



Navigators

Learning, Developing, Enjoying

121 Nurture, Academic and Vocational Offer 2020-2021



Navigators is a registered UK Learning Provider
UKPRN: 10087274

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Navigators are proud of the work they carry out with vulnerable children and families. Testimonies and references from parents, carers and the children themselves are the biggest pat on the back and gratification we can wish for.

See below just one of the many comments we get:

“Just want to let you know that the service you provide for my son, whom hadn't been in education for three years and never left his bedroom and didn't interact with anyone and as a family we were fighting a losing battle and I didn't know where to turn to after every other service let us down, then your service came along and changed all that. My son attends Navigators 5 days a week he is getting an education which I thought would never happen it's like a light switch has been turned on and I have a completely different son who looks forward to going out with his mentor.

I can't thank this service enough for what they have done for my family, I would recommend them to anyone who has gone through the same situation as myself”

R McCahill – mum of Navigators pupil

A message from the founder:



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Navigators is a family run organisation with family values, a family ethos and a philosophy of nurture at the heart of its objectives and existence. We look to recruit the best compassionate and empathetic staff to make a difference to lives of vulnerable children and young people and their families, through a robust Safer Recruitment process. As a looked after child myself, I understand how important this should be in the influencing years of a child's life.

Intelligence is composite. We believe that Social and Ethical intelligence is just as, if not more, important as a person's IQ. This is our key area of development with each child we work with.

We believe that alternative provision really should be alternative, as you cannot replace school with school. All children are individuals and therefore all interventions should be individual, it really is simple. Not all interventions will work, and we believe that the 1 step backwards is just as important as the 2 steps forward.

At Navigators we use a simple 3 step approach, with all 3 areas being as important as each other.

To entice children to re-engage and trust adults, we need to **Create the Environment**. This is as simple as the mentors, teachers and other staff we place around them in their day to day learning. Children should not be placed in poor facilities or isolation.

Children's learning and development should be fun and motivating and should be built around their interests. **The offer** to the child should be inspirational and re-ignite their aspirations and learning.

The child is the curriculum and should be placed at the heart of any programme you are asking them to engage in.

We also use a positive language philosophy around the children every day and all staff are trained to use a Growth Mindset approach with "Not Yet" rather than "fail" focus in educational settings. Our logo was designed by feeding the carefully selected key words to describe our provision into the search engine: LEARN – DEVELOP – ENJOY.

We are constantly looking and learning from positive child development and educational specialists and Professor Carol Dweck has a massive impact on my philosophy.

Anthony Thompson

121 NURTURE (Key Stages 2/3/4/5)

Up to 5 days per week – 16 learning hours per week



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Navigators Mission Statement:

Intelligence is composite.

Navigators endeavours to develop social and ethical intelligence in children and young people who for whatever reason find themselves outside of mainstream education, through a nurturing, thematic, practical, vocational and academic programme to help them in their next stage of their lives.

Navigators unique and carefully designed, bespoke 121 Nurture programmes consist of an academic offer of English, Maths & ICT Functional Skills (or GCSE if the student is able), as and when they are ready.

Navigators has carefully designed, and accredited through NCFE, a Level 1 course in Personal Development with 3 strands of:

Health & Wellbeing
Relationships
Living in the Wider World

To compliment this, students will also choose from a range of vocational qualifications from the ASDAN short courses. Furthermore, all students will leave year 11 with a range of Employability skills such as Independent Living, Travel Trained and valuable hours of Work Experience as a minimum.

The Navigators 121 Nurture programme is aimed at supporting children and young people, who for a number of reasons and factors cannot currently cope in mainstream school, alternative provision groups and sometimes society in general.

By using a child led approach, we build an individual, bespoke interests driven engagement and nurture programme, at the pace and direction of the child.



We achieve this by setting time lined, agreed expectations between child, parents and family, the host school, and with the input of partnering agencies, to ensure all stakeholders, especially the child, own and understand their own development plan and pathways open to them.

Navigators mentoring programme aims to:

- Nurture the child to allow them to believe in themselves again
- Reintegrate and keep students in a structured and positive learning environment when the classroom environment has become unmanageable.
- Establish relationships, build on areas of interest and develop strengths of the child.
- Develop social and ethical intelligence to support the child to make better informed decisions in and outside of the home which in turn will improve the social functioning of the child.
- Improve confidence and aspirations of the child.
- Improve academic levels by working to a curriculum tailored to the child and in line with the child's functional level.
- Offer support in reintegration into classroom.
- Prepare the child for the next stage, whatever that may be, in their lifelong learning pathway.

This is done through a nurture driven ethos and value driven approach from senior management and all staff through a Growth Mindset (The Power of Yet), and with a view that all children are individual yet equal and can achieve anything they want to.

Navigators provision is a safeguard in most children's lives and we provide the basics of Maslow's Hierarchy of Need:

There are 3 unique core strands running through our programmes:

1. Create the Environment (Caring Staff & Inspiring Facilities)
2. The Offer (Functional Skills/Vocational Qualifications and Pathways)
3. The Pupil is the Curriculum (individualised Learning Plans and Goals)



Each child will also have a safe and nurturing experience with us, and we know this as they come back each day and never want to leave us! The biggest added value is the relationship we build with home, whether it is mum or dad, or both, with carers and care home staff. We treat each child as

part of our family and the additional care which goes into every child's development, every day they are with us, is unique. The key to developing children is relationships and our staff are empathetic and caring at all times and we only see the good in the child. All staff are trained and developed to deliver the core ethos and values of the organisation, which in turn passes onto the children.

Our staff have amazing engagement skills and we use a tried and tested model of mirroring and sometimes replacing a big brother/sister, cousin, uncle/auntie, gran/grandad and even dad, as the main missing ingredient in a vulnerable child's life is usually a positive role model. Our staff quickly develop positive, professional relationships and show the love, care, nurture and advice which is sometimes missing from their lives.

This includes transport, lunch and all activities and resources



For further information or for an informal discussion please contact the proprietor Anthony Thompson on 07508947921 or at anthony@navigator.org.uk