

Approach to Supporting SEN and Learning in Mainstream Schools

<http://swisscottage.camden.sch.uk/>

<http://www.swisscottageteachingschool.org.uk/>

About Us



Swiss Cottage School, Development and Research Centre is a Special Needs School catering for 200+ young learners age 2-19.

We are also an established Teaching School Alliance, comprising of a range of 25 schools, including primary schools, secondary schools, hospital schools, special schools, and alternative education providers, in addition to organizational partners.

As the Teaching School Alliance lead, we are a recognised centre of excellence with an exemplary track record for delivering high quality professional learning locally, nationally, and internationally.

We collaborate with schools in five continents, and with bodies and government authorities on supporting SEN provision globally. We host international visits, deliver training and have bilateral, trilateral and multilateral partnerships on major research grants and provisions for training, coaching and mentoring.

We work with mainstream and independent schools to support them understand their SEN learners better, devise strategies for coping with behavioural issues which can get in the way of learning, and coach teaching staff in the best ways to approach their learning requirements.



Swiss Cottage School, Martin Luther King's Class vision, October 2015, designed by the learners.

Our Uniqueness



Innovation

Our Development and Research Centre and Teaching School and network bridge the gap between researchers and practitioners, mainstream and special education needs

We collaborate in pan-London, cross-UK and international partnerships with schools, universities, local authorities, government agencies and bodies

Resilience

We are one of two UK SEN schools to have achieved 5 times **Outstanding** (OFSTED) consecutively and we have developed new revenue streams for the school ranging from CPDL courses to apps

The nature of our work with special needs' learners encourages a culture of flexibility, collaboration, creative communication and positive thinking

Accountability

Over staff cater for 232 learners aged 2-19 with moderate, complex, severe and profound learning difficulties across many areas of the special needs' spectrum

Continuous improvement and engagement with research and new developments in knowledge about education from cradle to grave are an obligation for all staff

Approach to Supporting SEN Strategies



Inclusive Pedagogy Model

Understanding the learners and their needs



Helping teachers and TAs with limited exposure to understand the spectrum of needs

Integration of behavioural approaches and supportive cognitive strategies



Reducing antagonism and encouraging a culture of learning and support

Creative methods of communication catering for learners with difficulties



Establishing ways through which children with SEN are included in the mainstream classroom



How we work with Mainstream Schools



Working collaboratively accelerates our knowledge bases



We design and deliver open and by-invitation programmes and events with our partners

It creates opportunities for new discoveries



We focus on what SEN can teach mainstream and vice versa

It expands the limits of our knowledge by exposing us to best-practice research and approaches



We cross-transfer knowledge gained from SEN and non-SEN environments using theory, practice, technology and creative solutions

It translates SEN pupil-centric strategies into the mainstream classroom



Using the concept of "inclusive pedagogy" we refocus the meaning of learning to take into account learners' contexts, interests and experiences.



The Knowledge-centric Approach

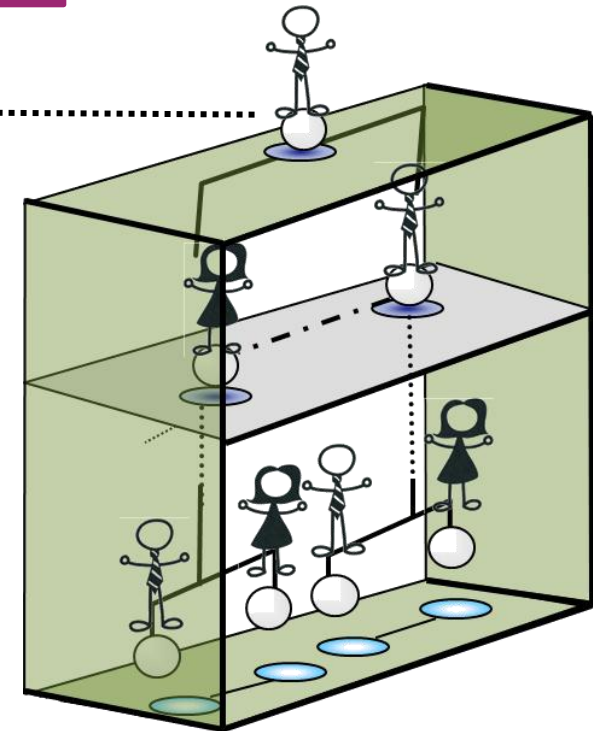


Sharing of knowledge relevant to challenges mainstream schools face with special needs learners

Swiss Cottage School Experts include: Autism team, Family Inclusion Team, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Sports, Speech and Language Therapy, in addition to business functions (HR, Financial Management, Development, Data Analysis and Financial Mgmt)

Swiss Cottage School

Your School



Collaboration
Integration
Practical experience
Track record

Insight and best practice exchange

Enhanced offering for learners by highlighting the school-to-family (and back -to-school) application of strategies

Working with senior leaders to develop strategies for the classroom

Select Examples of our Work and Impact



- The success of our consultancy services has enabled us to extend our reach and support schools from across the United Kingdom – in addition to London, we work with schools in Manchester, Merseyside, Wales and Jersey.
- We visit 70+ schools per year, UK-wide, to provide training to staff on a range of themes including curriculum development, assessment, and developing the role of teaching assistants – to improve OFSTED ratings as well as to enhance the school provision.
- We are likewise visited by a large number of schools and education providers who want to learn more about the latest developments in SEN support to learning innovations and practices.
- We work collaborative with partners including UCL-Institute of Education on research projects and Master’s modules.
- Our Business Team consults externally on matters as wide and varied as HR issues, regulatory matters, data gathering, analysis and reporting, financial management and commercial enterprise. Our “five times outstanding” status means our management of the school is a model for others.
- We have experience in CPD quality marking, application screening and assessments, leadership curriculum development, bids for research funding, and publicizing our work and innovations to generate awareness. We have been awarded a number of accolades and research funding in competitive tenders and submissions.
- We welcome secondments from other schools, and we are keen to discuss flexible arrangements to bolster member and partner school offerings and provisions through our input, knowledge and expertise.

