

Inscape
House
School

TOGETHER
TRUST
charity

Prospectus



inscapeadmissions@togethertrust.org.uk

Welcome to Inscape House School



I want every parent to feel confident that they are making the best possible decision for their child when choosing Inscape House School. I am immensely proud of our dedicated colleagues who work tirelessly to deliver the highest standards of education, therapy, personal development opportunities, and tailored support for each of our pupils.

The staff at Inscape understand the challenges that parents and carers of autistic children often face, from navigating the complexities of their child's needs to finding the right school environment that truly supports them. For many children, joining Inscape House School marks a real turning point. It is often the first time that both students and their families feel genuinely hopeful and positive about the future.

If you would like to discover more about the life-changing work we do, we warmly invite you to contact our admissions team to arrange a visit during one of our open mornings or evenings. Alternatively, you can learn more by visiting our page on the Together Trust website.



Hannah Stollar
Headteacher

Our vision, our approach

We support young people to conquer barriers and surpass expectations, by understanding that they have a distinct way of thinking and perceiving the world.

Inscape provides opportunities to promote independence and teach life-changing skills; we engage, we support and we motivate to equip our young people to face life's challenges.

Inscape's highly specialist team combine their expertise with flexibility and understanding to give our students an equal chance in life, we believe there are no exceptions.

We look forward to supporting your family throughout your child's journey through their education and personal development.



Why Inscape House?



Inscape House School is part of the Together Trust. Our campus, based in Cheadle, is an environment that enables learning, maximises independence and celebrates all of our students' achievements.

Having achieved the Advanced Specialist Award, accredited by the National Autistic Society and the National Nurturing Schools Programme Award, we provide holistic learning pathways shaped to fit each student and delivered by our skilled multidisciplinary staff team. We live and breathe the Together Trust's values. We are compassionate, collaborative and courageous in the work that we do.

We use a person-centred and flexible approach. We believe this is necessary to support the development of the young people who study with us. Our teaching reflects the individual needs of all our students.

Alongside championing our students' academic progress, we help them to understand themselves and their neurodiversity.

The Together Trust

Inscape House School is part of the Together Trust.

The Together Trust is a specialist education, care, therapy and support charity, working with neurodivergent people, disabled people, people with a learning disability and children and young people in care.

We've been championing change, creating opportunities and improving lives for over 150 years. Together, we strive to ensure everyone belongs, achieves their ambitions and thrives in their communities.

Our teaching methods

We teach in small class groups of no more than eight students. Students' individual needs are reflected in our four learning pathways, which students are able to move between when they are ready:

Champions:	Learning to learn
Explorers:	Learning through sensory exploration
Adventurers:	Learning to be independent learners
Pioneers:	Independent learners

Together, step by step, we support our students to prepare for the future they want by helping them to live with choice, dignity and control over their lives.

Our adaptive curriculum allows us to offer a range of subjects centred on the National Curriculum. At Key Stages 4 and 5, students have the opportunity to access range of different qualifications and awards such as Entry Levels, Functional Skills, GCSEs, BTEC, ASDAN, A-Levels and the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme. Through the Neurodiversity Curriculum, students are supported to understand their neurodiversity.

Each class group has a teacher and a small team of educational assistants who work with students on a daily basis. We also have specialist teachers for different areas of the curriculum.

PSHE Curriculum

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) is a key subject at Inscape, through which our students develop the knowledge, skills and qualities they need to manage their lives successfully, both now and in the future. It helps our students to stay safe and healthy, and prepares them to get the best out of life, relationships, work and future opportunities.

Our PSHE curriculum is proactive in responding to current needs and offers valuable learning opportunities for each key stage.

Throughout a student's education, our PSHE curriculum offers a wide variety of learning opportunities and experiences, which reflect students increasing physical and social awareness and their growing independence. It focuses on key skills such as building and maintaining relationships, learning about personal responsibility and managing personal safety, including online safety, AI and the increasing influence of peers and the media.

PSHE Curriculum - continued

Embedded within our PSHE scheme sits the interoception curriculum. Many of our pupils have difficulties with regulation and have underlying interoception challenges. Therapy and Education work together to teach an awareness to: notice body signals, connect bodily sensations and then determine what action to take to promote comfort in the body.

At Inscape House School, we celebrate everyone's identity. Evidence suggests that neurodivergent individuals, particularly those diagnosed with

Autism, are significantly more likely to identify as LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, plus any other related identities) than those who are neurotypical. We commit to improving the lives of all our young people, including those that are LGBTQ+, those from LGBTQ+ families, and LGBTQ+ staff members.

Inscape achieved the Rainbow Flag Award, which is a national quality assurance framework, encouraging a whole school approach to positive LGBTQ+ inclusion.

You can learn about our curriculum on our website:
togethertrust.org.uk/inscape-house-school/curriculum



**PROUD
TOGETHER**

PROUDLY ACHIEVED



April 2024

Relationship and sex education (RSE)

Taught through the framework of PSHE, students develop an understanding of their bodies so they can recognise the physical changes that take place when growing up and, how to deal with the emotions that accompany these changes. As with other aspects of learning, we teach relationship and sex education at a level that is suitable and relevant to each individual student.

Added value

We take the time to discover the special interests of each of our students, and we use that knowledge as a hook to help progress both their academic and emotional learning. Such activities have included:

Animal Assisted Intervention

Outdoor Learning and Forest School

Animal therapy

Music therapy

Climbing

Duke of Edinburgh Award

We have a longstanding partnership with Manchester United Football Club. We have a SEND officer who works with our students to improve both their physical and mental wellbeing.

Support for learning

We use a three-tier model to deliver our support for learning. All students receive a universal level of therapeutic and educational support and are able to access higher levels of assistance when required. When needed we also use targeted interventions, which are based on an individual student's progress. It's common for students to move in and out of support tiers, depending on what's happening in their lives.



Foundation

Increasing independence and participation

All students contribute to life at Inscape in a range of different ways. We encourage students to evaluate their learning and contribute to the annual progress review of their Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) in a way that is appropriate to their communication abilities.

Our democratically elected school council encourages school-wide participation and gives students the opportunity to contribute to discussions on many issues.

The school council gives students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of self-advocacy. The school council have been instrumental in introducing a range of neuro-affirming events such as: The Special Interests Fair, Bring Your Pet to School and International Day.

We have a wide range of lunchtime clubs which are open to all students. Some students also run their own clubs for others.

“Pupils and students benefit from a wide range of opportunities outside of the academic curriculum. They serve staff and visitors with a smile in the on-site café. Leaders have established a successful student council. Student councillors sought their peers’ views on how lunchtime clubs could be improved. As a result, pupils and students enjoy taking part in a range of activities. These include a football club, train club and karaoke club.”

Ofsted report, June 2022

Partnership with parents

We believe passionately in working alongside our students and their families. In doing this we can develop strategies so they can contribute and be consulted on all aspects of their lives.

"It is amazing when you find the right setting for your child. They thrive and can show their true selves and be proud of themselves and all around them. I always knew Inscape was the right setting for him when I visited several years ago and we are so lucky to finally have secured him a place as in his words his dream school." - Parent

"Thank you for creating a warm and nurturing environment where he feels safe and is encouraged to learn every day. Your patience and kindness has made a world of difference to his education and self worth." - Parent

"We feel so lucky that our son is at Inscape." - Parent

"She has always had a fear of literature due to her dyslexia and you have brought the joy back for her, so thank you." - Parent



Positive mental health and wellbeing at Inscape

At Inscape we take a whole-school approach to managing mental health, reflecting the recommendations in government guidance. We have taken major steps to develop positive mental health and wellbeing for our students, contributing this work to the Department of Education as a case study of best practice. We have a cohort of students who have qualified as Mental Health Champions.

Three British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) registered counsellors deliver our play therapy and counselling provision.

We have a range of targeted interventions such as ELSA and Lego ABC to support wellbeing.

Working in partnership

As a school we work with over 12 local authorities, providing consultancy, training and support where requested.

We have partnerships with local mainstream schools and colleges and we are able to access inclusion opportunities for our students where they are appropriate.

Post-16

We provide a curriculum that aims to prepare our students for adult life. Students follow a tailored three-year cycle of learning and activities that support in the development of employability and life skills.

Our learning programmes give our students:

Functional understanding of numeracy, literacy and IT.

Meaningful work experience to prepare students for employment.

Travel training to improve independence and to broaden the students opportunities within the community and wider society.

Enrichment and health and wellbeing programmes to develop social and communication skills in real-life contexts.

We offer a range of qualifications that Post-16 students can enter based on their ability and their own goals:

English

Maths

Science

Art

Computing

Employability

Music

Humanities

Across all these subject areas, students can achieve a range of qualifications, including Entry Level, Functional Skills level 1 and 2, GCSE, A Level, EPQs, HPQs, Arts Award, Duke of Edinburgh and ASDAN awards.

We also work in partnership with a number of colleges in the Greater Manchester area.

We have a major focus on travel training, life skills and careers education and students have opportunities to access external and internal work placements to support the development of skills required for future employment.



Nurture Provision

The Nurture Provision at Inscape House School is designed with a home like feel to be a bridge between school and home. It's a warm and friendly environment where students feel emotionally safe and secure and therefore develop their individual needs further.

It's a place where we give students the opportunity to grow in confidence and be engaged in a small group environment, allowing them to become more successful learners in their classrooms.

Welcome to
Inscape House School



“There was a genuine smile on the face of each and every single person I spoke with throughout the assessment. They all exuded a really happy feeling, which is a true testament to the wellbeing ethos and culture of Inscape House and an excellent example of what happens to all stakeholders when the nurturing approach is embedded so well.”

NNSP Award, January 2024

Inscape Vocational College

Alternative Post-16 Offer

A post-16 provision based in Ashton-under-Lyne for learners with ASC and SEMH needs.

BTEC courses we offer:

Hair and Beauty

Health and Social Care

Digital Media

Sport



Additional information

Learners access a 12–16hrs timetable with the opportunity to study functional English and Maths Entry level 3 to Level 2 (GCSE grade 4 equivalent).

A combination of PSHE and personal development is included within the curriculum, which supports learners to develop their life skills, social skills, and independence skills and improve their confidence and self-esteem.

Learners are also supported to access work placements and opportunities for employment.



Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) Provision

At Inscape, we believe learning is not solely academic; it is holistic, focusing on the development of the whole individual. Through personalised support, we aim to nurture each student's wellbeing, independence, social, communication, sensory needs and personal interests alongside their educational progress. We strive to create a safe, nurturing environment for autistic learners, helping them overcome barriers, celebrate their unique strengths, and embark on a journey of self-discovery.

We are dedicated to building strong, safe relationships with students, recognising the importance of these connections as fundamental to re-engagement and personal growth. With a small number of students supported on-site and off-site, (including through community-based learning) we ensure each learner receives the individualised attention they need.

Our consistent approach reflects Inscape's broader vision to provide young people with the knowledge,

skills, and confidence to achieve their goals and surpass expectations. From supporting emotional resilience to nurturing practical life skills, we help students on their journey toward independence, fulfilling their aspirations, and creating a brighter future.

How the EBSA package works

These sessions are part of a 12-hour or 14-hour part-time weekly package, agreed upon with the Local Authority, parent, and student. The day is divided into either morning or afternoon slots to best accommodate, where possible, the individual's energy levels, personal routines, mental health needs, and specific therapeutic or educational goals.

The EBSA programme is designed as a transitional support, which varies, depending on the young person's progress and readiness for the next steps. Since this is a part-time package, progress within the programme is essential, and goals are closely monitored.

Therapy at Inscape

Our experienced and highly qualified team offer a wide range of therapy programmes and interventions. This support is embedded into the school curriculum. All members of the therapy team work closely with the educational team, families, carers and external professionals.

The team includes:

Speech and language therapists (SaLT)

The SaLT team supports students to maximise their communication ability to increase independence. The team promote a total communication approach, which values all forms of communication.

Occupational therapists

The occupational therapy team support students' academic learning, behaviour and independence skills in an individualised way. There is a strong focus on sensory lifestyles.

School counsellors

Our school counsellors offer support and counselling to children and young people (on a referral basis) who present with emotional and psychological issues. We offer timetabled support as well as reactive sessions based on student need.

Positive Behaviour Support Team

The Together Trust and Inscape House School adopt a Positive Behavioural Support (PBS) model. PBS is a person-centred approach that focuses on developing skills to improve quality of life and gain new skills by replacing behaviours of concern with ones that are more functional or socially acceptable. The PBS Team work with staff, pupils, and families to provide the optimum environment and develop strategies to support the individual needs of all pupils.



Play therapists

Therapeutic play at Inscape House School is delivered through a combination of techniques including intensive interaction, floor therapy, creative workshops, lunchtime groups and daily drop-in sessions.



Animal therapies

We have a fantastic Animal Intervention Programme that won the NASS Breaking Barriers Award in 2022 and the TT Education Positive Approaches to Inclusion Award in 2023. The AAI programme is implemented to develop our pupils social, emotional and mental wellbeing.



Events

Students can participate in a range of events at Inscape and through the Together Trust.

Inscape Prom

To celebrate the end of the school year we organise a prom for all our students to enjoy. With the support of local businesses, we transform the school hall into a soothing sensory environment with refreshments and a DJ.

Inscape's Got Talent

Students showcase their outstanding and unusual talents in front of the judging panel!

Together Trust Music Festival

Students showcase their musical talents at the Together Trust's annual music festival at The Lowry's Quay theatre. Joining special schools from across Greater Manchester, students can experience performing in a professional setting.





Carol service

Young people from across the Together Trust's services perform at their annual carol service in Cheadle. All are welcome to join this thoroughly enjoyable event.



Christmas fair

Staff, students, families and friends join together every Christmas for Inscape's Christmas Fair. With crafts, cards and refreshments made by the students this is a wonderful opportunity to support our students' enterprise activities.

Residential trip

Each summer we hold an outward-bound residential trip for a group of older students and leavers.



Frequently Asked Questions

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What is your admission procedure?

An admission typically involves:

Your initial visit to the school.

A referral from the local authority.

An observation in your child's school or other familiar settings by a member of our staff team.

After observations, if we feel we could potentially meet need, we ask students to come and visit us in school to ensure the pupil feels they could see themselves in our school.

We would then offer the local authority a place if suitable.

The local authority will decide whether to fund the placement.

The transition plan will start, including home visits by our staff and introductory visits to the school.

We will support you throughout the admissions and transition process. Further information about admissions and the appeals process can be found by attending an Open Morning or contacting our admissions team.

How long is the school day?

Our day starts at 9.00am and finishes at 3.00pm.

Do you have a uniform?

We recognise that some of our students have sensory preferences when it comes to clothing so we offer a range of uniform items. Students in Post-16 are able to wear their own clothes but we recommend that they choose comfortable clothing and shoes.



What do you offer for school meals?

Your child has the option of a school meal, or packed lunch.

We offer different options each day, taking into account our students' varying dietary requirements.

We also provide daily snacks and we are mindful of the individual likes and dislikes of our students, we offer a range of healthy options. Our snack programme helps:

Develop social and communication skills.

Students learn about making choices.

Extend their food range and encourage students to have a healthy diet.

We keep up-to-date with research on the dietary needs of children with autism to ensure that our menus are nutritious and relevant for our students. If your child has a special diet, we are happy to support this and provide, as far as possible, appropriate meals and snacks.

What facilities do you have?

Facilities include sensory rooms, adventure playground, outdoor gym equipment, sensory playground and outdoor learning area.

Our green-fingered students can develop their gardening skills. Aspiring chefs can experiment in our fully equipped.

Kitchen and onsite café and computer-savvy students can put their skills to the test in our computing suite. We also have a dedicated art room and fully-kitted out science lab to support students' access to a full and wide-ranging curriculum.

The best way to see what we have to offer is to pay us a visit. Contact us to arrange a tour.

Can you administer my child's medication?

Yes, but only with written permission by a parent. We record any administration of medication and keep it on your child's file.

How will you keep in touch with me?

Parents will hear from us in many different ways including:

Through the Parent Partnership on social media.

Home-school books

Informal meetings, telephone contacts and group call.

Email and text.

Placement and annual reviews.

Parent forums and parents evening.

Newsletters and school website.

When your child starts at Inscape you will receive a handbook giving you information about how to share information with us, and how we will get in touch with you.

How do you assess students?

When a student starts at Inscape, we undertake baseline assessments. To do this we incorporate a range of measures, including information from parents and carers, along with information about their previous education. We record and report student development in a number of ways including:

Progress towards the achievement of individual targets and EHCP outcomes.

Progress against their starting point.

Progress towards nationally recognised qualifications.

Our students vary considerably in their abilities, and we seek to help everyone at Inscape achieve the highest level possible. Alongside celebrating educational success, we also recognise and celebrate personal achievements.





What's next?

Book onto one of our open events.

We will use this time to explain more about the school and the way we work. You can find details of our next open morning on the Together Trust's website or Facebook page.

Or email us at
inscapeadmissions@togethertrust.org.uk



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