

Welcome from Headteacher

Amwell View School was established in 1963. Over the years it has developed and flourished to provide 'Outstanding Education' (Ofsted, 2007, 2010, 2014, 2018 and 2024) for children with Severe Learning Difficulties aged 2-19 years.

We are pleased to be able to continue to offer high quality educational provision for children with Severe Learning Difficulties and who have an EHCP. Children and Young People at Amwell View School are highly motivated to learn using a wide range of exciting materials and resources presented in a very full curriculum. The importance of communication is seen as the core to curriculum delivery and the school is enthusiastic about the use of Makaton, Symbols and the signing vocabulary to facilitate this. Working together with Speech and Language Therapists ensures success in the development and effective use of alternative communication strategies.

With the expertise of a committed and flexible staff group, who care for and educate the pupils, we continue to offer high quality learning opportunities for all children. When children find it difficult to learn we attempt to re-direct and differentiate learning for those children and young people.

Working together with parents, health and other professionals enables us to offer the best education that we can and to support children and young people through school and prepare them for adulthood.

Amwell View School places high importance on the development of staff as well as children. We see this as a core value in the success of the organisation, and are pleased that a number of staff are eager to progress into the profession of teaching, which sustains the teaching profession in this school and supports the Teaching profession as a whole.

We are proud to celebrate the success of all learners in the school, but particularly of the pupils. Their success and achievements make for a very positive atmosphere in the school and spurs everyone on to work harder together to achieve these positive outcomes.

Our aim for the future is to continue to make improvements to our school and the learning environment, enhancing the learning process for our pupils. For many of the children their greatest joy is experienced in school where they are able to have access to specialist resources, such as the sensory room, soft play, dance studio with specialist teachers.

Amwell View's curriculum has developed over many years to offer pupils a wide breadth of experience and opportunities to engage in meaningful learning. Learning opportunities are progressive and take into account age appropriateness and future destination as pupils' progress through the Key Stages.

Satellite Provision

Amwell View School has continued to grow its capacity to offer more places to children and families who need it. The main site has grown from 80 children in 2005 to 170 in 2024. The school has been innovative in its approach to building and developing the school environment to offer outstanding education to as many pupils as possible. Unfortunately, the main school site is now at capacity. We have worked with the local authority to create satellite provision which has enabled us to continue to grow.

Community Classroom Satellite

The Community Classroom is a satellite provision based in the local village of Stanstead Abbots. Located next door to our existing charity shop, the Community Classroom allows it's pupils to be in the heart of their local community. The class room was previously a large shop but it was converted and has been used as a class room since September 2022. The space consists of a large classroom, fully functioning kitchen, a social diner area and an art studio. The newly renovated building contains all new equipment with vibrant colours and resources. By being off-site, pupils are granted with a sense of trust and responsibility, where they know they are representing their school whilst in the community.

The Community Class curriculum comprises of areas that are important for the transition from Amwell View to life after school. Pupils are given the opportunity to complete work experience placements, learn home management skills, cater lunches for themselves and peers, allow their creative capabilities to shine and generalise these skills in various off-site contexts.

The Community Classroom still remains closely linked to the main site; Music, Science and Dance lessons are delivered at school and pupils return for assemblies. The Community Classroom frequently hosts classes from the main site in their village classroom to share what they have been up to and practise new skills they have learnt. Pupils arrive and depart from the main school building for continuity, with transport to and from the village classroom and to any off-site trips being provided for in the new Community Class minibus.

Tonwell Satellite

Tonwell St Mary's Primary School is a beautiful building and has a chapel of Bengoe parish which was built in 1858 and was last used as a church in the early 2000's, formally made redundant in 2005 and then the building was used as a primary school until it was closed at cabinet in August 2024. At this point the local authority alerted Amwell View School to the potential use of the empty site. Following site visits and rigorous inspections it was agreed that the site would be viable for a satellite provision. Following a successful consultation process the satellite offers provision for 33 children. The satellite opened to ten children in January 2025. From February 2026 this site will have 33 children attending.

Pupils complete their learning with all of the resources, equipment and space they may need. We have resourced the new site with everything essential to provide the same level of outstanding provision that Amwell View provides. Pupils will have the opportunity to use the different areas of the school within their learning. For example; the PE hall, cooking area, playground and field, their classroom, library area and nature reserve area.

The environment is risk assessed, maintained and utilised in the same way as the main site.

Safety of pupils remains our priority, therefore building works have been completed to ensure it meets our standards for security and safety. Protocols and procedures for this follow the same high level as the main site.

Arlesdene Nursery Satellite

Arlesdene Nursery and Pre-school is a maintained Nursery and works closely with Amwell View School and to provide specialist provision for their pupils with SEN.

The Arlesdene Satellite started in September 2024. The Local Authority has agreed to fund four pupils with SEN through Amwell View and placed at Arlesdene. Senior Leaders provide regular support to the satellite and engage continuously with the Headteacher Claire Cobain. Claire is also Arlesdene's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) and is an accredited SENCO who has had special training to help children who need extra support.

Buntingford Satellite

Amwell View School has plans to expand by 100 places through the opening of a provision in Buntingford from January 2028. The expansion of Amwell View has been carefully considered to support the growth and development of the entire cohort and how we continue to improve our curriculum and education offer in the future. As pupils currently remain on the same site for up to 17 years it is increasingly difficult for Amwell View to increase and extend learning opportunities for its secondary and post-16 population.

The vision of the school has always been to support children to reach their full potential to enable them to find their place in society. This has been achieved by developing a curriculum, specialist knowledge and resources to enable extension, a focus on independence and a series of steps to enable a positive transition to adult life.

To be able to create a purpose built secondary version of Amwell View is not only exciting for everyone but it provides us with many opportunities that we would not have if the 2-19 cohort remained on one site.