

# Aurora Keyes Barn School



“ The difference in our son’s behaviour during the time that he’s been at Aurora Keyes Barn has improved beyond our expectations. ”

A specialist, independent primary school for boys aged 5-12 who face challenges associated with additional social, emotional or mental health needs.

## At The **Aurora** Group

We believe in giving people the opportunities they need to create and lead fulfilling, independent lives.

Established in 2015, we are now the UK's fifth largest provider of education, care and support services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Each of our schools, colleges and residential homes retains its own unique identity while embracing and embodying our group's core values:

- We are caring. We understand that your experience in mainstream care and education may have been a difficult one. We take seriously our responsibility for the children and young people in our care, and are committed to making your time with us as positive and fulfilling as possible.
- We are ambitious. We have high expectations of all our children and young people, regardless of what barriers they may have faced in the past. We encourage them to expect more for themselves, while challenging employers and communities to understand and value their diverse needs and attributes.
- We are collaborative. Everything we do, we do in partnership with you. We actively seek and listen to feedback from students, parents and staff, to find out what's working well, what we can do better, and how we can further develop all our services to benefit the people we work with.
- We are trusted. Our business is funded by ethical investors. They understand that sustainable growth is possible only when we hold ourselves to the highest standards, by delivering consistently top-quality services to every single person we work with.
- We are innovative. We begin planning for each young person's future the minute they walk through our doors. We tailor our approach to their unique needs, and are constantly looking for new opportunities to help them explore, enhance and employ their own skills, talents and abilities.

# Welcome

Our vision at Aurora Keyes Barn has remained steadfast since we opened in April 2008 – we aim to give every child hope for a positive future and a chance to discover their full potential.

Many of our pupils have experienced adversity in the past, often facing behavioural and communication challenges that have resulted in barriers to learning. We help them to overcome these challenges, providing a stimulating and nurturing curriculum that encourages them to love learning by fostering their curiosity, creativity and resilience.

Staff at Aurora Keyes Barn are highly trained, skilled and committed to building trusting, positive relationships with our pupils to enhance both their academic and their emotional development. Whatever challenges our pupils face, our dedicated team work tirelessly to help them manage their behavior, build their confidence and realise their individual potential.

I'm tremendously proud of the team and the work we do here at Aurora Keyes Barn. To get a real feel for the atmosphere and environment we have created in our school, please contact us to organise a visit and I will be happy to meet with you and your family for a tour.

*Diana de Nooijer*  
Headteacher, Aurora Keyes Barn



# About Our School

At Aurora Keyes Barn, we provide personalised, specialist education for boys aged 5-12 who face challenges associated with additional social, emotional or mental health needs.

We offer a nurturing and safe environment in which each of our pupils can learn and express themselves, supported by skilled staff who understand their needs.

By giving our pupils the opportunity to be part of an enriched school and community life, we enable them to achieve their own unique level of independence as they approach adolescence, ultimately preparing them for life beyond school.

## Our Facilities

Aurora Keyes Barn is situated in Salwick, a largely rural village between Kirkham and Preston in Lancashire.

The main part of the school is based in a converted barn consisting of two classes and two breakout areas. Outside we have an additional classroom as well as three multipurpose rooms alongside the main school building. The school can cater for up to 24 pupils.

All classrooms have a range of IT resources, which pupils make use of in a number of ways during their lessons and break times. Within our breakout areas we have a music space with guitars and an electronic drum set, which pupils are welcome to use.

We have three outdoor areas, including a soft area with a variety of exercise equipment for pupils to use during break times, as well as two hard court areas where pupils can ride their scooters or play ball games.





In addition to the facilities on site, our pupils have access to a range of sports and outdoor education centres within the local area.

## Our Curriculum

At Aurora Keyes Barn, we provide a wealth of opportunities for our pupils to develop the skills and knowledge to get 'Life Ready'!

We offer broad, balanced and needs-led learning programmes based on the National Curriculum, to which pupils are encouraged to make positive contributions. As well as furthering their academic skills this also promotes the development of important life skills, such as confidence and a sense of responsibility.

As part of our commitment to promoting physical activity at Aurora Keyes Barn, we offer two PE sessions a week, incorporating individual sports, team games, swimming and more adventurous activities such as indoor climbing.

Our regular school assemblies offer pupils the opportunity to celebrate achievements, events and special occasions together. We share and celebrate pupils' achievements and reward pupils for their efforts in weekly prize-giving assemblies.

## Your experience with us

Many of our pupils face significant barriers to learning as a result of their additional social, emotional and behavioural needs. We therefore place great emphasis on differentiation of activities and materials to take account of individual learning styles, using a combination of class-based, group and individual strategies involving a wide range of teaching skills, perspectives and resources.



Our small class sizes allow us to provide a focused and personalised education, with close monitoring of individual targets and behaviour to identify and avoid potential problems.

Where required, we offer enhanced support throughout the school day to facilitate access to the curriculum and participation in school activities. We also offer an inclusion policy allowing for mainstream support and the provision of 'time-out placement' each week.

Behavioural, emotional and social wellbeing of pupils are monitored throughout the week, with our on-site Clinical Psychology team working alongside our teaching staff to offer prompt and timely support to those pupils who need it.

The Clinical Psychology team's work is underpinned by attachment and trauma-informed principles and strategies, to ensure that pupils' needs are understood in the context of their life experiences.



# What you need to know

## Uniform and PE

We provide two school jumpers each academic year.  
We require pupils to wear black school pants with white polo tops.

All kit required for all activities is provided and laundered by the school. Pupils are required to wear their own trainers.

All children attending school are expected to take part in all physical activities unless there is a suitable medical explanation.

## Meals

The school offers a range of healthy lunches and can cater for specialist diets if required.

# Our commitment to you

## Quality Statement

At Aurora Keyes Barn we strive to provide the highest quality service to young people, parents/carers and local authorities. We believe that all these groups have the right to comment on the service we provide and to understand the complaints procedure.

If you do have a concern or complaint, we do want to hear about it as soon as possible. Please ask the School office for a copy of our complaints procedure if you would like to know more. We like to know when we are getting things right too, so please feel free to also send us any compliments – our staff are always happy to hear them!

## Safeguarding Statement

At Aurora Keyes Barn we are wholly committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of our students, and we expect all staff and visitors to share this commitment. Safer recruitment practices are followed and all staff have an Enhanced DBS check.

## Contact Us

For more information please contact us at:

### **Aurora Keyes Barn School**

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ADHD, ASC, Asp,  
SLCN, Learning  
Difficulties and MLD



5-12



Boys



38 Week Day

Caring

Ambitious

Collaborative

Trusted

Innovative



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The\_AuroraGroup



The Aurora-Group