

Alternative Learning Prospectus for Children and Young People with Additional Needs-Learning/Emotional/Behavioural

In collaboration with Sensory Learning and Play CIC and Transform Counselling Services CIC © 2017

# **Contents**

### Why choose HARMONY Well-being Centre

Our mission statement...3

#### Our vision for Education

A blend of support that maximises educational attainment...4-5 Connecting the dots with our learners to encourage overall well-being...5

The programmes we offer...6-8

#### What our learners achieve

Our awarding body and our courses...9-10 Funding options and local authority places...10-11

## Holistic and learner centred approach

Our team approach and tailored support that is learner centred...12-13

#### What next?

Our transition options to employment, further education/training...14-15

### Our Mission Statement...

"HARMONY is a well-being centre for children, young people, adults and their families, in summary it is a Therapeutic learning provision.

HARMONY stands for the coming together and blending of services to holistically impact the lives of children, young people and their families (emotional, physical, psychological and social wellbeing); no one intervention can have maximum impact on the lives of children and young people, but together, and working with other learning establishments, we anticipate that lasting changes will be made all round.

Harmony offers a hub of well-being and learning support which will accommodate for learners to improve aspects of their development which are not addressed by mainstream and other alternative learning provisions due to their lack of resources and capacity particularly for emotional, sensory and psychological needs.

We will accept placements for those children/young people aged 11 -25 years old and with additional support provision for their families. We will particular support learners who struggle to wholly engage in mainstream/alternative education due to behavioural, emotional, learning needs or disabilities.

The programmes we offer will ensure that the children and young people develop as 'well rounded', emotionally/psychologically stable and independent individuals."

#### **Our Vision for Education**

"To transform the lives of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged young people through bespoke person-centred learning programmes that will empower young people to grow in knowledge, skill, ability and other aspects of health and well-being so that they have the best chance at gaining employment and further training".

# We offer a blend of support for our Students

At Harmony Well-being centre we focus on emotional, social and psychological development as an integral part of the learner's education package. We recognise that if these aspects of development are not priority then learners

are significantly less likely to engage in learning and then achieve their full potential.

We see our young people as whole people, we understand that there are experiences that learners have that can significantly interrupt their ability to focus and apply themselves to learning, whether it is due to trauma, abuse, family breakup, being looked after children, poor mental health, additional learnings needs or many others; we are committed to supporting our learners to overcome and better cope with limitations and setbacks, we encourage all of our learners to aim high despite the difficulties that they face.

At HARMONY we use a variety of innovative activities to bring out the best

in our young people and equip them to become valued members of society.

#### Connecting the dots with our learners

At HARMONY our staff and senior management team will continuously act as a point of contact for our young people. We will work to support family/carers and any other significant individuals so that our learners never feel alone or helpless.

# The programmes we offer

#### **Sensory learning**

My SPACE- Social sensory group time once a week in our sensory room where our specialist staff focuses on supporting sensory needs through structured group sessions. This is a calming space and accommodates for learner's with ASD and Anxiety Disorder

Sensory Learning and Play- Our sensory room is fully equipped with a sensory floor, bubble tubes, musical instruments, materials, mirrors, lighting, sound beam and lots of other tools/equipment that will accommodate for learners with ASD and Anxiety Disorder. Learners will have the opportunity to use the sensory room in unstructured time and breaks during the

day. Young people with additional needs up to the age of 25 years old have providing excellent feedback, alongside their parents/carers, that the sensory room and its activities have allowed them to opportunity to be in a calm and therapeutic environment to relieve the anxiety that they experience within some aspects of learning and being a part of a learning group.

# Issue related workshops (Blossom and BRAVE)

At HARMONY our learners will be a part of a weekly workshop group where they can engage in discussion, fun activities and receive important information about issues that are affecting them, for example 'Selfconfidence', 'Self-esteem', 'Building Positive Relationships', 'Handling Emotions', 'Child Sexual Exploitation', 'Health and Fitness' and many more. These workshops are learner centred and will provide learners with the opportunity to develop socially, emotionally and psychologically.

#### **SEAL** groups

Weekly group sessions as part of a programme that focusses on the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning

#### **Person- Centred Counselling**

At HARMONY we believe that all young people should have a voice and so we have ensured that long-term therapy is available for all of our learners. We see the importance of allowing our young people the opportunity to really explore their thoughts and feelings in a safe and secure

environment. Our counsellors are friendly, relatable and suitably experienced to work with vulnerable young people. Our learners will have weekly/fortnightly individual counselling for the duration of their placement with HARMONY (with their consent and/or the consent of their parents/carers). As a result of counselling our young people will feel happier within themselves, have more confidence, be able to cope with difficulties, be more resilient, be less anxious, feel valued and listened to and will feel empowered to make their own choices.

### Bridge project

The Bridge project is a breakthrough programme that intervenes early to ensure that young people with disabilities/behavioural and additional

needs make a successful transition from secondary education to work, further education or training. Our year 10/11 learners will take part in our 7 week bridge programme for 2 hours per week leading up to their important transition period into further education/training. During the bridge programme our young people will learn independence skills (i.e. cooking, budgeting money), life skills (i.e. effective communication), how to write a CV and application form for college/employment and will learn valuable social skills.

#### Mentoring

One-to-one support for learners in Years 7 to 11, centred on building a solid relationship with a role model, setting goals and resolving problems



#### What our learners achieve

#### **Our Awarding Body**

- HARMONY Well-being is an approved
   AIM Awards centre
- AIM Awards is a well-known and reputable National Awarding Organisation
- All of the courses we offer are accredited by AIM Awards

#### **Our Courses**

At HARMONY we offer a list of courses that can be selected to suit the needs of the learner, we will assess individual learners alongside their current education establishment in order to ensure that the

learners are working on a qualification that is at the right level for their ability.

Please see table on page 9 with the current courses we offer.

If there is a specific area of interest that the learner is particular keen to incorporate into their qualification we can offer enhanced courses which can include other subject areas, for example 'Health and Social Care'. Please enquire about this using the contact details provided.

AIM Awards Qualification	Level / Size
Behaviour Change	1
Functional Skills	Entry 1, 2, 3
Qualification in English	Level 1, 2
Functional Skills	Entry 1, 2, 3
Qualification in ICT	Level 1, 2
Functional Skills	Entry 1, 2, 3
Mathematics	Level 1, 2
Raising Awareness	Entry 3
	Award/Extend
	ed Award
	Level 1
	Award/Extend
	ed Award
Employability Skills	Entry 1, 2, 3
	and Level 1, 2
	Award,
	Certificate,
	Diploma,
	Extended
	Award,
	Extended
	Certificate

# Funding Options and Local Authority Places

At HARMONY we are continuously seeking for opportunities for funding places for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged young people in our society and so because of this we are able to offer free places from time to time. Please enquire for further information. We are more than happy to work with you to submit joint applications to charities that support our causes and your young people, please contact us to request this support.

HARMONY Well-being centre is on the approved list for alternative education providers in Nottingham/Nottinghamshire, your child/young person may be able to access a place with us through these local authorities if applicable.

To request the costing for daily rates and for various programmes please use the contact information provided.





# Holistic and learner centred approach

#### Our team approach and tailored support

At HARMONY we will assign each learner with a mentor. The mentor will work with the learners to set achievable targets, to assess learner needs and then ensure that learners have the necessary aids and equipment to support them in achieving their full potential, i.e. communication cards, IT assistive software.

Each learner will also be assigned a Counsellor which they can choose to talk to for the duration of their placement at HARMONY. The Counsellor will be able to refer the learner to external support/agencies if necessary and offer a review of progress within the limits of learner confidentiality for parents/carers and/or social care if applicable.

Learners will also be assigned a pastoral worker/family support worker who will act as a liaison between the learner and their families/carers and any other agencies that are involved in the learner's care/support. These workers will address pastoral issues as and when they arise and also actively focus on a preventative approach to supporting the learner in order to avoid reaching a 'crisis' point within their education. Family workers will provide parenting advice and guidance as well as to act as an advocate for the family to help resolve issues that are directly/indirectly impacting on the learners achievement.

The assessor/tutor will ensure that learning is engaging and enjoyable and is tailored to the needs of their group. The learner's needs are the centre of their planning and delivery.

Learners will be encouraged to engage in physical activities that promote improved health and fitness during their placement at HARMONY.

Our team work together to provide a stable and consistent support system and learning environment that will catapult each of our learners into a brighter future!



#### **What Next?**

#### **Transition options**

At HARMONY we strongly believe in ensuring that each learner has a smooth transition both from their current education provider to us and also from us to their further education, training and/or employment.

In order to ensure a smooth transition we focus on **communication**, **planning and information**. We have robust policies and procedures in place to guide our practice and protect our learners.

Alongside our 'Bride programme' we ensure that all learners:

 Have a work experience placement alongside their course and/or in during the summer following the end of their final term

- Have mock interviews for both employment and education/training
- Thoroughly research their area of interest, including qualification and experience requirements for their chosen career path (i.e. apprenticeships, HE)
- Have a good understanding of their options and what happens if they change their mind about a career path or are unsure about which career path to choose

 Can access support from external agencies/charities if needed as a way of follow up support and security "At HARMONY we are a therapeutic learning provision with a difference. We believe in team work, blended support and we believe in tackling deep rooted issues that act as a barrier to those learners who are the most vulnerable and disadvantaged receiving high quality education"

At HARMONY we care about our learners, we value their input and want each of our learners to feel a part of our team. We believe in respect and autonomy.

We promote improved well-being for all of our learners.

Here at HARMONY our approach is learner-centred and it works!

Talk to Us:

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E: <u>info@lookinside.org.uk</u> / <u>info@transformcounselling.co.uk</u>

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