



Bloxham Grove
ACADEMY

SEND Information Report 2024 - 2025

Academy Name: Bloxham Grove Academy

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Head Teacher: Charlotte Roberts

Governor responsible for SEND: Sian Rodway

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The following report sets out information about our provision for children with SEND. The report should be read in conjunction with other documents that are shared via our website.

About our school

Bloxham Grove Academy is a community special academy for children and young people up to the age of 18 with complex special educational needs and disabilities. All of our students are individuals and we pride ourselves on offering them a personalised approach to learning. We are situated in Bloxham, approximately 3 miles outside Banbury and our vision is to support the needs of students who live in North Oxfordshire.

We currently have 77 students on roll and plan to increase to approximately 100 students when we are fully open. Our small and specialised academy encourages all our students to develop their personal and social skills, alongside their academic potential through a vocational and values led curriculum. This ensures that all our students are encouraged, valued and respected.

We are a member of The Gallery Trust, a special multi-academy trust based in Oxfordshire. The Gallery Trust is dedicated to providing outstanding education and support for children and young people with SEND.

- **Cognition and Learning Needs**

All our students have Education, Health and Care plans and our area of expertise supports students with Moderate Cognition and Learning Difficulties. This encompasses a range of learning difficulties including dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia.

Our students also have a wide range of secondary special educational needs including;

- **Social Emotional and Mental Health needs**

These needs may manifest themselves with anxiety or depression, self-harming, substance abuse, eating disorders or other physical symptoms. Students may have diagnoses such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) or attachment disorder.

- **Communication and Interaction needs**

These include students who have specific speech, language and communication difficulties as well as encompassing students who are on the autistic spectrum.

- **Sensory and/or Physical needs**

These include students with vision impairments (VI), hearing impairments (HI) or a multi sensory impairment (MSI)

How do we identify and support children with SEND?

Admissions to Bloxham Grove Academy are managed by Oxfordshire Local Authority and all children must have an EHCP in order to be offered a place with us. *(Please see our Admissions Policy for further information.)*

As part of our admissions procedure we welcome visits to the school from parents and carers so they can gain a deep understanding of their child's needs. We also engage with other professionals working with the child to begin to plan our provision for each individual.

We offer each parent/carer a Post Admissions Meeting shortly after their child joins Bloxham Grove Academy. This gives everyone the opportunity to discuss the provision in place and make changes if necessary.

Each child has a set of Termly Outcome Plans (TOPs) that outline their individual provision and set achievable targets which are shared with parents/carers. TOPs are set 3 times per year and parents/carers are invited into meetings to discuss the progress made.

If we suspect that a child has an unidentified SEND in addition to their existing diagnoses, we will speak to their parents/carers before agreeing on the next course of action, e.g. seeking external professional support.

Joining Bloxham Grove Academy and moving through the school

We welcome visits from prospective parents and carers prior to beginning the admissions process with the Local Authority so that we can talk about their child's SEND and how we may be able to support them. Visits take place throughout the year and they tend to be after school on a Wednesday at 3.15pm. Further information may also be gained from contacting the school on 01295 793125 or office@bloxhamgroveacademy.co.uk

Once a child has a confirmed place at Bloxham Grove Academy, arrangements are made for transition visits which are usually in the term before starting at our school.

Every effort is made to attend the child's final Annual Review meeting at their feeder school in order to agree outcomes and provision in addition to planning a smooth transition.

We also recognise that transitions of any kind can present challenges and with this in mind, we also plan careful transition activities when moving through the school. We work closely with new settings to ensure a smooth transition for our Year 11s and Year

13s. This involves visiting the new setting as well as applying for and securing a place on an appropriate course.

How we work with parents and carers

We pride ourselves on forming positive working relationships with all our parents and carers and offer regular opportunities for informal meetings, catch up conversations either by telephone or email, in addition to scheduled meetings held 3 times a year.

The class teacher will be the first point of contact, but in some cases a member of the Pastoral Team or Senior Leadership Team may support individual families.

Throughout the academic year we hold 3 parents/carers' evenings where we share with parents/carers their child's Termly Outcome Plan (TOPs). We find these meetings invaluable in building trusting and respectful relationships between the school and parents/carers.

Bloxham Grove Academy holds an Annual Review meeting for each child to review the outcomes and provision held in the document. This is an opportunity for amendments to be made to the EHCP that best reflect the context of the child and their current areas of focus.

Each child's voice is paramount in this meeting. As the young person prepares for adulthood we recognise that their outcomes should reflect their ambitions which could include higher education, employment, independent living and participation in society. This meeting is chaired by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

We want to work with families to resolve any issues or concerns. If a family feels that a concern is not being resolved to their satisfaction, we encourage them to use The Gallery Trust's Complaints Policy which is available on our website.

Ensuring the curriculum meets the needs of our students

We believe that all our students are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum and we work hard to ensure that students are able to access all areas of learning at Bloxham Grove Academy. We recognise the importance in offering our students the need for increased opportunities for communication and interaction, functional maths and English, PSHE, Learning Outside the Classroom (including using our Outdoor Classroom), PE and vocational learning. In Key Stages 2 and 3 our students follow a Thematic Approach to Learning (TAL) curriculum model that encourages them to make links between the subject areas. As they move through the school, students follow a Skills for Life curriculum model in Key Stage 4, which then becomes more personalised within the Post 16 provision. Further information can be found in the 'Curriculum' section of our website.

How our students are helped to access activities beyond the curriculum

All our students are supported to access activities and trips beyond the classroom and school. We understand that for some students being out of their usual routine or environment may be challenging. With this in mind, we plan for this carefully, involving parents/carers and the students in the planning process as much as possible.

We produce detailed risk assessments for some curriculum activities e.g. science, cooking and any activities that take place outside the usual timetable, or if we take students off the school site. These risk assessments give us the opportunity to plan for any likely challenges or concerns which may impact on the safe and enjoyable running of the trip or activity.

A proportion of our students benefit from engaging in social stories, careful planning and individual pre-visits ahead of time to support their understanding of social situations and helping to reduce anxiety.

We ensure any activity outside the school has a suitable ratio of staff to students.

How we support the wellbeing of our students at Bloxham Grove Academy

Bloxham Grove Academy aims to create a respectful and nurturing environment in which students feel safe to explore both academic and emotional learning with purpose, leading to the best possible outcomes for them

We follow Restorative Approaches throughout the academy. This means that positive relationships between all members of our community are the bedrock to the school and they provide the foundation to build, maintain and repair relationships when necessary. The restorative 'way of being' creates a culture of high challenge with high support. We empower our students by working with them rather than doing things for them or to them; the focus is on fair and consistent boundaries with students being encouraged to take accountability for actions and to find solutions for repairing harm.

We believe that fostering positive relationships that are built on trust, kindness and security, lead to improved feelings of wellbeing and more respectful interactions, in addition to better educational performance. These principles are designed to ensure that Bloxham Grove Academy is an environment that feels safe, where our students enjoy attending and in which they feel free to explore their potential.

Our students are grouped in classes of 11 with 2-3 class adults. We adopt a primary model throughout the whole school where students are educated in their class base and are supported throughout the week by their familiar class adults. This model helps to form those positive relationships and feelings of security and wellbeing.

Our values-led curriculum supports our students in helping to recognise their emotions and the importance of being part of a caring and supportive school community. The school council also leads on key events during the school year e.g. Anti-Bullying Week, Mental Health Awareness Week, E-Safety week, which signpost our students to a range of resources and strategies to support their emotional health and wellbeing.

In addition, Bloxham Grove Academy has a dedicated Pastoral Team who make a significant contribution towards a safe and nurturing learning environment by supporting students with interventions, holding restorative meetings, visiting off-site provision and working alongside external agencies, such as health and social care professionals.

The expertise we offer at Bloxham Grove Academy

All our staff receive robust induction training, followed by ongoing professional development that focuses on SEND and the needs of our students. This is monitored through the annual appraisal process of each member of staff.

Continuous professional development opportunities will reflect the uniqueness and diversity of our academy community so that our students are supported by staff who continually strive to understand, respect and celebrate their individuality.

We use Team Teach principles to support our students in times of crisis. Every member of staff, regardless of their role in school, is trained in Team Teach and this training is refreshed and updated regularly.

In addition, individual members of staff undertake further professional training, e.g. 'Drawing and Talking' art therapy and the Foundation Degree in Therapeutic Care for Children and Young People which is run by the Mulberry Bush.

How we know our SEND provision is effective

We use parent/carer and student voice to monitor the effectiveness of our provision. This can be via informal conversations, by our frequent parent/carer questionnaires or by feedback at school council meetings.

In-house assessment procedures and progress data are monitored and analysed by Senior Leaders and by our Local Academy Board members and Trustees via our Challenge and Support visits.

In addition, our Annual Review meetings ensure an additional opportunity to evaluate the individual outcomes of our learners and the overall effectiveness of our SEND provision.

Who to contact for further information?

If you require further information about Bloxham Grove Academy and our provision for SEND, please look at our website on www.bloxhamgroveacademy.co.uk or contact us on office@bloxhamgroveacademy.co.uk.

For all other information about SEND please see Oxfordshire's Local Offer:
www.

oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/special-educational-needs-and-disability/local-offer