



# Physis Heathgates Academy

Part of the Physis Group

## Academy Prospectus- 2016



# An Introduction from the Head Teacher

Physis Quantum offers residential care, education and therapy to young people aged 11-18 who are either at risk of or have experienced Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). The service provided includes all three areas working together to help the young people to overcome their experiences and have the resilience, self-belief and knowledge to develop a successful future. Our website [www.physisgroup.co.uk](http://www.physisgroup.co.uk) gives you more information about the education at Physis.

Alternatively, if you'd like to know more, please contact me on the details below to arrange a visit. We look forward to seeing you.

Many thanks,

*Andy Plant*

Headteacher

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# We Achieve Together

The Physis Academy strives for excellence in all aspects of its planning and delivery - and is committed to providing a respectful, challenging and supportive environment. All of the students are educated either 1:1, 2:1 or 3:1. This is dependent on their individual needs and development.

We aim to be a nationally recognised beacon of good practice, producing thoughtful, imaginative, engaging and measurable outcomes that clearly demonstrate success in all aspects of our work with children and young people.

The Physis Quantum ethos is based upon supporting children and young people to achieve success by maximizing individual potential, celebrating achievement, and raising every pupil's sense of self-esteem and self-worth through the acquisition of nationally and internationally accredited awards as appropriate to their Individualised Education Plans, Personal Education Plans, Education Health and Care Plans and personal aspirations.

To achieve this level of success, Physis Quantum adopts an integrated approach to learning, in that everyone involved in the care, education and therapeutic process of our children and young people takes an active role in the promotion of skills, knowledge and learning.

# Location & Setting

The Academy is situated in a peaceful location and we have worked hard to make an attractive learning environment for our students. It is located on one site which contains all of the offices and five classrooms including a fully fitted kitchen, art room and specialist teaching areas. There is a new PC and printer in each classroom along with all of the necessary resources for subject teaching.

As you enter the Academy we hope that you feel welcomed by the friendly working atmosphere that has been created by our staff and students. At Physis we are proud of the high expectations we have for all children. Everyone who works in the Academy is encouraged to reach their potential and we celebrate the success that is achieved. Working together, the staff and students learn to respect and care for each other.



View of The Shropshire Hills from a study room at the Academy.

# The Learning Environment

The Physis school environment is designed to offer structure, routine and variety with the specific goal of removing previously held inhibitors to learning. As such, we have developed a semester system that caters for the widest range of ages and abilities. This ensures that the children and young people we support are constantly motivated and engaged and do not experience the learning and disengagement peaks and troughs associated with more traditional 'term-based' approaches.

All of our children and young people are expected to actively participate in developing their own learning and progress and are positively encouraged and empowered to develop ownership of both their individual education programmes and the day-to-day running of the Academy.

As well as establishing a strong emphasis upon achieving competence in core National Curriculum subjects we also offer other curriculum subjects as well as the Quantum Leap programme

We actively encourage our children and young people to both utilise and understand a range of ICT and multimedia resources to maximise their learning experience and potential.

# Life Skills and Qualifications

Physis Quantum is committed to inclusion, where appropriate and achievable – and we have an extensive and productive network of links with local employers who are able to offer a wide range of challenging and rewarding vocational opportunities and experiences.

Measurement of achievement is undertaken through a range of recognised and accredited routes and awards. We offer Entry Level, Functional Skills and GCSE examinations in the core subjects as well as covering the ASDAN life skills programme where appropriate. Physis Quantum has developed close links with a local speech and language therapist, careers advisor and physical trainer, using many local facilities which enable the students to learn both within and away from the school environment.

The young people placed with Physis Quantum undertake a specific programme that is focused upon achieving a smooth transition through the school key stages as well as the 'real world' expectations of Post 16 studies and / or employment in the adult workplace.



# The Quantum Leap Programme

An exciting new development at Physis is The Quantum Leap Programme.

Due to the traumatic experiences suffered by all of the young people prior to their arrival at Physis, it was noted that, in almost all cases, they benefitted the most from therapy sessions, PSHE lessons, Sex and Relationship Education and the learning of life skills via the ASDAN programme.

After much consideration it was decided that an education programme which would prepare the young people for the next and future stages of their lives would be one which concentrated on developing the individual rather than insisting that each child studied for GCSE, Entry Level and Functional Skill courses in foundation subjects, although these are offered in core curriculum subjects.

It was also decided that, although the education, care and therapy elements of a placements life at Physis were closely linked, we should endeavor to create an even closer bond between these elements and make it clear to each of the girls that all three will have a beneficial effect on their future lives.

# The Teaching & Management Team

The teaching staff currently consist of a Head Teacher, Deputy Education Manager, 2 full time teachers and 2 part-time teachers.

During school time and in addition to the study of curriculum subjects, the students also receive therapy sessions from our Psycho-therapist and take part in the Quantum Leap Programme.

The care teams at the Physis homes also play an important part in the education of the youngsters. There are regular key worker evenings and a variety of meetings between the education, care and therapy teams.

The SLT meets regularly to discuss all matters relating to the children at Physis.



# The Academy Timetable

Students arrive at 8.55am

9.00 – 10.00	Lesson 1
10.00 – 10.05	Break
10.05 – 11.05	Lesson 2
11.05 – 11.15	Break
11.15 – 12.15	Lesson 3
12.15 – 12.25	Assembly
12.25 – 1.10	Lunch
1.10 – 2.10	Lesson 4
2.10 – 2.20	Break
2.20 – 3.20	Lesson 5
3.20 – 3.30	Assembly