



Ivel Valley

SCHOOL



WELCOME TO IVEL VALLEY SCHOOL

I am proud to lead our wonderful area special school, which provides a high standard of education for children and young people from across Central Bedfordshire and surrounding areas.

We are an innovative school, where the pupils are at the heart of everything we do. Joint working is a significant strength of our school; we work with a number of agencies, including social services and the NHS, to ensure that our learners achieve the best possible outcomes.

Ivel Valley is a thriving learning community where pupils are happy and engaged. The community extends far beyond the school grounds. We have very strong links with families, the areas which we serve and colleagues from other services.

I'm pleased to say that our last Ofsted inspection (May 2018) found that we remained a good school and one that is committed to establishing itself as a 'Centre of Excellence'.

I look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Joe Creswick
Principal



OUR CHILDREN

Ivel Valley School is an Area Special School for pupils aged from 3 to 19 years, who have complex learning needs. We have a wide range of experience and expertise in addressing the needs of pupils with moderate, severe, profound and multiple learning difficulties. Many of our pupils have additional needs, such as sensory and physical difficulties. We have a growing number of pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Ivel Valley School is recognised as a centre for teaching children with autism and related communication difficulties.

OUR SCHOOL

Ivel Valley School is organised into 'School' and 'College' sites located on 'Hitchmead Road' and 'The Baulk' respectively. The School site caters for pupils aged from Early Years (3 years old) to Key Stage 4 (16 years old), whilst the College site caters for students in Key Stage 5 (aged 16 to 19 years old). College pupils occasionally use the facilities on the School site for whole school activities or specific specialist facilities such as the outdoor gym.

In addition to this we also have three satellite classes based at Biggleswade Academy. These classes cater for children from Early Years and Key Stage 1 through to Year 8. Satellite classes offer children the opportunity to access some lessons alongside their mainstream peers and also offer these pupils an enhanced level of inclusion.

ADMISSIONS

All of our pupils have a Statement of Special Education Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan. Decisions about the appropriateness of Ivel Valley School for a particular pupil are taken jointly by the school, the Local Authority Provisions Panel and parents / carers. Advice from healthcare and other educational professionals is always considered during the decision taking process.

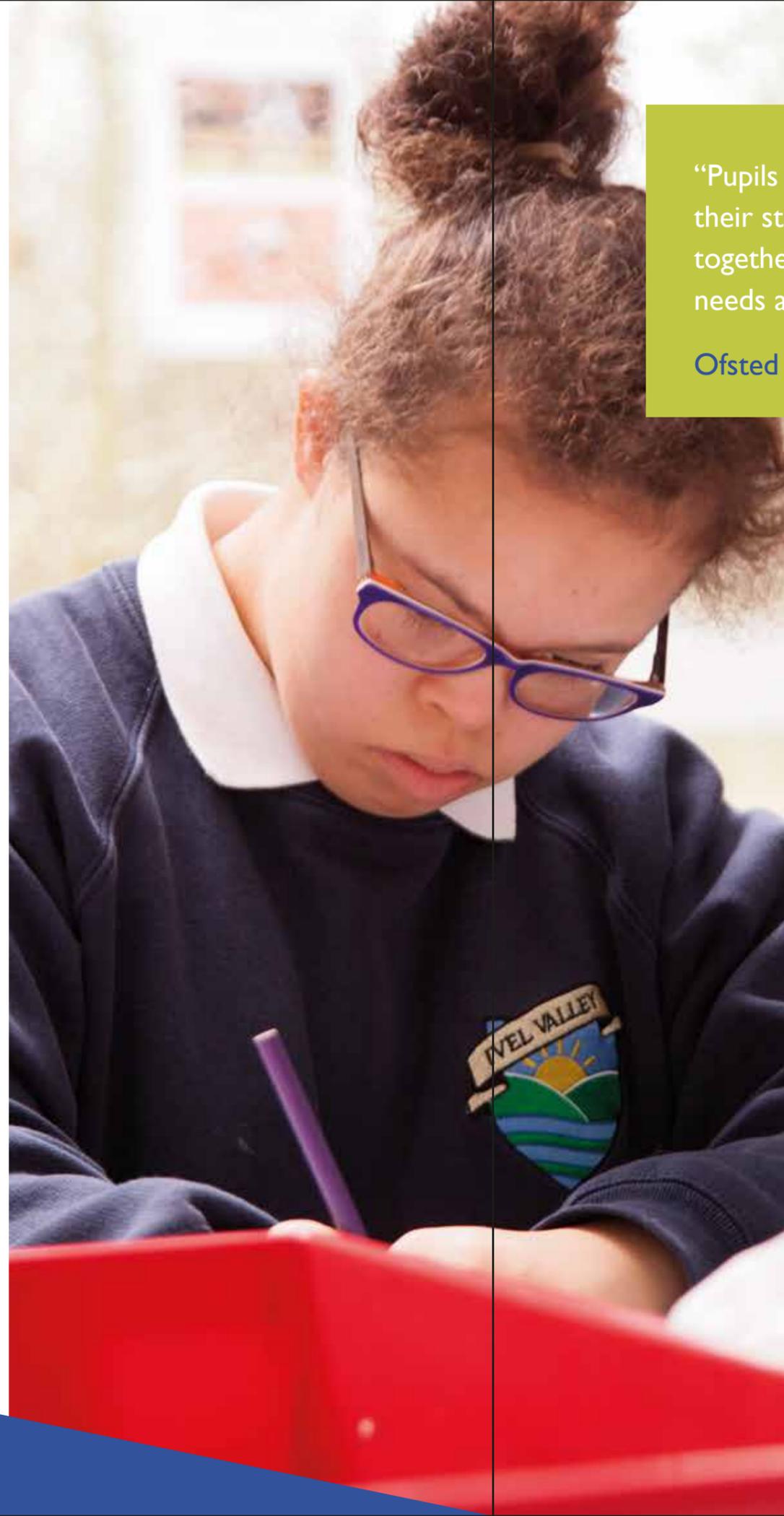


OUR CURRICULUM

From Early Years through to Key Stage 5, here at Ivel Valley we have dedicated and highly qualified staff, establishing Ivel Valley School as a 'Centre of Excellence'.

Ivel Valley delivers learning through an imaginative, inspiring, challenging, fun and dynamic curriculum and one that is planned carefully to make sure it meets the particular learning needs of all the pupils.

The curriculum is broad and balanced with communication, social and independent skills at its core, promoting high levels of achievement. We aim for each pupil to succeed in achieving their best and to learn lifelong skills.



“Pupils across the key stages typically made good progress from their starting points over time. Adults know pupils well and work together seamlessly to meet pupils’ learning and developmental needs as lessons go on.”

Ofsted May 2018



Whatever your child’s starting point, we make sure that every step, no matter how small, is celebrated and shared with you.

- Practical and creative activities
- Fun and engagement
- Visits out
- Visitors in
- Multi-sensory approaches
- Communication opportunities
- Outdoor learning
- Wide spread use of technology

Our curriculum ensures that pupils receive experiences and opportunities to develop their knowledge, acquire new skills and attributes in ways that will guarantee that learning is relevant to every pupil.

OUR EXTRA-CURRICULUR ACTIVITIES

Here at Ivel Valley School we aim to offer our learners as many experiences as possible to promote confidence building, personal and social development and independent living. Above all, we want our learners to have fun and to embrace new experiences and opportunities!

We therefore offer a range of recreational trips and short stay residential visits for selected pupils each year, some of which are sponsored by local community and charitable groups.

Examples of this include our partnership with the Mary Curtis Riding Stable. We offer our pupils the opportunity to visit the stables, spending time with the horses, which we know offers therapeutic benefits. We also offer Bikeability; working collaboratively with Sports Partnership, our vision is to ensure that as many of our pupils as possible have the opportunity to experience riding a bike, even if they are complete beginners.

From the age of 14, selected students also have the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award, which helps build confidence, resilience, skills for work or college – and most importantly – they have a brilliant time doing it!



OUR FACILITIES & SERVICES

We offer a safe and secure environment with electronic key pad access systems on both School and College sites.

Both sites are well equipped with outside areas, including an expansive outdoor learning environment on the School site. In addition to this, both sites have fully equipped sensory rooms, personal care facilities and sensory learning spaces.

Our College site boasts a Life Skills House, where students can practice skills needed for adult life; including cooking, gardening and doing the washing!

Many of our pupils have personal priority needs central to their learning and development. We meet these needs through a range of therapies:

- School doctor
- School dentist
- School nurses
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational therapy
- Speech & language therapy
- Music therapy
- Service for sensory impairment
- Educational psychology

For detailed information on any of our specialist services, please get in touch.





Ivel Valley SCHOOL

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