



Cambian Whinfell School

110 Windermere Road, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 5EZ

See Me Belong • See Me Learn • See Me Achieve • See Me Grow • See Me Thrive

Cambian Whinfell School offers 38 to 52 week residential placements at their Ofsted Good rated home.

Whinfell strives to create a homely residential environment for its young people where they feel safe, comfortable and valued as well as having access to outstanding education.

Students often arrive after difficult education and domestic experiences and are potentially lacking in confidence. Whinfell aims to educate students academically, socially and emotionally as well as providing a safe and comfortable home environment.

We make it a priority to ensure students feel safe, happy and secure. We work hard to create a calm, therapeutic space which feels as much like home as it is possible to be.



Student Profile

- Male, aged 7-19
- 38-52 week residential placements
- Diagnosis or traits of Autism and associated conditions including ADHD and PDA
- Mild to moderate learning difficulties
- Complex needs and associated challenging behaviours
- Often multiple exclusions and placement breakdowns
- Difficulties such as dyslexia and dyspraxia
- Has an Education, Health and Care Plan

OUTCOMES 2026

Below are our latest student outcomes:

1 x GCSE English Language at Grade 6

5 x GCSE Science - Double Award including 1 at Grade 5 and 4

2 x GCSE Mathematics including 1 at Grade 5

6 x GCSE Art including 1 at Grade 5 and 2 at Grade 4

4 x BTEC Hospitality & Catering - Level 1 with 3 Distinctions & 1 Merit

1 x BTEC Sports Science - Level 1 - Merit

3 x ENTRY LEVEL CERTIFICATES ICT - Level 2

5 x FUNCTIONAL SKILLS English - Level 2

Our young people have access to the National Curriculum using modified programmes of study where appropriate. In addition, we provide vocational training and opportunities for further education, often supporting young people to access the local college.

Our young adults can make a natural progression to full independence through graduating to our 'independence house' where they are supported to take full responsibility for their own daily living.

At Whinfell we believe in connection before correction, and all staff are trained in working with young people with autism. Their individual needs and strategies are identified by a team of psychologists, occupational therapist and speech and language therapist in order to provide the best possible outcome for our young people.

CASE STUDY

Student C had not been in education for 3 years, and had a diagnosis of Autism & Developmental Language Disorder and possible ADHD.

He had difficulties with communication and interaction, language processing difficulties included; difficulties understanding instruction sequencing & problem solving. He could not reflect upon the reasons for and consequences of his actions.

From a learning perspective, he had below average fine motor skills, co-ordination, balance, strength and agility, poor handwriting & weak hand strength (use of computers for writing), as well as below average independent social and practical skills. He also had a tendency to stay up all night and sleep in the day.

He demonstrated difficulties in school from a young age and academically was below average. He also found it difficult to work in groups and would take personal offence to mild corrections, finding it difficult to move on.

As Student C progressed at Whinfell, his confidence grew, alongside his attendance record at school which resulted in him obtaining fantastic education grades including the highest level possible in GCSE Art - a Grade 9!

An exert from his first Whinfell education report:

"C has made a fantastic start to his time at Whinfell School. He has attended school every day after his settling in period. He has joined in lessons and has had a positive attitude in trying to achieve his best. He has shown himself to be caring about others and has been keen to make friendships."

C's first report attendance was – 85%

Excerpts from his end of KS4 report

English: C was working towards his Functional Skills level 2 this term and therefore we did lots of exam practice on how to read and interpret non-fiction texts and how to compose a good piece of transactional writing.

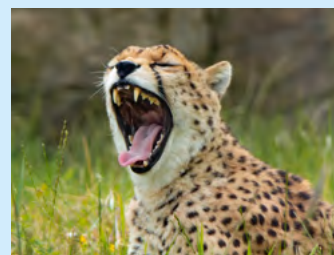
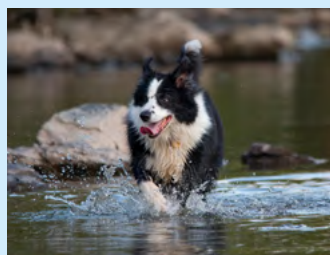
Science: C has demonstrated a really positive attitude to learning throughout his last term. He has worked hard on developing his practical investigation skills, and his theoretical knowledge. He has had fantastic attendance in his science lessons, and has really given his studies his all.

C's attendance throughout KS4 rose to - 92%

Excerpt from C latest report

"You have embarked on your college career with maturity and are making good progress towards your studies. Tutors speak positively about the progress you are making and your attitude to learning. You have undertaken your preparation for adulthood curriculum as well, which is a really vital part of your development and to make sure you are in the best possible position for your next steps at the end of the year. You have also continued to develop your photography, taking part in sessions with a local photographer and perfecting your skills further, and I am looking forward to developing your work experience programme further in the new year."

Student C's Art Project



THE CAMBIAN GROUP

We have over 30 years of experience providing education and care for children and young people aged 7–25 years old. Our specialist schools, colleges and associated residential provisions support young people with a range of complex needs including Autism Spectrum Disorder and Social, Emotional Mental Health (SEMH) needs, as well as learning difficulties, and other co-existing conditions such as ADHD, OCD, anxiety, dyslexia or sensory issues.

A combination of specialist education, person-centred environment, therapeutic planning and measurement of progress helps our students to embrace independent learning and living, whilst we work alongside every one in order to help them discover their own personal strengths. Whilst our work embraces many specialist disciplines, it is united by a common purpose; to actively enable each and every one of the young people in our care to achieve their personal best.

To make an enquiry click here

