



Together with our community, we can achieve  
extraordinary things.

## SEN and Learning Support Transition

2021-2022



We are proud that as an 'all through' school, we are a family; a community that works together to **inspire**, **nurture** and **develop** one another. A place where you can **'be your best'**.

Our children and young people are polite, considerate, interesting and are confident in their environment.

Through our ethos we commit as adults to the following:

- Strong relationships are at the heart of our school.
- Every child and young person is greeted and welcomed as part of a community.
- We don't give up on our pupils; every day is a fresh start and everyone has a chance.
- We value and seek to know the dreams and aspirations of our children and young people; **inspiring**, **nurturing** and **developing** their thirst for knowledge and sense of place.

### Parents as Partners

We work together with parents and your views are very important to us. We will let you know what we are doing to meet your child's needs and will keep you up-to-date with their progress.

### Key Staff

Charlotte Wightman – Assistant Head teacher for Inclusion and Learning Support: [Charlotte.Wightman@appletonacademy.co.uk](mailto:Charlotte.Wightman@appletonacademy.co.uk)

Robert Smith – Secondary SENCO: [Robert.Smith@appletonacademy.co.uk](mailto:Robert.Smith@appletonacademy.co.uk)

Hayley O'Brien - Learning Support Manager:  
[Hayley.O'Brien@appletonacademy.co.uk](mailto:Hayley.O'Brien@appletonacademy.co.uk)

## What does Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Mean?

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, or SEND, is the term for children and young people who are performing at a level which is below the expected band of achievement for their age, this may mean that they need extra support at school.

This could be due to a variety of reasons, for example some children have difficulty with reading, writing, maths or they may struggle in organising themselves. Some children may have difficulty in managing their behaviour or have a physical or sensory impairment.

These difficulties may mean that children are struggling to make the expected progress which is right for them.

## What can the Academy do to help?

We assess your child and identify their strengths, needs and the extra help they might require. Through Quality First Teaching (QFT) and effective support and differentiation we ensure that the work we set challenges each pupil but is underpinned with the right strategies of support to enable them to succeed.

This may mean that children and young people receive support from additional adults in school, as well as their class teacher. We work collaboratively with a multitude of other professionals, such as speech and language therapists, the school nursing team, educational psychologists, CAMHS, the Youth Support Team, our school-based psychotherapist and Bradford SEN high incident team to ensure that each pupil has the best care and support throughout their education with us.

## The Local Offer

The Local Offer aims to provide transparency and clarity between education providers. The Local Offer explains what might be offered for children which is underpinned by the Bradford Matrix of Need. This outlines shared expectations around meeting the needs of children and can be found on Bradford Schools Online (BSOL): <https://bso.bradford.gov.uk>

Our Local Offer is published on our website: [www.appletonacademy.co.uk](http://www.appletonacademy.co.uk)



## The Hub

The Academy is dedicated to inclusive practice and providing a supportive learning environment. The Hub is a provision for children and young people that offers a range of support in addition to their classroom-based lessons.

In the Hub there are many facilities to support our pupils including: intervention groups (maths, English, handwriting, mindfulness, social interaction and communication skills), mentor 'check-ins', break, lunch and homework clubs, and information for children and young people regarding mental health support. Pupils work in the classroom and follow the same school day as others; however, the Hub provides a safe space for our children and young people to access when it is required.

## Meet the Team

### Charlotte Wightman



Role – Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion and Learning Support

My Hobbies include running, spending time with my children and completing challenges (e.g. 10k runs or obstacle courses)

Important to me - family, friends, health and always being kind

Favourite school subject – I love to read

Fun Fact - I am a twin!

### Robert Smith

Role – Secondary SENCO

My Hobbies include gardening, cooking and reading, although mostly I do what my kids let me which is generally Lego.

I love my family, pets (1 dog and 3 chickens) and job.

My favourite subjects are English and R.E.

Whilst at University I was a student athlete and competed at national rowing competitions.



## Hayley O'Brien



Role – SEN and Learning Support Manager

I enjoy singing and dancing (even though I'm not very good).

I have two cats which I love dearly, but I am an animal person in general.

One fun fact about me: I travelled around Italy on trains in 2018, and I am now planning to await the delivery of my baby.

## Louise Illingworth

Role – SEN and Learning Support Assistant Manager

I enjoy walking my dog, cycling and finding old things to make them new!

I really enjoy working in the Hub and supporting anybody who may need help.

I am always available for a chat and a little secret I am dog crazy!



## Paula Johnson



Role – English as an Additional Language (EAL) Worker

Hobbies: drawing, painting, DIY,

Important things: family, health, friends

Subject I love to support in: English, History

Fun fact about me: I've got no sense of direction, I can quite easily get lost in Sainsbury's.

Teaching Assistants

Elise Marsden



My hobbies are long dog walks and playing games. Things that are important to me are kindness, my family and working at Appleton Academy. I love to support in history, because I love learning about how the world has changed! I also like supporting in maths classes as I learn something new in every lesson.

Carol Pinder



I like walking my dog. My five grandchildren are important to me. I enjoy salsa dancing. My favourite lesson is English.

Margaret Isles



My hobbies are reading, cooking, walking and baking. In fact, I love to read a book whilst eating a piece of cake! In school my favourite subjects are maths and English.

### Ahson Butt



I love travelling, going to places around the country and trying out new experiences from Land's End to John O'Groats. At home, I like to do a lot of baking as long as it's got chocolate in! Product Design is my favourite school subject because I love making things. maths too, because who doesn't like maths?

One fun fact about me, I can speak 4 languages and I'm learning more!

Daniel Birkenshaw



I Work with many students. I Support Bradford City and I really Enjoy football!



Vinisha Chudasama

I enjoy walking my dog, travelling to lots of new and exciting places, I also like to try different foods and going to the theatre. My favourite subjects are English and maths as I find them super interesting!

We understand that transition from Year 6 to Year 7 would usually be daunting for parents and students as it brings about change, not least when

we are experiencing a world pandemic, which has caused difficulties in implementing some of our usual transition activities.

However, we want you to know that we are here for you, our parents/carers and children to talk about your worries, to help you settle in and to support you the best we can to ensure that your experience at Appleton Academy is supportive and collaborative from the start.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or queries you may have.

We are so looking forward to meeting you all!

### School Contact Details

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