Churchward School
Local SEND Provision Offer

School Designation / Primary Needs	Communication and Interaction
PAN and Number on Roll	Number on roll 154
Age Range Accommodated:	11-19

Welcome to Churchward School:

Churchward School is a specialist setting for young people aged 11–19 with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). The school provides a safe, nurturing and highly personalised learning environment designed to support students who may have experienced disrupted education, anxiety around learning or difficulties engaging in mainstream settings.

Churchward is designated as a specialist setting, offering a bespoke curriculum that combines academic learning, therapeutic support and preparation for adulthood. The school's ethos centres on rebuilding confidence, strengthening relationships and enabling every learner to achieve meaningful qualifications, develop independence and thrive within a supportive ASC-specialist community.

1. Environment & Accessibility

Sensory Environments:

- Churchward School has a dedicated sensory room that supports pupils' regulation throughout the school day. The room includes adjustable mood lighting, a range of sensory equipment to meet diverse needs, and an interactive projector to provide engaging sensory experiences.

- Classrooms are thoughtfully designed to support both learning and individual needs. A variety of furniture, resources, and specialised equipment are available to ensure that all pupils can access learning in a way that suits them best.

- Pupils have access to quiet and calming spaces adjacent to their classrooms. These areas provide opportunities for emotional regulation and offer a suitable environment for completing work when the main classroom setting becomes overwhelming.

- A range of sensory circuits are available to pupils as required. Outdoor facilities include a trim trail and exercise equipment, which support physical activity, sensory processing, and emotional regulation.

- Sensory breaks are incorporated into pupils' daily routines and can be accessed flexibly whenever needed to support wellbeing and readiness for learning.

- Classrooms are bright, airy, and spacious, providing pupils with the opportunity to work independently when appropriate. Wide corridors help create a calm environment, allowing pupils to move around the school comfortably without unnecessary physical contact and offering additional space for self-regulation when needed.

Therapeutic Facilities:

- Where students require enhanced support and are finding it challenging to access learning successfully within the school environment, we liaise with specialist external services, including CAMHS, to provide appropriate support tailored to their needs.

Outdoor Sensory Facilities:

- Each classroom has access to a breakout space, providing a flexible environment for learning, sensory support, and emotional regulation.

.2. Core Expertise and Approaches

Specialist Certifications Matrix

- **De-escalation Approach:** Churchward School uses Team Teach, a holistic approach to behaviour support that focuses on understanding the causes of distress and helping students regulate their emotions in a safe, respectful, and positive way. Staff trained in Team Teach use de-escalation strategies, restorative approaches, and strong relationships to support dysregulated students before a situation reaches crisis point. This may include recognising early signs of anxiety, providing reassurance, using calm communication, offering sensory or movement breaks, and adapting the environment to meet individual needs. By prioritising the student's emotional well-being and maintaining their dignity, Team Teach helps students develop self-regulation skills, reduce anxiety, and feel safe, supported, and ready to engage in learning.

- **Communication Informed Approach:** All learners who attend Churchward school have a diagnosis of Autism, a communication and interaction condition. Our environment is supportive of communication through visuals, written and spoken communication.

3. Health, Therapy & Clinical Services:

Churchward School works closely with a range of external professionals to ensure that students receive the appropriate support to meet their individual needs. By working collaboratively with these services, the school is able to provide targeted interventions and strategies that help students achieve the best possible educational, social, and personal outcomes.

4. Communication & Curriculum Learning Pathways

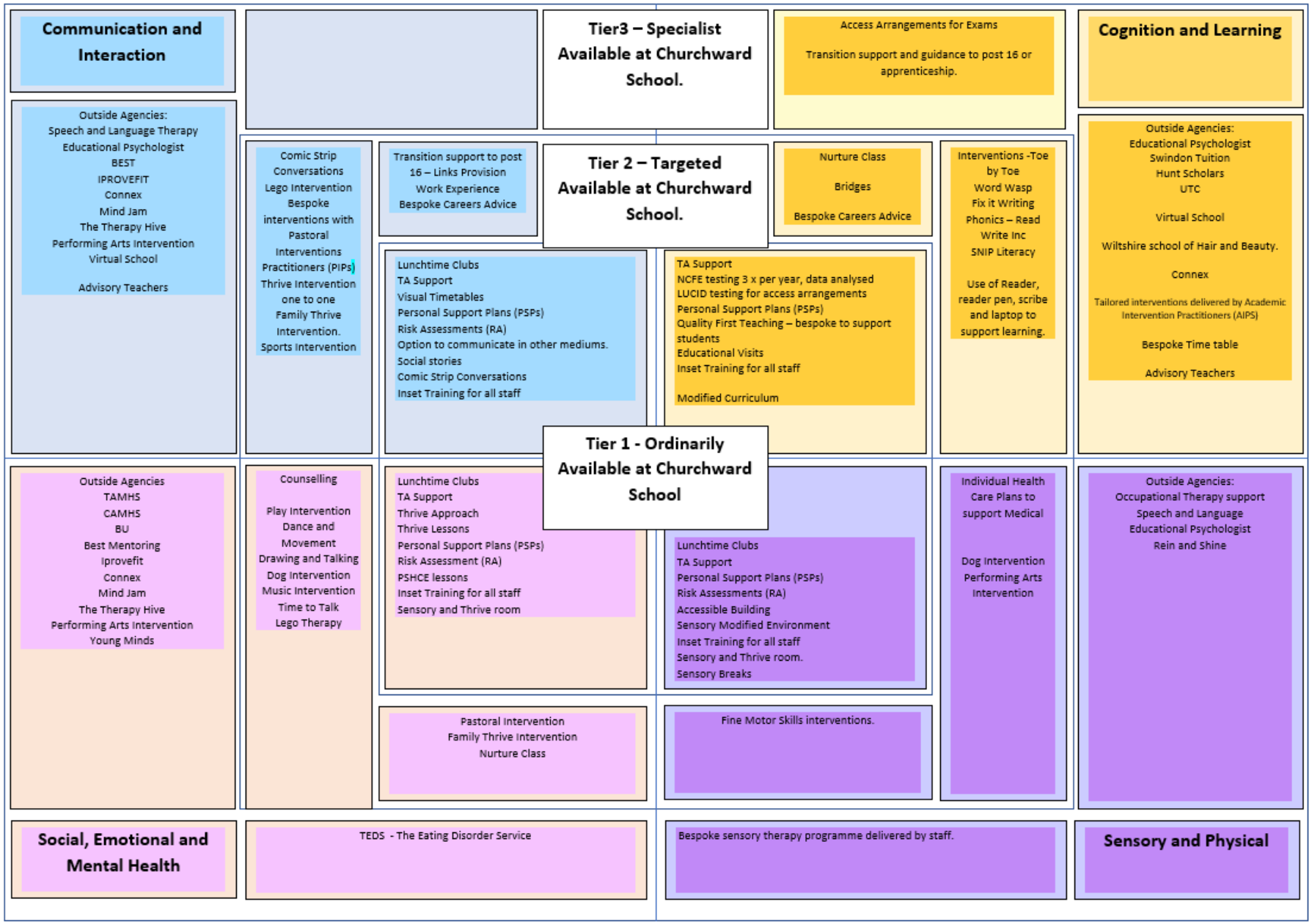
Our curriculum is designed to provide a nurturing, inclusive, and ambitious educational experience that enables every student to thrive.

We aim to:

- Re-engage students in learning following experiences of trauma, anxiety, or disrupted education.
- Deliver learning opportunities that build upon each student's individual strengths, interests, and needs.
- Embed the Thrive Approach throughout the school to support emotional wellbeing, resilience, and social development.
- Promote holistic progress by developing students academically, socially, emotionally, and in their life skills.
- Prepare students for adulthood through the development of independence, cultural capital, employability skills, and recognised qualifications.
- Maintain high aspirations for all students, ensuring that each young person is supported to achieve at least five meaningful qualifications and reach their full potential.

5. Admission and Transition Systems

- **Admissions:** All spaces explicitly allocated via the Local Authority SEN Panels in Swindon and several surrounding county Local Authorities. All learners attending have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)] with a primary area of need communication and interaction with a diagnosis of Autism.
- **Transition:** Annual reviews in Y9 and Y11 will focus on transition to higher education settings and further education options, this involves a collaborative approach and focuses learners reaching their full protentional.

Churchward School Provision Offer:

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