to severe learning difficulties and whose educational and behavioural needs require a specialist environment.

Student profile

- ✓ Mixed gender, ages 8-19yrs
- ✓ Primary diagnosis of autism and other related learning difficulties
- ✓ Complex needs
- ✓ Challenging behaviour
- ✓ Learning difficulties
- ✓ Often had multiple exclusions or placement breakdowns
- ✓ A history of school refusal or periods out of school
- ✓ Issued with a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN), Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or case handled by social care services





Our approach

Dedicated to each and every student

Cambian Spring Hill School consists of small class groups, creating a supportive and relaxing environment where students can learn and achieve their personal best.

We focus on engaging the student in learning activities that meet their needs and encourage participation.

Each student can increase in confidence and build self-esteem through the progressive achievement of realistic individual goals and targets.

Our Vision:

One community learning and living together, striving for excellence.

Our Mission Statement:

Cambian Spring Hill School is one inclusive community where we inspire each other to learn, achieve and work towards our personal best by providing opportunities that facilitate aspirations, success and excellence.

Our Values:

Equality, fairness, honesty, integrity, loyalty, positivity, respect and trust.

The provision of care is important as part of the residential element of the school and is important in developing skills in independence. We provide a friendly, coordinated and stress-free environment where each learner has the emotional and physical space to learn, grow, develop and achieve their personal best both academically and socially.

Student progress is supported by:

- ✓ Experienced and highly qualified teachers
- ✓ Trained learning support assistants
- ✓ Multi-disciplinary team including:
 - Psychology
 - Occupational therapy
 - Speech and language therapy
 - Other clinical disciplines as required

- Small class sizes
- High staff ratios in classes
- Dedicated on-site maintenance, domestic, administrative and catering staff



A varied and fulfilling education

We have a flexible approach to learning, personalising the curriculum and offering small teaching groups to meet students' learning needs and abilities.



Curriculum

At Cambian Spring Hill School we aim to provide consistent, diverse, enjoyable and structured learning opportunities through a broad curriculum.

We understand that not all young people with autism will learn new skills at the same pace and so our curriculum caters for learners with a wide range of needs.

We believe that learners are entitled to a curriculum that is balanced and relevant.

Personalised approach

The curriculum followed is based on the new national curriculum, but the delivery of each subject is adapted to meet the very particular needs of our learners.

The curriculum model emphasises the importance of key core subjects, whilst offering the full national curriculum. Our curriculum offers a range of options that can lead to external accreditation and qualifications. There is also an opportunity

for students to have work experience; these may be on or off-site. Where possible, the school places students with local employers and works with partner organisations to ensure the suitability of placements. We have a wide range of work experience placements that include horticulture, construction, retail, admin, IT, motor vehicle and animal care.

Class groups are small, promoting participation and engagement in learning and includes individual programmes of study if appropriate. Alongside the formal curriculum, behaviour management strategies and the development of social skills are also an integral part of lessons on the timetable.





Qualifications and achievements

Achieving meaningful 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 designed to suit their individual learning styles, including:

- ✓ Functional Skills in Literacy, Numeracy and ICT (Level 1 & 2)
- ✓ Cambridge Progression Pathways in Literacy and Numeracy (Entry Level, Level 1 & 2)
- ✓ AQA Awards in Science, History, Geography
- ✓ ASDAN short courses in Food Studies, General Studies, PHSE, Careers, Work Experience, Animal Care
- ✓ ASDAN Transitions Pathways, New Horizons and Workright (Entry Level)
- ✓ AQA Unit Award scheme



A home away from home

Cambian Spring Hill School is based on the outskirts of the city of Ripon in beautiful North Yorkshire with easy access to the Yorkshire Dales and seaside towns such as Whitby.



The school is set in 30 acres of spacious land surrounded by farm land and Ripon City Golf Club. The school is close to the city centre and students can take advantage of being close to the local community.

We have a range of accommodation including small houses, a range of small flats and larger homes. Each home benefits from communal lounges, dining rooms, bathrooms, kitchens and some bedrooms have an en-suite bathroom to meet individual personal care needs.

We have a multitude of areas in the school that are supportive to learning including:

- ✓ Large sports hall
- ✓ Sensory room
- ✓ Music room
- ✓ Ball pool
- ✓ Library
- ✓ ICT suite
- ✓ All weather outdoor playing surface
- ✓ Cycle track and selection of bicycles
- ✓ Trampoline
- ✓ Small animal care unit



Supporting students and their families

At Cambian Spring Hill School we believe that parents/carers know their child better than anyone, and we seek to work together in partnership.

Before a student's arrival with us, we encourage family visits to the school so that the familiarisation process can begin, not only with the buildings and surroundings but also with the staff who will be directly involved with their child's care and education. We understand that families may be anxious when their child starts at a new school so we are always willing to facilitate communication in a way that suits the child and parents/carers.

Parents/carers are encouraged to keep in close contact with the school to discuss progress and can contact any staff member via telephone or e-mail. To assist with this process there is a direct telephone line to each home to enable parents/carers to contact the school easily at weekends and during the evening. Parents/carers are always welcome to visit school and we invite families in for a range of school events.

The key worker and teacher are a central part of the communication process and are available to talk or meet with parents/carers when needed. Parents/carers are free to choose their preferred method of communication with their child, and the staff at school, and we do try to facilitate alternative methods such as Skype. We have web-cam facilities and encourage Skype calls between families and their child to maintain visual communication.



Case study

Paul's Journey

*A student's story from
Cambian Spring Hill School.*



When we first met Paul

Paul arrived at Cambian Spring Hill School with a history of placement breakdowns where he was unable to be taught with other peers due to his levels of challenging behaviours associated with his diagnosis of autism. He did not participate in regular educational activities, showed no interest in social interaction, and was aggressive towards others. He would disrupt classes, and cause damage, especially when he first arrived, not mixing with his peers and struggled to communicate appropriately with adults.

Paul's care

Paul's care concentrated on supporting him to understand his condition and how it impacted on his behaviours and attitudes. There was a strong focus on developing his social interaction skills, both in the school environment, the residential home and in the wider community. He developed mature and trusting relationships with adults helping him progress towards his full potential. The school's focus was to provide him with support in a holistic, structured environment with the objective to develop his emotional reliance, self-esteem and self-confidence. The support around him included regular contact with his home environment, access to stimulating activities and to expose him to situations where it was safe for him to learn. He has learned to cope with situations that challenge his perception, communication skills and social skills.

Paul's progress

Once Paul became re-engaged in education he progressed quickly and began to catch up on his expected attainment levels. As effective support strategies were implemented he flourished in the school. He was supported to develop

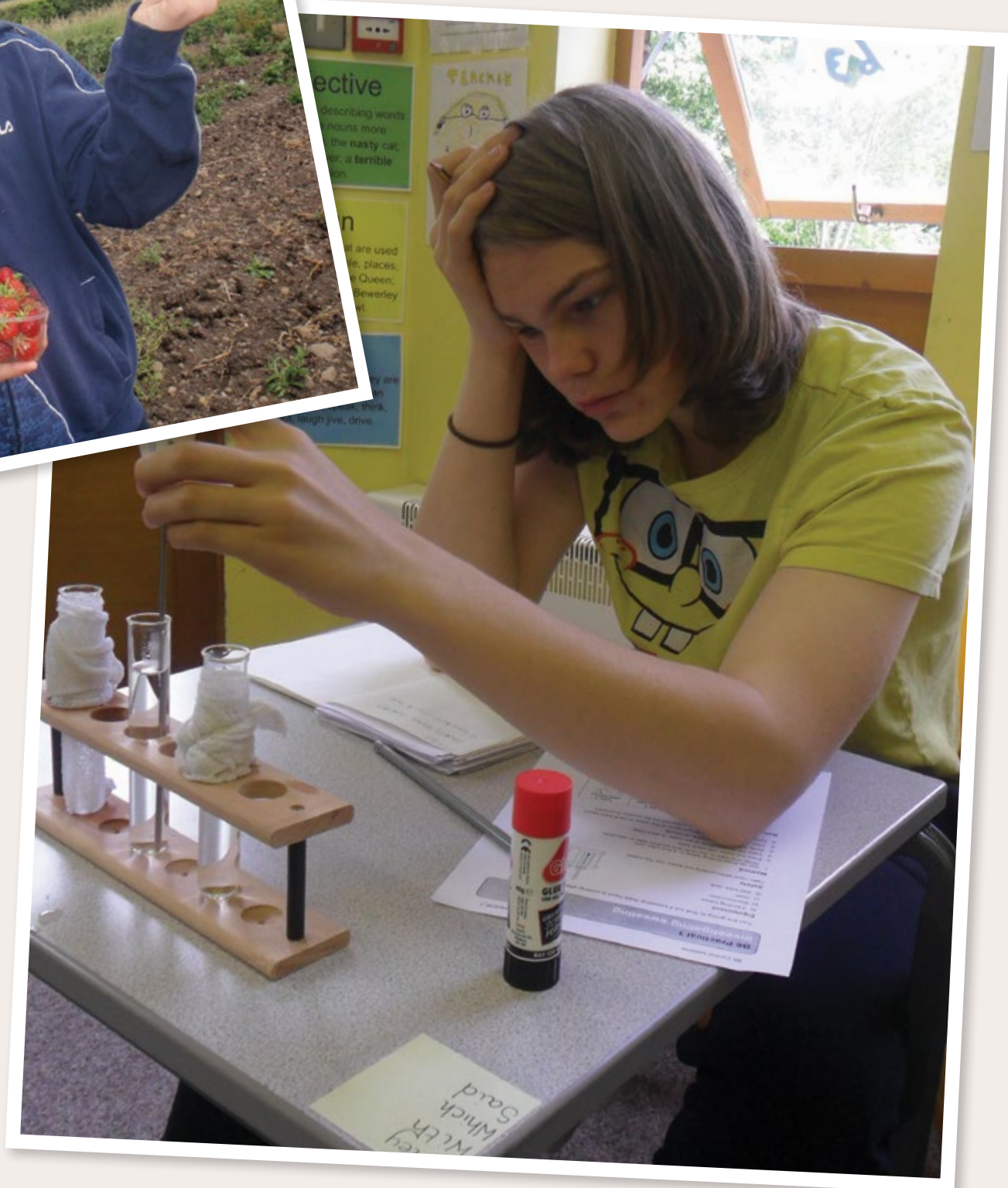
his strengths especially in English, maths, computing and technology. He began making accredited achievements at Entry Level and by the time he entered Post 16 he was studying towards Level 1 qualifications. He completed his Level 1 and Level 2 Functional Skills qualifications in English, maths and ICT and enrolled on a Level 1 Creative Media course at a local General FE College. We worked closely with the college on his support plans as he successfully completed the course and has now progressed on to a Level 2 course. The progress reports from his tutors and support staff at college were positive and he made a lot of new friends. Paul became the Student Liaison Officer at school and is a role model for all the other learners.

Today

Paul is now enrolled on a full-time course at a local General FE College studying towards a qualification in Level 2 Games Design. His career goal is to become a games designer. He is currently planning to move into a small supported living accommodation with the goal of becoming independent in the near future. Paul can access the community independently and can travel around the region using public transport without any support. He can organise and attend appointments independently, managing his domestic chores well, although like any teenager he still needs prompts to tidy his room!

What is the future like for Paul?

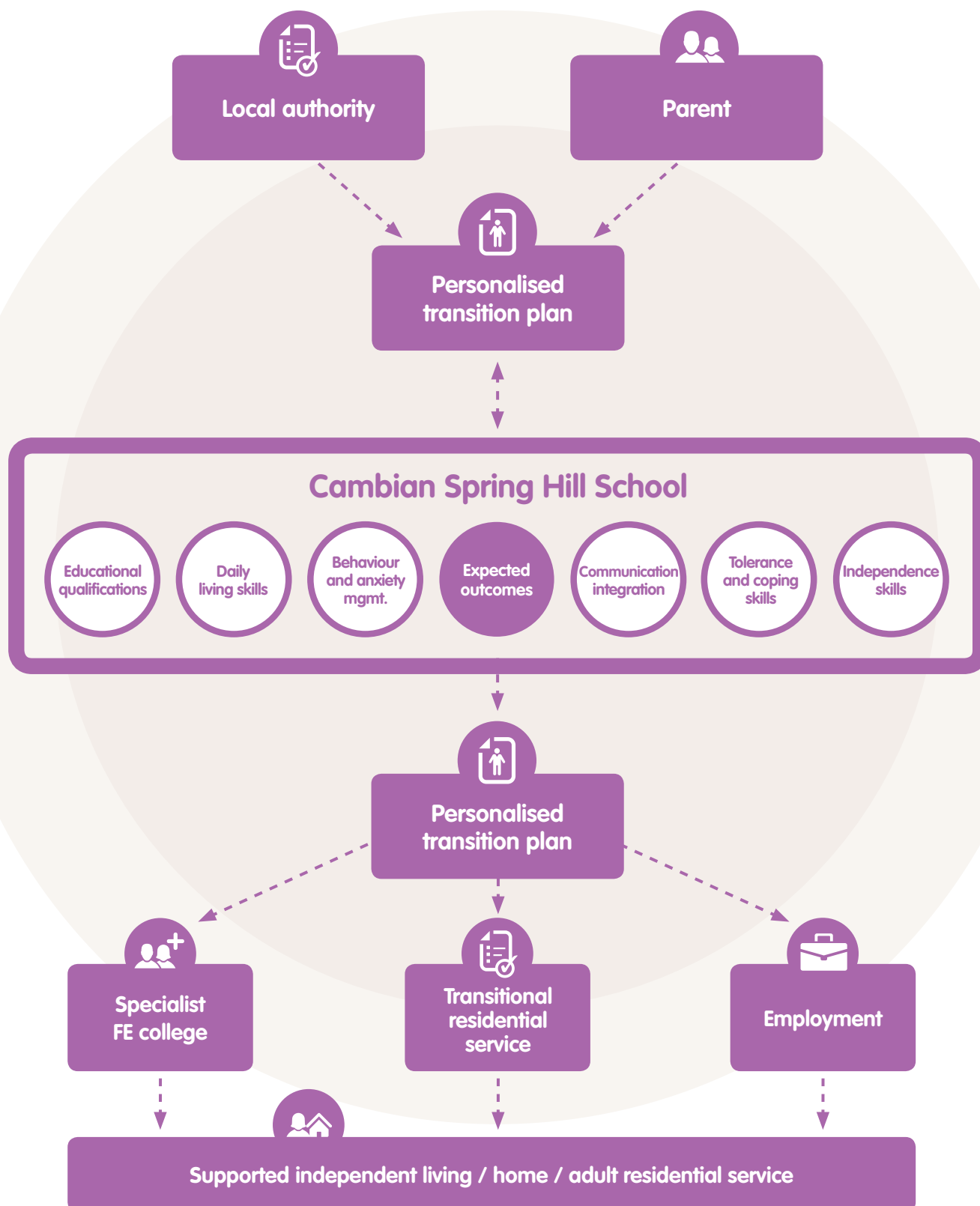
Paul is a confident and happy young man with a bright future ahead of him. He has learned to communicate with familiar and unfamiliar people in much more appropriate ways and has made friends. He has the skills to be independent and to move on into adult life without the need for constant support. He has the abilities and skills to problem solve by using positive communication and effective strategies.



*Name has been changed to protect student's identity.

Transition pathway

At Cambian Spring Hill School, we work closely with each student to determine the best pathway for them once they come to the end of their time at the school. Cambian support future care pathways that could include one of our specialist further education colleges (e.g Cambian Dilston College), or a move into a specialist residential service (e.g Cambian Broughton Lodge).



Opportunities in and out of school

One community learning and living together.

Interacting with the community

It is important to ensure that our students are supported to learn and experience life in the community and not just in the school environment, so every opportunity is taken to facilitate learning in real-life situations.

We aim to provide plenty of opportunities for our students to be included in life outside the school, while still allowing them to remain in their comfort zone. Students are given a range of experiences within the local area and these experiences are an essential part of our strategy to develop independence skills.

Extra curricular activities

Opportunities are available for students to join clubs and successful links have been forged with local golf, football, music, rugby and drama clubs as well as Scouts and a riding school.

Students also participate in independence training in the community. This teaches them how to go off-site into Ripon and other towns and make safe use of public transport, local amenities and shopping centres. The school has built excellent links with local businesses and leisure facilities, offering work experience and learning opportunities.



Securing your child's future

For more information on Cambian Spring Hill School, our staff, curriculum, services, outcomes and approach, please visit www.cambiangroup.com

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

Visit us

Choosing the right school for your child can be a difficult decision. We encourage you to visit us so that we can show you why Cambian Spring Hill School may be the right choice. This will also give you the opportunity to meet our students and staff, as well as explore our excellent facilities.

We have access to parent liaison officers who can offer further support and guidance about choosing the right school for your child. A visit would provide a good opportunity to find answers to those questions not easily answered in a prospectus or on a website.

Referrals

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

Referral paperwork 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 are read by members of the Senior Leadership Team and if they feel the school is able to meet the child's needs, he or she will be invited to visit the school to meet some of the staff and students.

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 Cambian Spring Hill School 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 healthcare colleagues.



Additional information

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

Safeguarding statement

The parents of students at Cambian Spring Hill School 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 North Yorkshire child protection procedures. The policy also complies with guidance from the DfE and North Yorkshire Local Safeguarding Children Board (North Yorkshire 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 Christine Sherman.

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 would like to make a suggestion, let us know about something you were pleased with or, indeed, if

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, upon 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 us via the contact details at the back of this prospectus, especially if your complaint relates to the school leadership.

The Proprietor

The Proprietor of the school, John Ivers, Chief Executive Officer, Children's Services can be contacted at the following address:

The Cambian Group, Metropolitan House,
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire,
EN6 1AG.

Telephone: **0161 507 3723**

Email: ccs.referrals@cambianguroup.com



Cambian Spring Hill School



How to find us

By rail

Cambian Spring Hill School is located 11 miles and about a 20 minute taxi ride from Thirsk railway station. Thirsk railway station is on the East coast mainline and offers some direct services from London King's Cross.

By car

Cambian Spring Hill School is located on the A6108 1 mile North of Ripon, the third smallest city in England and the gateway to the North Yorkshire Dales. The A1 motorway is approx. 4 miles to the East which gives direct routes around the country.

To receive an application pack or to discuss a referral in confidence, please call us on **0161 507 3723** or email **ccs.referrals@cambianguroup.com**

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