

# *Pupil Guide*

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# HELLO, AND WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

***We hope that you find the information in this guide helpful. It will give you an idea of what we do in school and how we can support you as a pupil. First, we'll give you a bit of background info about Elemore Hall School...***

Elemore Hall is a special school for young people age 11-16, who have found it difficult in mainstream education. It was built way back in the mid-1700s and over recent years, has been extended with several new classrooms, a fully equipped music suite, sports hall and ICT suite.

Pupils are referred here by Durham County Council and all pupils have a statement of special educational needs. Our school is much smaller than other secondary schools, making it easier for pupils to work, get along with each other and gain qualifications.



***We understand that starting a new school is an exciting (and quite often anxious) time for children and young people.***

A successful transition can have a big impact on the future happiness and success of pupils, and we take every step to ensure this happens.

Every Elemore pupil is assigned a personal tutor and they will play a key part in your life in school. Personal tutors are usually classroom-based providing extra support in lessons, but a big part of their role is helping to develop self confidence and appropriate social skills. With support, we hope pupils can become independent as they progress through school and go on to life in the big wide world. Your personal tutor will work with you to develop this and be in regular contact with parents/carers.

# OUR UNIFORM

***Uniform at Elemore Hall is smart yet simple.***

Wearing uniform promotes pride, good hygiene and a sense of community. Pupils are expected to wear uniform every day and there will be rewards and incentives for pupils that do. All pupils are given two polo shirts and two sweatshirts free of charge!

## **YEARS 7, 8, 9, 10**

Navy blue sweatshirt

## **YEAR 11**

Black sweatshirt

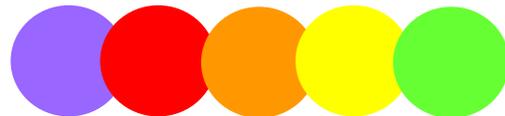
White polo shirt  
Appropriate trousers  
Clean, sensible shoes or trainers

## **PE KIT**

Change of t shirt  
Tracksuit bottoms or shorts  
Indoor trainers for sports hall



# BEING PART OF A TEAM



***New pupils and staff are put into one of five house groups.***

House teams compete against each other throughout the year and the highest earning pupils receive rewards.



*We have whole school events such as Sports Day and Challenge Days where houses compete against each other*

# OUR SCHOOL DAY

<b>0855</b>	<b>Taxis arrive in school</b>
<b>0855-0935</b>	<b>Lesson 1</b>
<b>0935-1015</b>	<b>Lesson 2</b>
<b>1015-1030</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>1030-1110</b>	<b>Lesson 3</b>
<b>1110-1150</b>	<b>Lesson 4</b>
<b>1150-1245</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>1245-1330</b>	<b>Lesson 5</b>
<b>1320-1400</b>	<b>Lesson 6</b>
<b>14:00-1410</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>1410-1450</b>	<b>Lesson 7</b>
<b>1450-1530</b>	<b>Lesson 8</b>
<b>1530</b>	<b>End of the school day</b>

*Pupils can grab breakfast on the way to class!*

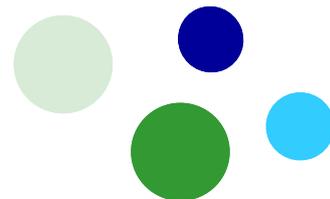
*Tuck shop opens at break!*

*Lunch is served in the dining hall*

*KS3 eat lunch first, then have a break.*

*KS4 have a break first, then eat lunch.*

*Pupils go home or to activity!*



## **Social times are really important at Elemore Hall School.**

Meals are prepared and served onsite by our own catering staff. Food is traditional and wholesome, made from fresh ingredients which are often grown in the garden.

Typically, lunch is a hot meal with additional options such as pasta, jacket potatoes, sandwiches and salads. Desserts are hugely popular, featuring fresh fruit, yoghurts and classic treats like cake and custard and cornflake tart!

**Pupils can spend break times outside or access indoor clubs such as:**

**Basements**

Games console, pool table, air hockey, sofa seating and refreshments

**Chill Room**

Sofa seating, ambient music, LED lighting

**Music Club**

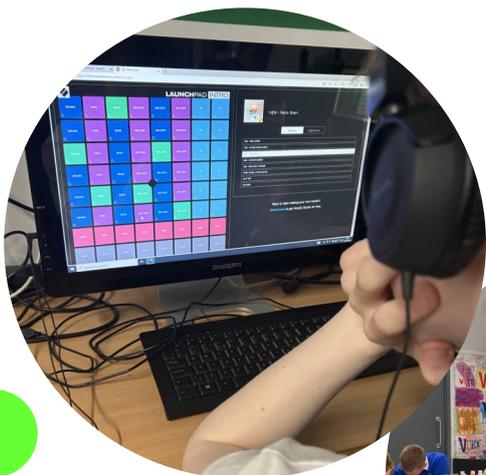
Instruments (drums, guitars, keyboards), computers, iPads, speakers

**Art Club**

Creative materials, computers

**Sports Hall**

Sports equipment for team based activities and skills practice (football, basketball etc.)



*"I love just chilling out in the basements and having the craic with everyone."*

Elemore Hall pupil

*"I think the sports hall is mint because you get to play football."*

Elemore Hall pupil



# THERE ARE LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

*The curriculum at Elemore Hall is dynamic and varied.*

We provide a wide number of subjects in order to make school as interesting as possible and to prepare pupils for life beyond Elemore Hall. Ultimately, pupils work towards BTEC, entry level and GCSE qualifications. Each lesson is lead by a teacher, plus there's additional support staff, meaning there's more help for everyone. Pupils also have access to 1-2-1 support in literacy and numeracy, which can be accessed throughout the week.



# BEING HERE EVERY DAY

**One of the most important things pupils can do to achieve is also one of the most basic - attend school every day!**

Pupils who regularly attend school develop important social skills, build confidence and experience new things. You are way more likely to succeed academically and be prepared for your future if you come to school and get involved.

At Elemore Hall School, pupils are rewarded for attending school and lessons every day. You will receive £2 for every week you have full attendance. This can be used in tuck shop, or saved over-time to buy things online! Pupils also earn house points for attendance.

Those with the highest number of house points get to attend the end of term trip. Past trips include activities such a laser quest or quad biking, then having a meal in a local restaurant!



*"I know coming to school and having good attendance will help me when I go to college."*

Elemore Hall pupil

Elemore Hall School wants all pupils to get the most out of their education and attending regularly is an important part of this.

**Remember, every day counts!**

# EXTRA ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

***In addition to the curriculum, Elemore Hall School provides a fantastic range of extra curricular activities to enrich the learning experience of pupils.***

These activities may take place at break times, after school, or in addition to day to day learning.

## **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDE;**



*"Being able to get next to the bees and see them producing the honey is incredible!"*

Elemore Hall pupil



Pupils have the opportunity to go on educational trips, such as caving, gauge walking, live music performances and to the theatre. These trips give pupils chance to share new, fun experiences!



***Charity events are a regular thing in our school calendar.***

We support many charities both nationally and locally such as Children in Need, Red Nose Day, Macmillan and local charity Team Solan Connor Fawcett Cancer Trust.

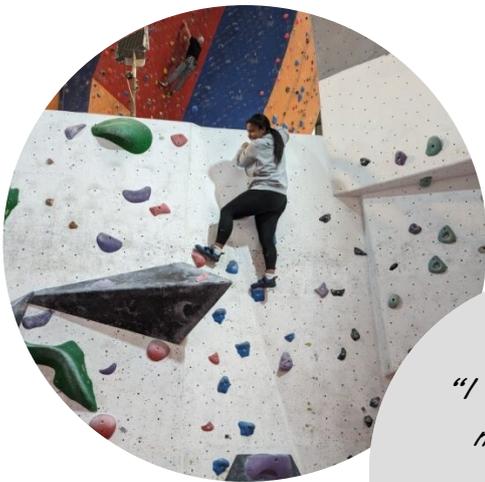
Charity fundraisers can range from wearing fancy-dress, football matches, week-long sporting events and coffee mornings. Everyone has the opportunity to get involved and help others in our community.



# EVENINGS AT ELEMORE

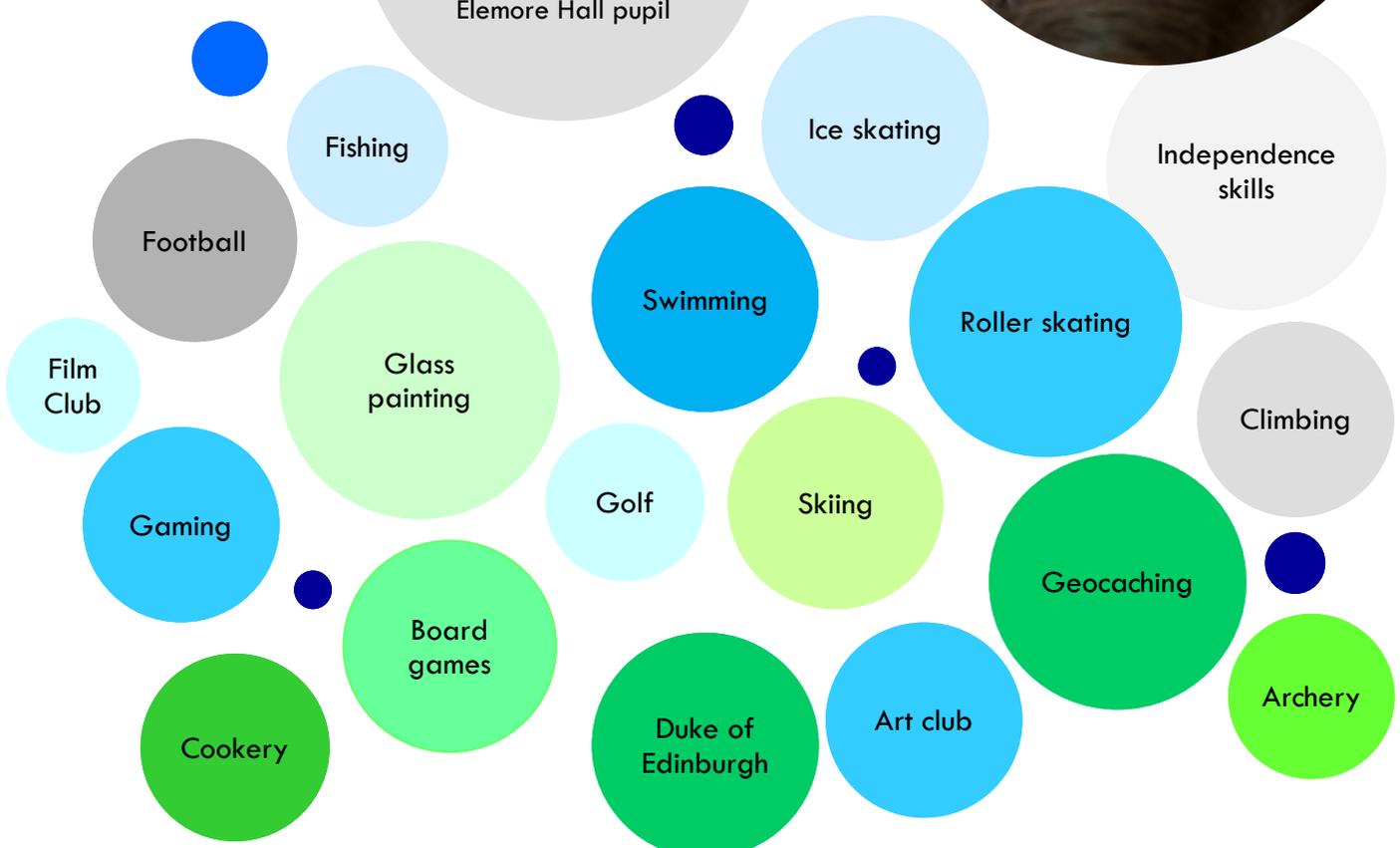
**All pupils are invited to participate in extended evening activities.**

These run from Monday to Thursday and every pupil is encouraged to take part. Activities change each term and it's up to you to choose which ones you'd like to try. Some activities take place immediately after school, whereas others take place after tea. Some are on school premises, though most are offsite. Some activities run every term (e.g. swimming), whilst others vary (fishing in summer/ice skating in winter).



*"I stay back three nights a week! I love it!"*

Elemore Hall pupil



# SLEEPING IN SCHOOL

***Becoming a resident at Elemore Hall School means pupils can stay overnight!***

Our two living units are Bede and Cuthbert, each consisting of a living room, kitchen, showers, bathrooms and bedrooms.

Pupils can sleep from Monday to Friday. Residents are responsible for their own bedrooms and can make use of TV, games consoles, PCs, books and craft materials during social time. Tea is served in the dining hall, whereas breakfast and supper is prepared by pupils on the units.



*"I like having my own space here."*

Elemore Hall pupil



*"I get to do stuff that I wouldn't have the opportunity to do at home."*

Elemore Hall pupil



*"My favourite part of staying back is going swimming."*

Elemore Hall pupil



# PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

***It is a feature of every school that at some point pupils leave. The transitions process is an important part of what we do at Elemore Hall School and staff work hard to ensure our young people are better prepared for life after school.***

Staff support pupils through this journey from a young age, whether that be in lessons where we learn about careers and jobs available, visits to colleges and work places, or working with local agencies such as Durham Works to prepare applications, create CVs and prepare for interviews.

In 2024 we hosted our first ever Careers Fair where local businesses, employers and training providers came in and gave in-person support. We are very proud of the continuous support we offer pupils which gives them the best chance to go on to further education, employment or training.



***We strongly encourage you to visit the school. A visit allows you to get a real feel for the school and is the perfect opportunity to ask any questions!***

Please see our website for further details and check out our social media for the latest updates!

<https://elemorehallschool.com>

Head Teacher: Mr Hunter  
Deputy Head: Mr Lord  
Assistant Head: Ms Johnston