



Online School

Prospectus 2025-2026

eslandonlineschool.co.uk



**Changing
children's lives
for the better**

Find your way

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Welcome from Jenny Illsley our headteacher

Dear students, parents and carers,

I am delighted to welcome you to our dynamic and innovative virtual learning community. We are a therapeutically informed online SEN (Special Educational Needs) school specialising in high-quality education for 8 to 18 year-olds. We aim to re-engage young people missing from education by providing a safe and flexible online learning environment.

We support young people who have a primary need related to Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC), Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN), anxiety and emotionally based school avoidance, and Social, Emotional, and Mental Health needs (SEMH).

Our students benefit significantly from the wealth of therapeutic education knowledge and experience that's deeply ingrained within Esland. With four brick-and-mortar day SEN schools throughout England, we are an established provider of SEN education and understand how unique an individual's learning journey can be.



At Esland Online School, we offer a holistic approach to education by providing an online learning experience that's both academically rigorous and emotionally supportive. We follow Esland's unique Turning the Curve™ education model, which provides a flexible and bespoke learning curriculum underpinned by therapeutic support.

The model helps young people who have missed elements of education rediscover their love of learning. Meanwhile, our in-house clinical team provides tailored therapeutic support, helping students navigate their social, emotional, and behavioural challenges with care and expertise. We believe this blended approach is pivotal in helping students find a clear pathway back to school or a suitable long-term educational provision.

Thank you for choosing to be part of the Esland Online School community. I look forward to working alongside you to support and empower our students.

Yours sincerely,

J Illsley

Ethos

Therapeutically informed online education

At Esland Online School, we've taken all the experience and knowledge we've gained from our brick-and-mortar SEN schools and transferred them into our online platform.

Our online school offers a broad and appropriate curriculum that students can access from their homes, enabling them to gain various qualifications that will prepare them for further education, employment, or training.

We have an extremely passionate and talented team who put reassurance and encouragement at the very heart of our approach. We aim to create a low-pressure environment with consistent, empathetic communication for students who have struggled in traditional school settings. Our team is trained to recognise signs of anxiety or disengagement and will provide one-to-one support to build trust and confidence.

Alongside their academic learning, students receive individualised therapeutic support to help them understand and manage challenges linked to broader developmental needs. This approach instils the skills and techniques they'll need to navigate the world beyond school into adulthood.

When students first join us, they complete several academic and therapeutic assessments so that we can comprehensively understand their abilities, emotional needs, and social development. This profile helps our staff adapt learning opportunities and create a personalised schedule to help them get the most out of their lessons.

This bespoke and tailored treatment sets our school and curriculum apart. Although we're not physically in the same space as our students, we do everything we can to make our lessons as inspiring, engaging and stimulating as possible for the individual. Ultimately, we want to help our students reignite their curiosity and find the joy in learning again.



Our values

Throughout their time with us, we encourage students to live by Esland's core values: be bold, be kind, be curious, and have fun.

These values are more than just words — they shape the heart of our school culture. They guide how we teach, learn, and interact, ensuring that both students and staff feel confident, supported, and inspired within our online learning environment.

Bold

To be confident in our decision-making and able to create new ideas and thinking.

Fun

To create fun ways to learn and care for our young people and have enjoyable experiences with our work colleagues within a safe and professional environment.

Kind

To be friendly, open, thoughtful, and respectful to our young people, their families, our co-workers, and all professionals we liaise with through our work.

Curious

To be professionally curious by asking questions and always seeking to understand behaviours.

Our school

The freedom to learn from home

Esland Online School is a safe, inclusive and welcoming education platform designed to give students the freedom to learn in their own unique way and at their own pace.

We provide everything students need to begin their learning journey, including laptops with all the necessary access, safeguarding and security software preinstalled. We ensure the technical side of accessing our network of qualified and experienced tutors and therapeutic clinicians is as easy as possible so that students can concentrate solely on their learning.

Our virtual classrooms are warm and supportive spaces which value each student's unique needs and strengths. We keep them small (up to 5 people where appropriate) so that everyone gets the personalised focus they need to flourish and to ensure students feel comfortable and able to express themselves freely.

Building personal relationships is key. Our team take their time getting to know students, not just as learners but as individuals, and they pay attention to their interests and hobbies.

Each week, students participate in therapeutic sessions tailored to their needs, which may include group interventions or one-to-one therapy with our in-house clinicians. The focus of each session will depend on the student's needs. Still, the aim is to introduce new techniques to help them recognise, understand and manage their emotions to build on their character strengths and increase their resilience.

Our goal is to prepare students to return to a physical classroom environment, either in an Esland school or an alternative education provision. We want to help them continue to develop their skills and reach for new and exciting opportunities in the future. Thanks to our Turning the Curve™ education model, we have years of experience behind us to achieve this.

Our curriculum

Stimulating, engaging and aspirational

Students at Esland Online School have access to a broad and balanced curriculum offer that enables them to progress. Our curriculum aims to prepare students for their next steps by providing a range of academic pathways and social skills that will benefit them throughout their adult lives.

We support and challenge our students to become successful learners who can apply the skills they've gained to build stable relationships, engage productively in the community, and establish a fulfilling work life.

Our curriculum is broad and balanced and includes a range of subjects that are personalised to our students' individual needs. Students can gain GCSEs and Functional Skills qualifications at Entry 1, Entry 2, Entry 3, Level 1, and Level 2, as well as ASDAN (Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network) and vocational accreditations.

At Esland Online School, our curriculum is rooted in the National Curriculum programmes of study. However, we thoughtfully adapt and personalise it to meet each student's individual needs, following a stage-not-age approach that recognises their unique learning journey.

Key stage 2 and 3

- English
- Maths
- Science
- PSHE
- Physical & Mental wellbeing
- World studies
- Digital skills

Key stage 4 and 5

- English
- Maths
- Science
- PSHE
- Physical & Mental wellbeing
- Careers & preparation for adulthood

Therapeutic approach

Therapeutically informed approach

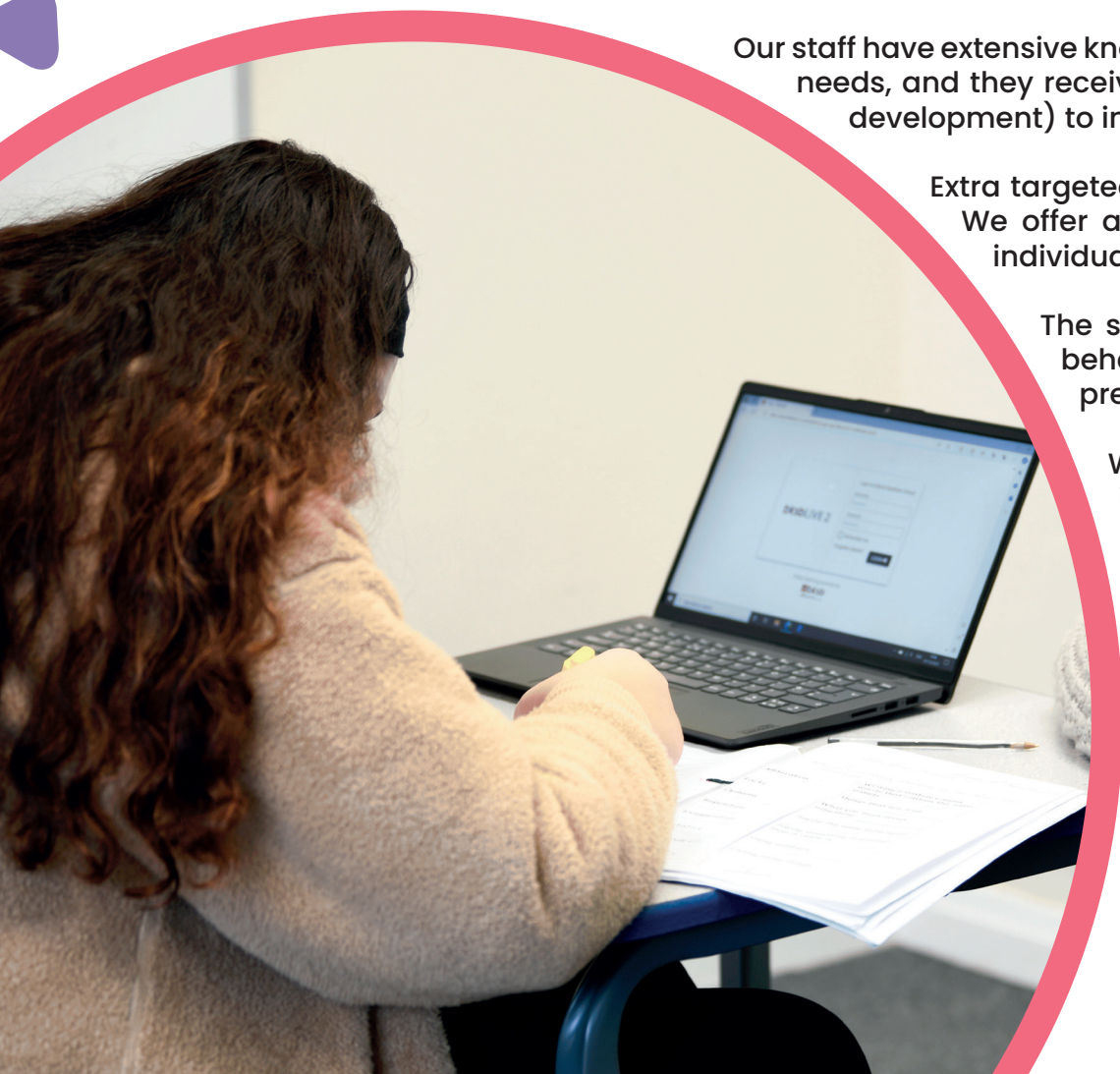
We have a therapeutically informed approach to teaching, working to ensure that broader individual needs are met so that learning can take place.

Our staff have extensive knowledge and experience working with young people with additional needs, and they receive ongoing weekly in-house clinical CPD (continuing professional development) to inform their practice further.

Extra targeted training is provided where appropriate for staff in specific roles. We offer a tailored therapies approach which is bespoke to our students' individual needs.

The school's behaviour policy is based on the principles of relational behaviour management. We understand that much of the behaviour presented by the students attending our online school is needs-driven.

When a student first joins us, their parents or carers will be involved in writing a behaviour support plan that informs staff and enables them to implement individualised approaches for managing challenging behaviour. We supplement this with trauma-informed approaches, such as the PACE (playfulness, acceptance, curiosity, and empathy) therapeutic model.



Admissions process

What is our admissions process?

Students are placed at Esland Online School following a consultation with their Local Authority (LA). Our panel will review the consultation paperwork, and if we feel we can meet the young person's needs, we'll ask for the LA's permission to complete an assessment to determine their suitability for a placement.

Our assessment process involves young people attending a virtual open day with their parents/carers, where we'll discuss the school's provision, and explore what additional adjustments may be required.

In some circumstances, we may contact previous school placements and other professionals working with the young person to gain additional feedback that will support their consultation paperwork.

Once the assessment is complete, and if both parties agree to proceed, we'll approach the LA with a formal placement offer before contacting the parents/carers to begin transition arrangements.



Admissions criteria

We'll consider referrals for students who:

- Are aged between 8 to 18 years-old
- Have a primary need related to:
 - Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC)
 - Speech, Language and Communication needs (SLCN)
 - Anxiety
 - Emotionally-based school avoidance
 - Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH) related to any of the above
- Are able (or have the potential) to:
 - Access a broad and balanced curriculum resembling the National Curriculum at key stage 2, 3, 4 and 5.
 - Access the teaching primarily as part of a small group (up to five)
- May also present with:
 - Challenging behaviour within mainstream settings (due to needs above not being appropriately met)
 - A history of school refusal and/or placement breakdowns
 - Barriers to learning such as dyslexia and dyspraxia
 - Additional communication and/or sensory needs
 - Academic progress below age-related expectations
 - ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder)/OCD (obsessive-compulsive disorder)/ADD (attention deficit disorder)/PDA (pathological demand avoidance)/ Tourette's syndrome (as a secondary or additional diagnosis to those listed above)



Admissions and consultations

Local Authorities



If you represent a Local Authority and would like a consultation, please complete the form on the link below or scan the QR code. Once submitted, a member of our team will contact you to discuss the next steps.

eslandonlineschool.co.uk/consultation-form

Parent/carers enquiries



If you're a parent or carer and would like to find out more about our online school, please complete the form on the link below or scan the QR code. Once submitted, we'll be in touch to book you a place at one of our virtual open days.

eslandonlineschool.co.uk/pc-form

Contact us

Esland Online School

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Opening times: 8:30am – 4:30pm

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