

Good to know about Ignite 09/10

Welcome to Ignite

WorldShapers Academy offers a very different kind of school for young people in Years 9 – 11 who find it difficult to do their best in a traditional school environment.



At Ignite you will work in small groups of typically three learners. You can also occasionally work 1-1 with a tutor. This gives you a unique opportunity to get things done and get individual attention and help. You will be working intensively on one main GCSE subject at a time, so you can focus your energy and reach one goal at a time. If you choose some of the ASDAN qualifications you will obtain a grade B when you fulfil the requirements of the qualification. This opens a lot of doors including college qualifications or apprenticeships.

There is a lot to get through, so let's get started!

Who is it for?

Ignite is mainly for young people with a statement of special educational needs (SEN) due to Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulties (BESD), but we are open to others who find this kind of school most beneficial.

Admission

Your caseworker will contact WorldShapers Academy to set up a meeting with one of our staff. We will then invite you to an information meeting and offer you a taster session before you are finally enrolled if interested. Your caseworker and WorldShapers Academy will then finalise the paperwork so you can get started. You will also be informed about our Code of Conduct at the information meeting.

The Ignite programme is open to anyone from the above group regardless of gender, marital status, race, ethnic origin, religion, age, sexual orientation or physical and mental capability.

Dates

Interviews will take place the first week of September 2009. The school year ends on 23 July 2010.

Time table

The teaching will take place Monday to Friday from 9.00 to 13.30. You will take part in work experience every Friday to support your employability. When ever possible.

What are we all about?

At WorldShapers Academy our mission is to initiate personal and community transformation by making learning fun, relevant and meaningful.

Qualification

You will be able to work towards many different accredited awards and qualifications.

Here are some of the subjects on offer:

- > Qualifications (GCSEs and GCSE equivalent):
- > CoPE - Certificate in Personal Effectiveness
- > Key Skills (Double award)
- > Certificate in Career Planning
- > Certificate in Personal and Social Development
- > Community volunteering (Double award)
- > Employability



- > ICT (Double or quadruple award)
- > Media (Double or quadruple award)

You can choose between a number of awards at Level 1 or Level 2 in areas like:

- > Sports Leaders
- > Arts
- > Activities
- > Adventure and residential
- > Citizenship
- > Community involvement and volunteering

- > Disability and sports awareness
- > Enterprise
- > Environmental
- > Experience of work
- > Expressive arts
- > International
- > Mathematics
- > Peer mentoring
- > PSHE
- > Personal finance
- > Sex and relationship education
- > Sports and fitness

You can also choose from thousands of AQA unit awards from Entry 3 to Level 2.

“Students are clearly motivated to do well and, in many cases for the first time, believe that they can achieve academic success.”

- OFSTED REPORT, MAY 2009

Portfolios

All the awards and qualifications are portfolio based, which enables you to avoid the stress of examinations. You are also able to work at your own pace and you can submit your work when it is ready for external moderation. This is very encouraging as you will gain your certificates and awards as you go along. You do not have to wait until the end of Year II.



How will this help me to get a job?

There are several things that will help you to prepare for a job. First of all you will be involved in work experience every Friday. When possible this will give you a good understanding of what it is like to go to work, what is expected and how you can make a difference. The reward system has also been developed around the requirements of employers. They look for things like being on time, team work, etc.

“Students are proud of their achievements, often have clear aspirations for their future lives and they, their parents and local authority all believe they are making good progress.”

OFSTED REPORT, MAY 2009

What to expect?

During your first term we will get to know you. We are keen to know your positive personality traits. We will therefore ask you to fill in the Clifton Strengthfinder questionnaire. This will tell us more about the unique way that you think, feel and behave.



To help you develop positive self-awareness, you will also take part in other assessments, which will show us your learning approach; how you learn best and how we can best support you to progress.

Three times a year you will do a short reading and spelling test and a mathematics test to see how much you have learnt since last time.

You and your parents/carers will fill out a short Strengths and Weakness questionnaire when you enrol and again later on in the year to assess your development. This again will help you to see all the changes that are possible even within a short period of time.

Within the first term, the tutors will fill out a questionnaire called THRIVE, which suggests teaching strategies and ways to support you in your emotional development.

“Specific comments from the parents included that their child has ‘grown in confidence’, has made ‘a great turn around’ and has ‘done brilliantly’.”

OFSTED REPORT, MAY 2009

Where do the parents fit in?

Eight times during the year we will all come together to celebrate your achievements. Your parents/carers will be expected to attend the monthly meetings, together with you and the staff. We will be eating together, sharing good news and discussing different areas that will help us all to do better. It will be a fun, relaxed 1½ hours. Each evening will have a theme, which could be, “What is Dynamic Assessment?”, “How does caffeine influence behaviour”, “What support is available”, “How can I deal with frustrations”, etc. The evenings are very informal. It is crucial for a successful outcome, that we all work closely together centred around your hopes and dreams.

What are the rules?

- Smoking is not allowed
- Learners are expected to wear long jeans or tracksuit bottoms and T-Shirts or shirts with sleeves
- Caps, hoodies and sun glasses are not allowed during teaching
- Learners are advised strongly to wear appropriate clothing and shoes for indoor and outdoor activities
- Learners are expected to arrive on time and to take an active part in all activities
- Learners will hand their bags, including mobiles to the tutor on arrival. The bags will be returned at the end of the day.

You are not permitted to:

- Drink alcohol
- Drink energy drinks
- Take drugs
- Carry out any illegal activity
- Swear or use any offensive remarks
- Carry out any discriminatory or racist action during teaching hours.

We will not accept you being under the influence of drink or drugs during teaching hours.

WorldShapers operates a strict zero tolerance policy on the breach of these rules.



Sanctions and exclusions:

Ignite staff will work hard to avoid sanctions being imposed. We will therefore focus on positive reinforcements, time out procedures, coaching, etc. When sanctions are deemed necessary, they could include working in isolation for a time, implementation of an action plan, verbal and written warnings, etc.

In the event that your behaviour is deemed too difficult to manage on site, on any occasion, you will be sent home and your parents/carers informed of a return date and time, allowing enough time for you to reflect and behave more appropriately on return.

Only in extreme circumstances will you be permanently excluded.



At Ignite we will promote:

- Good behaviour
- Productivity/staying on a task/focus
- Achievements - completing a course/unit
- Effort
- Punctuality
- Taking initiative/being proactive
- Taking responsibility
- Caring for others

And we will reward progress, achievement and outstanding effort.

A reward system has been developed based on the needs of employers. You will receive different benefits when you achieve 25, 50 or 100 reward points. 100 points will give you a day trip out to, for instance, Go Ape.

If you do not follow the rules, we have a Time-Out system where you will have 15 minutes to calm down. By the end of the Time-Out you will think of ways to handle the situation differently in the future. We call this a Breakthrough interview.

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"Students are proud of their achievements, often have clear aspirations for their future lives and they, their parents and local authority all believe they are making good progress."
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OFSTED REPORT, MAY 2009

Mentoring

You will have a special mentoring time once a week. The focus of this session is an enjoyable activity and time to discuss things that are on your mind. You will also sometimes discuss behaviour strategies, what you think about your school work, etc.



Feed-back

- Your family/carers will receive regular feed-back from the school;
- Weekly feed-back about your week about things that went well, strategies you developed during mentoring, issues of the week and ideas for how you can improve your work.
- On a monthly basis you will receive a short report showing which modules and awards you have finished.
- Termly we will write you a short report giving an overview of the developments from the last term.
- Your parents/carers will also receive phone calls to celebrate successes and discuss behaviour issues when necessary.

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"All staff have a strong commitment to raising the aspirations of the students and helping them to gain in confidence and self-belief so that they achieve success in their academic, social and emotional development."
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OFSTED REPORT, MAY 2009

What makes us US?

Ignite is led with vision and delivered with passion. Our style is relaxed but professional.

The guiding values of WorldShapers as a whole are:
*Diversity – Empowering – Resilience – Responsibility
Health – Meaning – Thinking environment – Faith
Playfulness – Simplicity – Imagination*

WorldShapers Academy is a Christian charity and Ignite is registered as a Christian special needs school. We acknowledge the freedom of people of all faiths or none, both to hold and to express their beliefs and convictions respectfully and freely, within the limits of the UK law. We will never impose our Christian faith on others.

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"Students are motivated and almost all of them make good progress. As one parent said of her child: 'he believes in himself and that he can achieve'"
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Special educational needs

We will ensure that extra support is given to you if you are statemented with special educational needs. We will comply with local authority requirements, e.g. annual reviews, etc.

Additional support will be given to you if you are in the process of learning to speak English.

What else goes on?

WorldShapers offers a number of other projects. These include:

- Two Children's Centres supporting children between zero and five, their parents and their professionals.
- Two DreamKeepers mentoring projects supporting primary school children with behaviour issues or who have substance misusing parents. The children take part in a year long mentoring project filled with fun activities and solution based mentoring.



- Aspire is the adult learning arm of the charity. We teach over 500 adults every year, including prisoners at The Mount Prison, adults with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and many others.
- A two-year degree programme in Ministry with students from seven different nations.

Policies

These are policies which underpin Ignite and are available in full on request. Please contact the office for more information on 01442 269 804.

- Accessibility policy and DDA
- Accreditation policy
- Admissions policy
- Assessment and reporting policy
- Bad weather and closures policy
- Behaviour policy
- Bullying – An anti bullying policy
- Careers education and guidance policy
- Child protection policy
- Code of conduct policy
- Complaints policy and procedures
- CRB policy
- Curriculum policy
- Data protection and data sharing policy
- Dress code policy
- Drugs policy

“Staff are resourceful and imaginative in delivering the curriculum and this is one of the strengths of the teaching.”

OFSTED REPORT, MAY 2009

- Equality and diversity policy
- Every Child Matters policy
- Extra curricular activities policy
- Fair assessment and appeals policy
- First aid policy
- Food on site policy



- Health and safety and welfare of learners policy
- Holistic development policy
- Homework policy
- Key skills policy
- Off site provision and educational visits policy
- Personal, Moral, Social, Health and Citizenship Education policy
- Personalised learning policy
- Property damage policy
- Quality assurance policy
- Racism – an anti racism policy
- Special needs and inclusion policy
- Staff disciplinary procedures policy
- Staff personal leave policy
- Staff recruitment and development policy
- Sustainability policy
- “Time out” comfort breaks policy
- Use of computers policy
- Volunteer policy
- Whistleblower policy
- Work experience policy
- Zero tolerance policy



WorldShapers Board of Trustees are:

Chairman **PHIL ABREY**
 WorldShapers Academy
 The Community Centre
 Datchet Close
 Hemel Hempstead
 Herts HP2 7JX

KERRY-ANNE COOPER
OWEN COOPER
DAVID KERRY

Making a complaint

WorldShapers has a complaints procedure that is laid out in the Complaints policy.

In brief, parents can make a complaint by:

- Letter, e-mail, telephone or in person (by appointment please)
- If you are writing or e-mailing your complaint, please provide your telephone number if a response by telephone would be convenient. If you are e-mailing, please state if a reply by e-mail is required and, if not, please provide a full postal address
- If you know the name or title of the appropriate member of staff, please make your complaint direct to them. If you do not know the name or title, please contact the Director on 01442 269804

We attempt to respond to complaints within 24 hours. All complaints will be dealt with according to the highest level of professionalism and if appropriate, confidentiality.

No complaints were filed during 2008-2009.

For further information, please contact
Head teacher, Dr. [ARNO STEEN ANDREASEN](#) at the office
or email, arno@worldshapers.org.uk

Offices

WorldShapers Academy
The Community Centre
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