



ABINGDON
HOUSE SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS

Meaningful outcomes for all

www.abingdonhouseschool.co.uk



Welcome

At Abingdon House School, we are committed to delivering meaningful outcomes for every student. We support young people with a range of special educational needs, including those associated with autism, dyslexia, dyscalculia, dyspraxia and ADHD, to make progress across a holistic and ambitious curriculum.

Our school provides a safe and nurturing space where students are encouraged to challenge themselves and grow, particularly in areas where they may have previously struggled. We foster an environment that supports development academically, socially and emotionally.

Central to our approach is our integrated therapeutic education. Our multidisciplinary team is made up of specialist teachers, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, mental health and wellbeing practitioners, and teaching assistants working together to personalise each child's learning journey, enabling students to work towards outcomes that reflect their individual strengths and aspirations.

Whether our students move on to further education or take an alternative route to success, we help them define and achieve what fulfilment looks like for them. We work closely with parents and carers to ensure strategies are consistent and transferable beyond school.

Every student at Abingdon House School is unique, and so is their path – one that leads to a successful, meaningful adult life.



Rory Vokes-Dudgeon
Headteacher

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Integration

Specialist support is a universal feature of Abingdon House School, with every student benefiting from the expertise of our multidisciplinary team.

Our core provision highlights the importance of universal specialist practice to drive student progress, while recognising that some learners also require targeted or one-to-one interventions based on their individual needs.



Integrated practice is delivered in multiple ways. Therapeutic strategies and evidence-based approaches are embedded into the curriculum, woven into everyday teaching and pastoral support. Our therapists are fully integrated into the timetable and are strategically deployed at key times to maximise their impact. Ongoing training and upskilling ensures all staff are experts in therapeutic strategies, which are embedded throughout the school day.

By focusing on the integration of specialist support, we ensure the repetition and reinforcement of key strategies to assist learning, communication, life skills and self-regulation. This overlearning embeds concepts in our students' long-term memory and fosters their transferability across different areas of life. We view every interaction as a learning opportunity, empowering students on their journey to independence and adulthood.

ISI Independent Schools Inspectorate

In January 2025, the Independent Schools Inspectorate **awarded Abingdon House School its highest accolade**, recognising that “a significant strength is that leaders ensure therapists work in highly effective partnership with staff, and that all staff working with pupils consistently use therapeutic approaches to support learning extremely successfully.”





INTEGRATION

Therapeutic



Therapeutic support is delivered in specialist 1:1 sessions, targeted small group sessions and to the whole school through universal strategies. Every student participates in weekly speech and language and occupational therapy sessions, focused on developing communication, life skills and independence.

Our therapists work closely with teachers to observe, model and plan lessons, ensuring strategies are tailored and implemented effectively in every classroom. Speech and language therapists support students during unstructured times such as break and lunch, helping to develop social interaction and communication skills. Occupational therapists are regularly present in the dining room, supporting fine motor development, sensory regulation and food tolerance.

Therapists lead training in whole-school approaches including Zones of Regulation, Word Aware, Colourful Semantics and The Wheel of Independence, ensuring consistency across all areas of school life.

“

“The leadership’s decision to establish a comprehensive therapeutic framework that integrates teachers, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists and physiotherapists into the school’s daily operations is highly beneficial to pupils’ motivation, engagement, and achievement.”

—
ISI Report. 2025

Academic

Specialist teaching strategies underpin all classroom practice. Our teachers receive expert training in many specialist areas, including dyslexia and autism, enabling them to deliver inclusive lessons that address a wide range of learning needs.



Evidence-based strategies like precision teaching are used alongside whole school approaches to education and support, informed by research from leading organisations such as ADHD UK and Voice21. This ensures all students can access the curriculum with confidence.



Digital

Abingdon House School is proud to be the **UK's first SEND Google Reference School.**

Every student receives a personal Chromebook, and our integrated approach to digital learning ensures that technology supports access to learning across the curriculum. Through structured interventions and ICT lessons, students build digital fluency that fosters independence, confidence and long-term success.



In 2025, we were awarded the **TES Award** for **'Best Use of Technology'**.

Pastoral

Our pastoral team includes professionals who are highly trained in positive behaviour support, trauma-informed practice, school counselling, cognitive behavioural strategies and other mental health approaches. These form the foundation of our inclusive school culture which is built on respect, empowerment and understanding. All staff receive ongoing training to help students make meaningful progress in their social and emotional development.

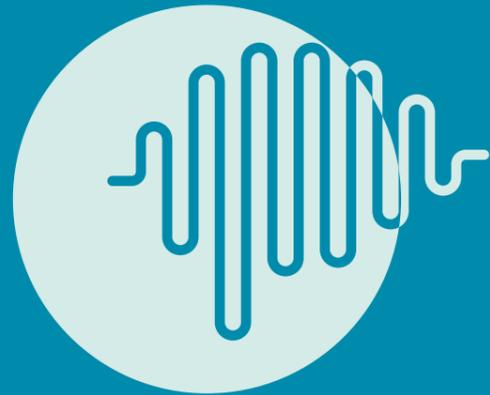


"My daughter receives the most supportive, understanding, kind, and utterly bespoke care from the pastoral team at Abingdon House School."

Parent

Personalisation

Our flexible approach to education ensures that learning is personalised to meet the needs of every unique individual. Our school is designed to maximise impact and outcomes, while recognising that progress is rarely linear.



PERSONALISATION

Progression

Every decision we make concerning students is geared towards their achievement of meaningful outcomes. Our model allows for personalised entry and exit points. Some students make accelerated progress and return to mainstream settings after only a short period with us, while others benefit from a longer, more tailored journey at Abingdon House.

Our flexible school structure allows us to make tailored decisions about and towards every student's progress. Regular, detailed assessments by each child's team ensures our approach adapts to their unique and developing needs.



We operate a "phase not age" model, grouping students based on teaching and learning styles, academic needs, therapeutic input and social development, as well as chronological age. This allows staff to tailor their approach even further within each group.



Target Setting



Annual Reviews

At Abingdon House School, we facilitate comprehensive annual reviews for every student. This key meeting involves contributions from teachers, therapists, SENCOs and support staff, allowing us to review progress against long-term goals and assess the ongoing effectiveness and appropriateness of their current provision. A detailed report captures all agreements and recommendations, alongside a written assessment from our dedicated therapy team outlining therapeutic progress and future targets.



“

At Abingdon House School, young people flourish - going beyond their previous potential - because the team are committed to offering every single child highly personalised programmes of support. It is an immense privilege to be in such a holistically designed school - one which consistently enables young people to be independent, capable, responsible citizens, as well as confident and successful learners.”

Dr Fiona Aubrey Smith
Award winning teacher, leader and academic

Individual Education Plans (IEPs)

Each student receives a termly IEP, developed through multidisciplinary case conferences. These plans detail:

- Personalised environmental and curriculum adaptations
- Targeted and specialist (1:1) therapy from speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, physios and the pastoral team
- A daily intervention session
- Termly targets and steps towards outcomes in:
 - > Communication and interaction
 - > Cognition and learning
 - > Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH)
 - > Sensory and physical development

Interventions

Our dedicated intervention sessions allow for a bespoke support package aligned with each student's long-term goals. This may include sight word reading, touch typing, guided reading and programmes such as IDL Literacy, Dynamo Maths, Accelerated Reader and Plus 1 Maths. Some students also access enrichment interventions such as debating and philosophy.



Digital



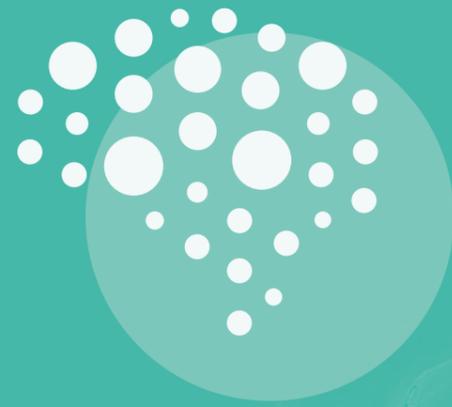
All students are assessed to determine the most effective form of technology-supported learning for their needs, whether that is handwriting, typing, voice typing or using a screen reader. These tools become part of their standard way of working, supporting access to learning across the curriculum.



In recognition of our commitment to digital personalisation, Abingdon House School received the **Best Personalised Learning Award** at the 2024 Google for Education Reference Schools Awards, and won **Best Use of Technology** at the 2025 national TES UK Schools Awards.

Connection and Community

At Abingdon House School, we are passionate about nurturing our students' strengths while helping them discover lifelong interests and passions. Our school environment encourages connection between students, staff, families and the wider world.



Our community is built on strong relationships and shared purpose. Our approach is focused on collaboration and open communication, with your child's needs at the centre.

We recognise the vital role parents and carers play as partners in their child's journey. We work together to support progress through regular communication, educational workshops, pupil progress meetings and our active PTA.

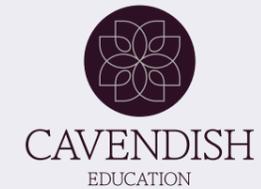
Within school, students actively shape their own learning and are encouraged to advocate for their unique strengths and needs. The Junior Leadership Team ensures every pupil's voice is heard and valued, fostering confidence and responsibility.

Above all, we nurture a warm, inclusive environment at Abingdon House School. Students develop meaningful, lifelong friendships, enriching their social and emotional wellbeing beyond school walls.



CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

Our School Group



We are part of Cavendish Education, a family of independent schools for neurodiverse learners in London and beyond. This connection gives us direct access to expertise and knowledge-sharing across leading specialist schools, allowing us to pioneer exciting, research-lead approaches to student-centred teaching.

Our ethos is underpinned by Cavendish's four Cs: confidence, competence, creativity and character. These core values guide every aspect of life at Abingdon House, shaping our approach to helping students become well-rounded individuals, prepared for success in and beyond school.





CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

Careers and Enterprise



At Abingdon House School, our comprehensive careers programme actively supports every student's path to independence and fulfilling employment.

We provide tailored advice, facilitate valuable encounters with employers, embed careers learning within the curriculum, and offer diverse work experience opportunities with the likes of London Zoo, Marylebone Cricket Club and Asprey Jewellery Designers. This approach ensures students gain the knowledge, confidence and essential skills to make well-informed decisions about their next steps.

Students also take part in enterprise projects where they create their own mini-companies in which they design, make and sell their products at major London markets and craft fairs.

CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

Outside the Classroom



We are proud to benefit from a rich and expanding network of community partnerships that bring learning to life. Collaborations with organisations such as BNP Paribas, Chelsea FC and Lisson Gallery provide our students with opportunities for work experience, enrichment sessions and cultural visits. These partnerships inspire ambition, develop practical skills, and broaden horizons across fields including sport, the arts, science and business.



CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

Enrichment Lessons

Enrichment is a dedicated lesson in both the Prep and Lower Senior School that allows students to explore and develop their individual interests. Activities range from academic options such as French and cultural studies, to physical pursuits like fitness and karate, and creative and problem-solving activities including jewellery making and board games.



“

During my academic journey through Abingdon House School, I have achieved above and beyond educationally and socially. This has enabled me to invoke my true potential, and sets me up for a bright and promising future and educational career.”

Graduating student

CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

After School Clubs

Our after-school clubs are designed to expand students' horizons and enrich their experiences beyond the classroom. From dynamic activities like karate, football and skateboarding to creative outlets such as drama, crafts and songwriting, we ensure a wide range of interests are catered to. Led by expert instructors, these clubs promote confidence, creativity and physical fitness in a supportive and inclusive environment.

Trips and Residentials

Our central London location allows us to make the most of the rich cultural, educational and recreational opportunities on our doorstep. These outings play a key role in developing students' independence, life skills and social confidence. Museum and gallery visits bring our curriculum to life; while outings to restaurants, cinemas and sporting fixtures help to build valuable social skills.

“

“What I appreciated about AHS is that they prepared me for the next step in my journey. They helped me develop in various areas. I can now regulate myself, ask for help, etc completely independently and without prompts.”

—
Graduating student



We run three annual residentials tailored to different age groups, where pupils develop resilience, teamwork and life skills in new and exciting environments.



Outcomes

At Abingdon House School, we believe success is not only measured by qualifications or destinations at school-leaving age, but by the long-term wellbeing, independence and purpose of our students in adulthood.

We want our learners to leave with skills that are sustained into their twenties and thirties, helping them lead happy, fulfilling lives with a strong sense of direction.



OUTCOMES

Qualifications

In the Upper Senior School and Sixth Form, students work towards a broad suite of qualifications tailored to their individual needs. These include Unit Awards, Entry Level Certificates, Level 1 and Level 2 qualifications and up to three GCSEs (English Language, Maths and Biology).



OUTCOMES

Destination Pathways

Our flexible approach means some students join Abingdon for a short-term placement, using their time with us to reduce barriers to learning before returning to a more academically demanding or mainstream setting.

For those who complete their qualifications with us, leavers have gone on to study:

- A Levels and Level 3 courses
- GCSE and Level 2 courses
- Foundation and Level 1 programmes
- Supported internships and assisted apprenticeships

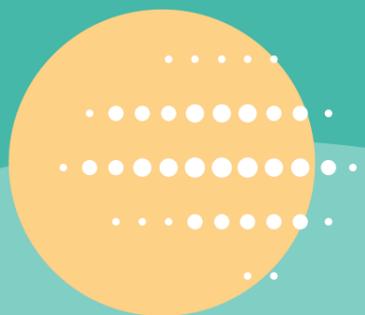


Take a tour
of our school



Our Prep School

Located in the heart of South Kensington, just moments from the Natural History and Science Museums, Abingdon House Prep School caters to students aged 7-13, offering a small nurturing environment designed to reduce barriers to learning and support every child's development.



Working within a primary school model, each class of around 10 pupils benefits from a dedicated teacher, teaching assistant, speech and language therapist and occupational therapist. Many of our students join us after finding mainstream settings challenging, and we provide the specialist support they need to understand how they learn best.

With a strong pastoral team and a trauma-informed approach, we foster a safe and supportive atmosphere where students can build confidence, feel secure and re-engage with learning. Once effective strategies are in place, we support pupils on their journey towards independence, enabling growing academic success.



Our academic curriculum is based on the National Curriculum, and is flexible enough to meet the needs of learners working below, at, or above age-related expectations. Our English and mathematics groups are streamed by academic ability across the school allowing areas of strength to be pushed while offering extra support where needed.

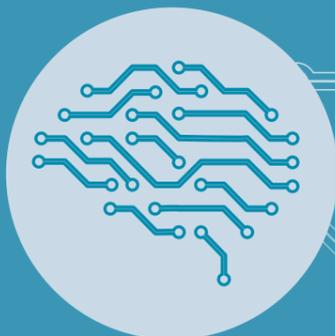


Take a tour
of our school



Our Senior School

Located in Marylebone, our Senior School and Sixth Form caters to students aged 11-19, offering a fully integrated therapeutic model that prioritises independence and preparation for adulthood alongside a broad range of qualifications to achieve the best outcomes for students.



We continue to emphasise strategy development, focusing on age-appropriate skills that can be applied beyond school. Purpose-built facilities help support independence and practical learning.

Our therapy gym is equipped with sensory swings, treadmills, rowing machines and boxing equipment; and our dedicated sensory room is outfitted with a range of therapeutic tools to promote self-regulation.

Classroom learning is also complemented with state-of-the-art resources — for example, our food tech room is well-equipped with accessible cooking stations and appliances, plus dedicated areas for learning practical life skills; while design and technology students have access to laser printers, engravers, DSLR cameras and podcasting gear.

Our curriculum offers two academic streams alongside vital life skills, employability and personal effectiveness programmes, opening doors to opportunities previously thought unattainable. Small classes of around ten pupils allow our specialist team to personalise education, fostering holistic development.

By using accessibility tools such as voice-to-text and screen readers, students overcome barriers and unlock their potential. With pastoral and therapeutic support focused on self-advocacy, students confidently transition to college and employment, equipped to achieve their goals.



Admissions

We understand how important choosing the right school for your child is, and that process can be challenging and time consuming. We are here to help.

Abingdon House School is able to accommodate a range of needs through our specialist approach within a mainstream-styled framework. We welcome enquiries from parents and carers, Local Authorities and educational placement consultants. While the majority of our students have Education, Health & Care Plans, it is not a requirement for admission and privately funded students are also welcome to apply. Enrolment is year-round, and we aim to have students join us at the beginning of a term or half-term where possible.

Visiting AHS

Families are welcome to tour the school with our team. If you'd like to schedule a school tour, please get in touch with our Admissions Lead at enquiries@abingdonhouseschool.co.uk Please specify if you're looking to tour at our Prep School campus in South Kensington (7-13 years) or our Senior School campus in Marylebone (11-19 years). If you aren't sure which campus would be the right fit for your child, our Admissions Lead will be able to help.

Applying to AHS

The admissions process is thorough and robust to ensure that the specific needs of each student can be met and that Abingdon House School is the right environment for them to thrive. If you think AHS might be the right fit for your child:

1_

Go to to www.abingdonhouseschool.co.uk/admissions for further information about our provision and an enquiry form.

2_

Complete the form and provide as many relevant specialist reports as possible, such as your child's EHCP, school reports and therapy assessments. Email the completed form and paperwork to enquiries@abingdonhouseschool.co.uk.

3_

If after reviewing paperwork we feel we may be able to meet your child's needs, we will invite them to a trial day. Staff will observe them throughout the trial and assess the suitability of the placement.

4_

Following the trial day, we may arrange a call with your child's current school or a second trial day. Once we have all the information we need, we will let you know if we can meet your child's needs and if there is a place available at the school.

For more information about the admissions process, please visit the admissions page on our website: www.abingdonhouseschool.co.uk/admissions



www



“

“Abingdon House has greatly boosted my child's confidence through its welcoming and inclusive environment. The dedicated teaching staff have made it possible for him to work towards his GCSEs, and we are truly grateful for their hard work and support.”

Parent



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