



Together with our community, we can achieve
extraordinary things.

SEN Transition Booklet

2025-2026



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 – Deputy Headteacher for Inclusion and Learning Support, and Exceed Expert Colleague for Safeguarding -

Charlotte.Wightman@appletonacademy.co.uk

Robert Smith – Secondary SENCO -

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Ahson Butt – SEN and Learning Support Manager -

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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://bsol.bradford.gov.uk>

Our Local Offer is published on our website: 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, wellbeing, 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 continue to 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 – Deputy Headteacher for Inclusion and Learning Support and Exceed Expert Colleague for Safeguarding.

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 and job.

My favourite subjects are English and R.E.

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



Ahson Butt



Role – SEN and Learning Support Manager

My hobbies include travelling; I love to explore and have new experiences, my favourite so far has been quad biking in the desert!

My favourite subjects are Maths and Product Design

Fun Fact – I can speak 4 languages

Teaching Assistants

Daniel Birkinshaw



Favourite subject: Product Design.

Hobby: I have done ballroom dancing since the age of 7, winning 1st place in the grand finals and I am training to teach dance. I also go to the gym.

Fun Fact: I'm a Bradford City season ticket holder.

Josie Briggs



Fun fact- I taught myself Spanish in order to understand and talk to friends I made on my travels in Mexico. I also love Disney!

Hobby- I've played the piano since I was 7 years old.

Favourite school subject- Maths.



Shannon Scott

Favourite subject - English and Child Development/Health and Social.

Hobbies - I enjoy watching TV series, colouring and doing courses to develop myself professionally.

Fun Fact - I am qualified to work with children, my background is nursery work! I am also a mum to a wonderful little girl who keeps me busy! I love my job!



Ishrat Hussain

Interesting fact: I have never broken a single bone!

My hobbies include reading and telling stories, I'm a great storyteller and reading is one of my favourite things to do other than looking after my daughter and spending time with loved ones.

My favourite subjects are English and Maths and I also enjoy running and boxing.



Lorraine Miller

Interesting Fact: I feel relaxed around water and at the seaside

Hobbies: I love reading and socialising and bringing people together

Favourite Subject: English.



Richard Barnes

Hobbies: video games, watching the wrestling, reading

Favourite subjects: all of them!

Fun fact: I have owned many exotic pets, including a very angry iguana.



Ayomide Daniel

Interesting Fact: I love to go on water but can't swim!

Hobbies: I enjoy cycling and travelling.

Favourite Subject: My favourite subjects are Maths, Computing and Physics

Roberto Sanchez:

Interesting Fact: I like airplanes (and I know how to fly them!)

Hobbies: I like taking my photo camera and walking out in the city and making friends. I also love reading... a lot!

Favourite Subject: English and Spanish.

We understand that transition from Year 6 to Year 7 would usually be daunting for parents and students as it brings about change.

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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Be *your* Best