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# PRESTLEY WOOD ACADEMY

A NEW AND JOYFUL SPECIAL SCHOOL IN  
THE HEART OF ALCONBURY WEALD





**Prestley Wood Academy is a brand new area special school within Horizons Education Trust opening September 2024.**

**KIM TAYLOR OBE**


**CEO, HORIZONS  
EDUCATION TRUST**

## **OUR AIM**

**Prestley Wood Academy will be a values led school, where learners are guided on a clearly defined, personalised journey to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to flourish as valued members of their community in life beyond school.**

**“We have a strong, inclusive vision to offer. We are so excited at the opportunities that Prestley Wood opens up and we plan to create a really special place for our young people, to help them be able to shine.”**

**Kim Taylor OBE  
CEO, Horizons Education Trust**



**“As a SEND education professional who has worked in the sector for 22 years, I am over the moon to be part of the team at Prestley Wood Academy. I have been a teacher, SENCo, senior leader and consultant across a range of ages, phases and public institutions in my long career and I aim to bring all of my experience and all of my passion to Prestley Wood Academy as we move toward becoming a beacon of innovative practice.”**

**CAROLINE PLACE**

**HEAD TEACHER DESIGNATE  
PRESTLEY WOOD ACADEMY**



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# A LETTER FROM OUR HEAD TEACHER DESIGNATE

**“I am delighted to welcome you to our new joyful special school community where every young person is cherished and their unique abilities are celebrated.**

**Housed in a state of the art bespoke building our dedicated team is committed to providing a nurturing environment for children with severe or profound multiple learning difficulties. An environment which responds to individual need and enables regulation, communication and learning behaviours to flourish. Where the EHCP is the driving force of entitlement for each person's quality provision.**

**Our approach is holistic and clearly defines pathways to building the skills and knowledge for meaningful development. It is centred around a curriculum which is broad, appropriately paced and flexible at point of delivery to ensure individualised provision.**

**Even though our focus is rooted in providing challenge and rigour for our young people, it extends beyond academic studies, as we are passionately dedicated to imparting life skills that will empower our students to become happy, valued and participating members of their communities in adulthood.**

**Together we embark on a journey of discovery, growth and enrichment ensuring each child and young adult reaches their full potential in a supportive and inclusive community**

**I look forward to meeting you.”**

**CAROLINE PLACE**

**HEAD TEACHER DESIGNATE  
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## OUR LEARNERS

**Our community will include 70 pupils in the first year, rising slowly to 150 pupils over 4 years.**

**We are privileged to be able to cater for our learners across their whole childhood from 3-19 years of age.**

**All our pupils will have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) which demonstrates significant delay in attainment and complex learning needs (PMLD or SLD).**



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March, 2024 Progress  
Morgan Sindall

## OUR ALCONBURY WEALD SITE

Our state-of-the-art specialist school site has been thoughtfully planned to provide equitable and inclusive access for all learners with SLD/PMLD.

Its specialist areas enable delivery of our broad, balanced and experiential progressive curriculum which is designed to be responsive to individual needs and adapted at point of delivery.



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March, 2024 Progress  
Horizons Education Trust




Pictured: Ella, Erin & Amy, members of the Prestley Wood academy AAG Group, accompanied by Headteacher Designate Caroline Place and school secretary and PA to the Headteacher, Joanna Tregent.



# PERSONALISED LEARNING

 **Communication**

 **Two Educational Pathways**

 **Pre-Formal**

 **Semi-Formal**

 **Preparation for Adulthood**

 **Autism**

 **Inclusion Opportunities at Local Schools**



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# OUR LEARNING CULTURE

## Curriculum Enrichment

Multi-Sensory Approach

Arts/Creativity

Eco Activities/  
Forest School

Hydro/Physio/PE

Residentials



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# QUALITY SPECIAL NEEDS PROVISION WILL:



**Be relational /  
collaborative**



**Provide a safe  
and calm environment**



**Prioritise  
safeguarding**



**Provide ongoing staff training  
as part of the Trust**



**Special Schools/  
Outreach Support**



**Inclusive/  
accessible environment**



**Promote staff  
expertise in SEND**



**Provide outstanding  
leadership**



**Promote our  
values and ethos**



**Work with other Trusts and  
local schools/within the community**

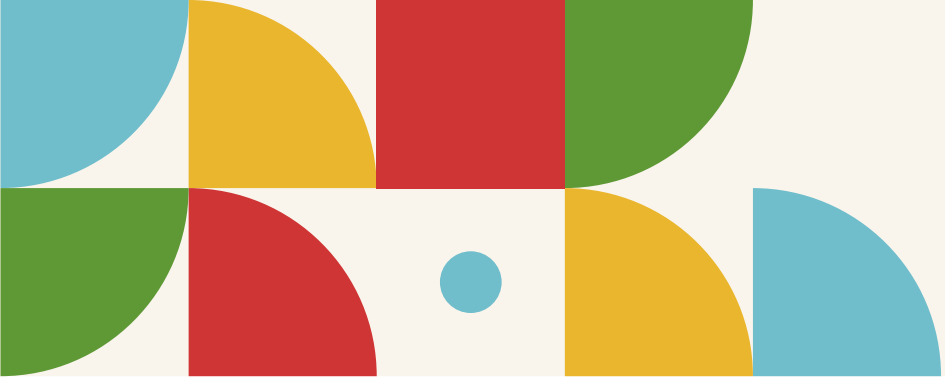


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# WORKING WITH PARENT/CARER/FAMILY

We will prioritise working in partnership with families and professionals to build understanding of our learners and ensure their strengths and interests are central to their journey.



**Home/School Communication**



**Provide Links to Health & Social Care & other Partners**



**EHCP Preparation for Adulthood**



**Fundraising Events**



**Parent Support**



**Informative Website**



**Nurse Support**



**Coffee Mornings**



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# OUR VALUES



**Listening**



**Supporting  
Innovation**



**Moral Purpose**



**Integrity**



**Trust & Respect**



**Communication**



**Building Confidence**

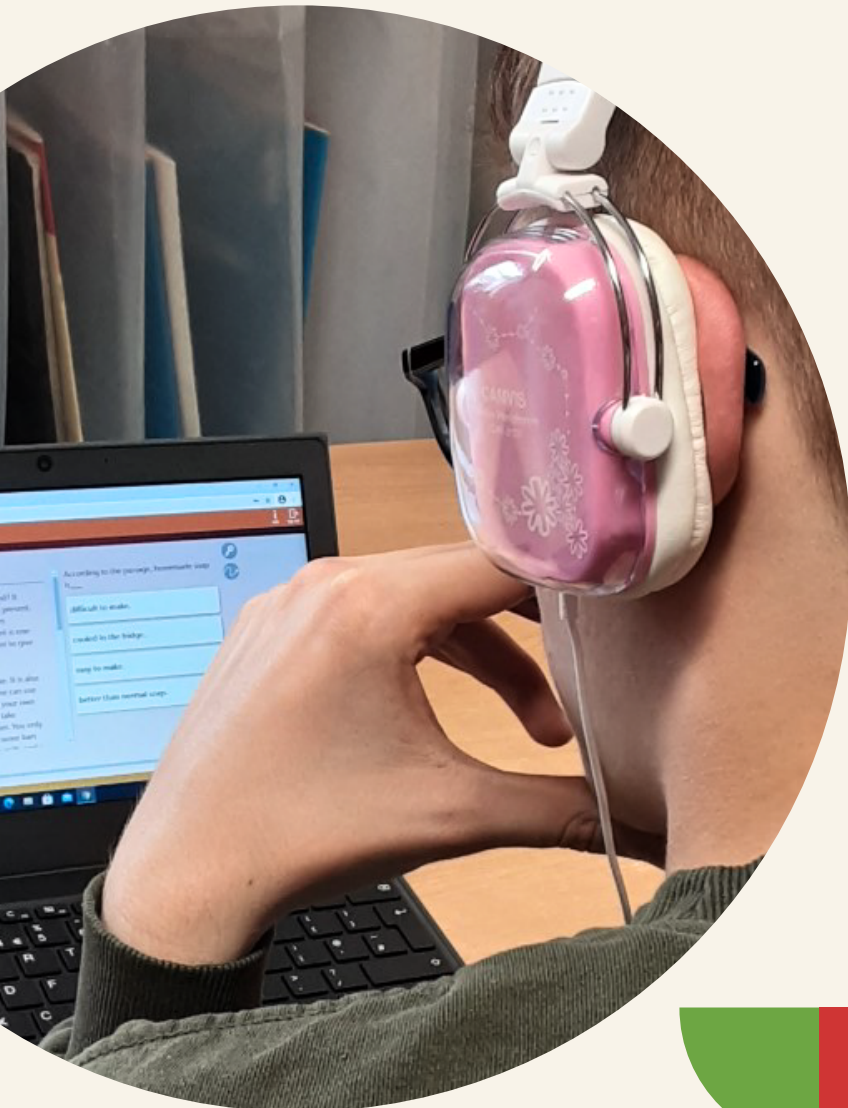


**Empathy**



**Collaboration**





# FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:



**Kim Taylor OBE**  
Horizons Education Trust  
CEO



**Caroline Place**  
Prestley Wood Academy  
Head Teacher Designate



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