



Beech Lodge

www.beechlodgeschool.co.uk

**GREAT MINDS
THINK
DIFFERENTLY**



Candidate Information Pack

INTRODUCTION

Beech Lodge School is a unique co-educational independent special school for children and young people who are unable to realise their potential in a conventional school setting.

Founded in 2013 the school opened with only 5 pupils in a small converted barn in Hurley. Over time we extended into a second building nearby and today we occupy wonderful spacious brand-new purpose-built buildings set in a beautiful tranquil environment with extensive grounds and state-of-the-art facilities for our pupils to thrive. In September 2019 we opened a new wing to accommodate our new Lionheart provision for children with Dyslexia giving us an increased capacity for 98 pupils.

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We fondly refer to our pupils as “sparky square pegs in the round hole of education”.

We give them the square hole in which to fit.

”

At Beech Lodge we provide an innovative and nurturing approach to education for those children who require an individually tailored learning environment to reach their academic potential, build social and life skills, have access to therapeutic and specialist interventions and above all the educational tools with which to flourish. Our pupils have a range of difficulties that mean they are unable to thrive in mainstream, from Dyslexia and Dyscalculia to Social and Emotional Difficulties, Anxiety and School Refusal. We do not cater for children with violent or aggressive behaviour.

relationships embedded throughout the whole school community. Alongside pupils' academic progress, social and emotional development is a high priority at Beech Lodge, and it is from here that Fagus, the UK schools-wide educational resource for emotional and social development was created.

The School has recently (February 2020) had an Integrated ISI Inspection from which our excellent work was recognised. Amongst the myriad of excellent qualities, the report highlights include:

“Pupils personal development is excellent.”

“The quality of pupils' academic and other achievements is good.”

“Pupils make excellent progress in developing positive attitudes to learning.”

“Pupils' behaviour is excellent, and a calm atmosphere pervades the school.”

and

“Modelling of how to do things by staff is excellent.”

The School also met all the standards of the Regulatory Compliance Inspection.

Beech Lodge was always intended to be an alternative school, a unique high-quality setting that puts the particular needs of our pupils first. We are very proud to have successfully achieved that aim.



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At Beech Lodge, every day is a new day; acceptance, empathy and good humour is embedded throughout our school approach.

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CURRICULUM

Our curriculum offers pupils a thorough, fun and practical vehicle through which they develop a joy of learning and a sense of achievement and pride. To achieve this, it is essential to make use of the child's innate skills and talents and take account of the unique nature of every student. Our curriculum is based around the national curriculum but is structured and delivered in a way that works for those individuals who respond to an alternative approach to learning. We work with each child's strengths, interests and experiences in order to develop their self-confidence, their ability for self-exploration and their effectiveness at collaborative working.

We offer a variety of qualifications both academic and vocational including GCSE's, BTECs and Ascentis examinations. Pupils participate in vocational courses including Construction, Animal Management and Land Based Studies. Work related learning is provided with local businesses and includes work experience placements.

Co-curricular activities are designed to enable pupils to develop practical and social skills such as Performing Arts, Yoga, Sport, Cookery, Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme Awards and John Muir Awards.

VISION

Our vision is a school community that provides our pupils with the opportunity to be truly accepted, understood and supported. We prepare our pupils to become effective members of society and leave us with the range of skills, experience and qualifications to enable them to successfully transition to the next stage of their lives.

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At Beech Lodge we think differently about children who think differently.

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GREAT MINDS THINK DIFFERENTLY

Our motto is Great Minds Think Differently and that applies not only to our pupils but also to our staff who think differently about education.

Our people are our greatest asset and Beech Lodge is a community of dynamic, compassionate, innovative and inspiring people who all share the same vision for the success of our children. We employ over 50 staff both full and part time in a variety of roles with strong Pastoral and Academic teams.

People who work at Beech Lodge are passionate about their subject, can work on their own initiative, are well-informed, inquisitive and imaginative. We give them autonomy and freedom to run their classes whilst being supported by strong and encouraging leadership. Life at Beech Lodge is about working together and enjoying being part of a close-knit, professional and good-humoured team.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional Development for all staff is a high priority and we provide a varied training programme which includes training in attachment theory, developmental trauma, specific learning difficulties, mental health and neuro-developmental conditions. Our in-house Educational Psychologist oversees the educational provision of all our children on an ongoing individual basis to ensure each pupil is receiving the academic and pastoral input they require and disseminates that information across the staff body.



STAFF BENEFITS



FINANCIAL

Competitive salary and Pension Scheme



PARKING

Free on-site parking



LEAVE ENTITLEMENT

School holidays in accordance with the published school calendar



WORKING HOURS

8.30 to 4.30 Monday to Friday.
Additional hours will be required for delivery of co-curricular activities, school events, open mornings, parents' evenings etc.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Regular staff training and CPD opportunities



DISCOUNT

...on school fees after six months service



SUPPORT

Confidential independent support



SOCIAL

Active staff social community.
Use of school sports facilities, tennis courts and gym.



WELLBEING

Weekly yoga and relaxation sessions.
Fortnightly group discussion sessions with in-house psychologist

TESTIMONIALS

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The best part of my job is the ability to spend quality time with each child and getting to know them as individuals. Each staff member is a pleasure to work with and exceptionally supportive above and beyond their job. ”

Madeleine Clyde – Class Teacher

“

I love it when the pupils achieve something they never thought they could do and see them grin from ear to ear. I love working with so many positive people at Beech Lodge, there are smiles and laughs every day. ”

Rory O'Connor – Teaching Assistant

“

What I love about my job is the opportunity and freedom to teach what is real and relevant, delivering and individualised programme of study. ”

Katy Brown – Outdoor Learning Teacher



“

I feel privileged every day that I'm part of a wonderful team making a difference working with the most amazing children.

Watching them grow over the years has been priceless. ”

Rachel Cassidy – Outreach Support Worker

“

I consider it a privilege to work at Beech Lodge School because everyone has the time and 'elbow room' to explore all avenues of learning. A teacher's dream school! ”

Jenny Marshall - Class Teacher

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in applying for a role at Beech Lodge please visit our [website](#).

Beech Lodge is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

GETTING HERE



Beech Lodge School is set in 10 acres of parkland on the borders of Maidenhead, Berkshire. We are about 10 minutes drive from Junction 8/9 of the M4 Motorway. Use SatNav postcode SL6 6QL

OUR ADDRESS

Beech Lodge School, Stubbings Lane
Henley Road, Maidenhead SL6 6QL

www.beechlodgeschool.co.uk

Call us on **01628 879384** or
email: admin@beechlodgeschool.co.uk

BY CAR

Directions from Henley on Thames

- Take the A4130 Henley Road towards Hurley/Maidenhead.
- Go about 6 miles past the turning for Hurley Village, past the Temple Golf Club until you reach Burchetts Green roundabout.
- Take the 2nd exit at Burchetts Green roundabout towards Maidenhead (over the A404).
- Take the first left on to Henley Road.
- Go 500m along the road.
- Take the first turning on your right after the Church into Stubbings Lane.
- Beech Lodge is located approx 300m on the right hands side.

Directions from the A4 (Reading)

- Take the A4 all the way to Maidenhead.
- At the roundabout take the second exit on to Bath Road.
- At the roundabout take the first exit on to Henley Road.
- Take the first turning on the left - Stubbings Lane.
- Beech Lodge is located approx 300m on the right hand side.

Directions from the A404 (Marlow, High Wycombe, M40)

- Come off at A4130 exit for Henley/Hurley/Burchetts Green.
- At Burchetts Green roundabout take the 1st exist towards Maidenhead (over the A404).
- Take the first left on to Henley Road.
- Go 500m along the road.
- Take the first turning on your right after the Church into Stubbings Lane.
- Beech Lodge is located approx 300m on the right hand side.

BY TRAIN

Our nearest railway station is Maidenhead which is about 5 miles from the school (about 10 minutes by taxi).