



Our Place School Prospectus

September 2021

Opportunity • Potential • Safety



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Head of Education's Welcome

Welcome to Our Place School, a happy and successful community where every student is recognised as an individual and where we aim for all to reach their full potential.

The students are at the heart of everything we do and – as shown in our values of **Opportunity**, **Potential** and **Safety**, our aim is provide our students with the best possible outcomes during their time with us.

As stated by Ofsted in their July 2021 inspection, *“Our Place is a happy school, where teachers have high expectations of what pupils can achieve... There is a calm and purposeful atmosphere in the school...”*

We work closely with parents/guardians to ensure their views regarding their child's education are listened to and “parents feel that their children are well cared for” at Our Place.

I feel very privileged as Head of Education at Our Place School, and if you would like to know more about how we work with young people, please contact me if you would like any further information.

Lauren Tallis, Head of Education NPQH





Our vision and Mission Statement



Opportunity • Potential • Safety

Our Vision statement '*Opportunity, Potential, Safety*' reflects our ambition and beliefs. We believe every young person deserves to feel safe and secure, receive an excellent education and the chance to fulfil their potential, whatever their background or needs. Young people who are Looked After deserve these opportunities too.



Our Place School Mission Statement

At Our Place Schools we believe that a young person who feels safe and secure is a successful one. We are committed to providing our young people with a place to grow and develop positively, where their individual needs are met, and they are seen and valued as the unique and wonderful young people they are.

As young people grow in a positive and stimulating environment, they feel secure in advocating for themselves. Young people can then build the capacity to learn new things and become confident to act mutually. When they are secure in their learning they can understand what they require and what is required from them.

Our Place Schools strives to provide a holistic, progressive, individually bespoke and creative care and curriculum plan, which has our young people's wellbeing (as defined by Section 10(2) of the Children Act, 2004) at the centre of all we do.

We believe that education should take place in a fully inclusive environment with equal opportunities for all and that young people should learn to value religious and cultural differences.

We believe that the care young people receive should be person-centred, so that they are safe secure and happy to enable young people to achieve.

Opportunity

We want to give all our young people the opportunity to flourish and feel the joys that learning can bring as well as gaining knowledge of differing cultures, beliefs and opinions. We want to give our young people opportunities that they may not have had access to or experience of before.

We want our young people to have the opportunity of enriched lives and develop a zest for life and learning, through our care and curriculum plans we will also teach them the day-to-day living skills they require for their journeys into adulthood. For some of our young people we can offer opportunity to begin to address what has happened in their past to shape them for the bright futures that lie ahead.

We can support our young people in this.

Potential

Our young people are full of potential, for some, this is un-tapped potential. It is through our belief in our young people that they discover their potential and realise their dreams and aspirations.

Our care and curriculum plan is evolving and flexible in nature to ensure we meet the Social, Emotional and Mental Health, Communication and Interaction, Cognitive and Sensory needs of our cohort. We seek to lower anxiety levels and respond to the unique talents of our young people, building their self-esteem, worth and confidence as they develop.

Our curriculum is designed to influence our young people so that they can aspire to achieve their full potential, and as they transition into adulthood they will be as positive, happy, skilled and as independent in their lives as possible.

Safety

We know that being safe is a paramount requirement for our young people. We also know that many of our young people were not safe in the past, and many have not had long-sustaining healthy emotional bonds with care-givers. In missing these healthy emotional bonds, some of our young people have not learnt feelings of safety, love and comfort.

Through our ethos and safeguarding culture we aim to provide our young people with an environment that is physically safe but also one of emotional and physiological safety.

- In connection to this document, please refer to our Mission Map and Module of Care
- For further details of our curriculum, please see our Curriculum Policy.
- For Further details of our safeguarding please see our Safeguarding Policy

Offering Unique Young People a Brighter Future

Our School

Our Place School is registered with Ofsted as an Independent Special School, approved to provide education for children with Special Educational Needs and Difficulties (SEND), aged 8 years up to the age of 19 years.

All of our students have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) and targets are tailored to meet their needs. We aim to prepare students for adulthood, building confidence and independence alongside academic success.

“If a child cannot learn in the way we teach, we must teach in a way they can learn”

Based on a quote from Ignacio Estrada, as cited in McInerney, 2015.

We want our students to flourish and feel the joys that learning can bring – know how to look after themselves, to enjoy the changing of the seasons and actively celebrate dates in the calendar, have experienced differing genres of music, poems, books, to participate in cookery lessons, enjoy going to differing places and environments (and learning how to behave in a socially acceptable manner) gain knowledge of differing cultures, beliefs and opinions. We want our students to have enriched lives and develop a zest for life and learning – through the above we will teach them the daily living skills they require for their journeys into adulthood.



Our Staff

Relationships between staff and pupils are excellent and create a genuine positive and supportive family atmosphere.

The staff who work at Our Place School are committed to the values of the school and keep the students at the heart of all they do.

We have a broad range of qualifications and experience, which includes having a Careers Leader and Forest School Leader.

“students develop trust and confidence because of the positive relationships they have with staff. Teachers have high expectations of what students can achieve”

Quote from Ofsted,
July 2021



“Staff make sure that all students experience success”

Quote from Ofsted,
July 2021

Our Students

At Our Place School we aim to:

- To give our students a positive school environment in which they feel safe and can have confidence in their abilities.
- To provide a curriculum that meets the student needs.
- To consider each student as an individual and work in cooperation with appropriate outside agencies and authorities to identify student needs and ensure the needs are met in conjunction with plans.
- To engage with students at their appropriate level, and give opportunities to communicate and interact.
- To ensure a high level of staff expertise is available to meet student need, through well targeted continuing professional development, and cooperative working between the home and school.
- To encourage students to adopt a healthy lifestyle both physically and emotionally.
- To work with students, families and local authorities in supporting students moving on from Our Place School.



Teaching and Learning

At Our Place School, we are proud of the fact that we aim to shape what we do according to the individual pupils on roll. As such, we are flexible in how we devise and deliver the curriculum we offer and will continue to adapt and refine it as the need arises. We aim for our curriculum to be inclusive for all our pupils needs.

Using our assessment and knowledge of pupils, we plan our curriculum to encourage next phases of learning to support progress. We work hard to identify and remove barriers to learning by using our expertise, sensitivity, perception and adaptability to respond to the pupil's changing social and emotional needs. We provide opportunities to experience challenge and success and know when to ease off when frustration / lack of resilience begins to show.

We know that our pupils respond to innovative and flexible approaches to learning and therefore use these to motivate and promote curiosity and intrigue. We believe that pupils learn in different ways, so we modify our teaching styles and resources to match pupil's learning styles. We allow pupils to make mistakes without undue criticism and we give them time to be successful. We value all attempts and contributions. We actively promote that the pupils have ownership in their own learning and if they are self-motivated in a particular area, this is encouraged and supported. We encourage our pupils to persevere and thus develop resilience.



Thrive

As a school we are now using an approach called 'Thrive'. Thrive supports children with their emotional health, well-being and social skills, all of which are needed for learning to take place. Thrive is based on up to date brain science and research into child development and helps staff in school adapt their approach to individual children to build self-esteem, well-being and behaviour.

The Thrive approach begins with a detailed assessment. Once we have parental consent, teachers use a computerised screening programme where they answer a series of questions about 'our' young people. This assessment in turn generates ideas, activities and strategies that can be used to support individual students and groups.

We know that this approach can be of huge benefit to all our young people and it enables our staff team to work together to provide consistent support to build self-esteem and equip them for managing the stresses of life in Britain today. We have fully trained 'lead' members of staff supporting teachers and teaching assistants with the implementation of the Thrive approach across our school.

Thrive is based on up to date
brain science and research into
child development

We've embraced
thrive
in our Setting



Forest School

We have two trained Forest Leaders to lead weekly Forest School sessions. We use our Forest school and outdoor learning area to inspire individuals through education in the outdoors.

We are fortunate to have an extensive forest area where all learners can access a range of activities from bug hunting, shelter building, making rustic items and learning to cook on an open fire. We promote Forest School because we know it supports our young people with:

- Self esteem and well being
- Speech, language and communication
- Teambuilding and friendships
- Safe risk-taking and resilience
- Independent learning

We are fortunate to have an extensive forest area where all learners can access a range of activities



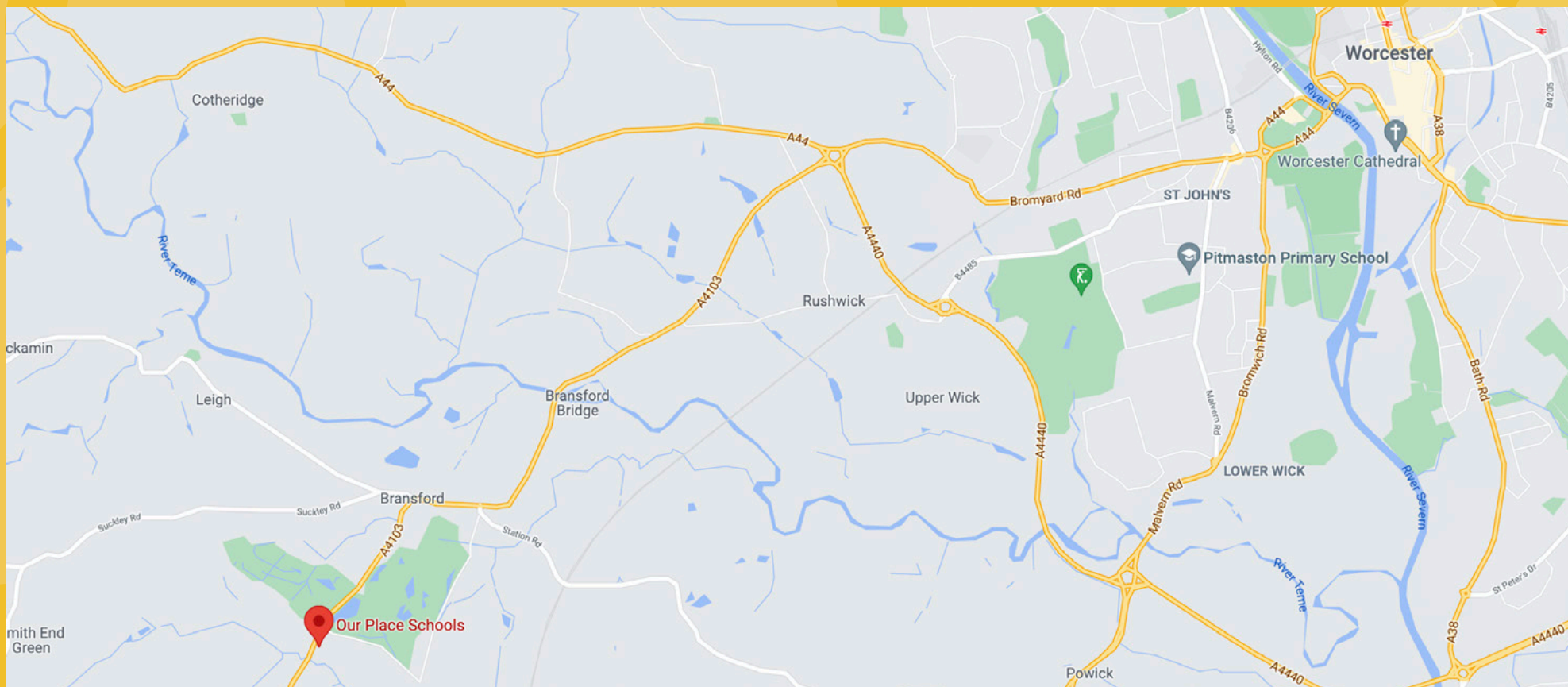
Our Place Schools Academic Year 2021/2022



Holiday	School closes on	School re-opens on
Autumn Term	Friday 23rd July 2021	Monday 23rd August 2021 <i>Training Days: 23/08/21, 24/08/21</i>
Autumn mid term	Friday 15th October 2021	Monday 1st November 2021 <i>Training Day: 01/11/21</i>
Christmas	Friday 17th December 2021	Tuesday 4th January 2022 <i>Training Day: 04/01/22</i>
Spring mid term	Friday 18th February 2022	Monday 28th February 2022 <i>Training Day: 28/02/22</i>
Easter	Friday 8th April 2022	Monday 25th April 2022 <i>Training Day: 25/04/22</i>
Summer mid term	Friday 20th May 2022	Monday 6th June 2022 <i>Training Day: 06/06/22</i>
End of summer term	Thursday 28th July 2022	Thursday 25th August <i>Training Days: 25/08/22, 26/08/22</i>

Holiday	Date
Summer Bank Holiday	Monday 30th August 2021
New Years Day (Substitute Day)	Monday 3rd January 2022 <i>(included in Christmas Holidays)</i>
Good Friday	Friday 15th April 2022 <i>(included in Easter Holidays)</i>
Easter Monday	Monday 18th April 2022 <i>(included in Easter Holidays)</i>
Early May Bank Holiday	Monday 2nd May 2022
Spring Bank Holiday	Thursday 2nd June 2022 <i>(included in Summer Mid Term Holidays)</i>
Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday	Friday 3rd June 2022 <i>(included in Summer Mid Term Holidays)</i>

How to find us



From M5: Leave the M5 at Junction 7 (signed Worcester, Evesham and A44). Join the A44 towards Worcester and at the roundabout, turn left onto the A4440. Remain on the A440 for approx 5 miles. At the fifth roundabout take the first exit onto the A4033. Remain on this road for approx 2 miles, you will come to an small island with the Bank House Hotel being on your

left, take the second exit onto the A4033 follow this road for approx. a mile and you will see the Our Place sign on the left.

By Train: The nearest station is Malvern, Travelling time to Malvern from Worcester Foregate Street is approx. 10 mins



Our Place
School

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e: contactus@ourplaceschools.com

www.ourplaceschools.com



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OUR PLACE
GROUP

Our Place School is part of
the Our Place Group.

Find out more at:

www.ourplacegroup.com



Our Place
School



Lakeside
@ Our Place



The Orchard
@ Our Place