**Vision, Values &**

**Aims**

**Skypoint Education Policy 01**

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Skypoint School

**The School**

Skypoint is an Independent Special School operating within Spark of Genius a subsidiary of Care Tech Community Services Ltd., who are the proprietors.

We provide specialist education to young people aged from 10 to 18 years all with a range of social and emotional needs including ASD and ADHD.

**For a more detailed description of what the school offers see School Prospectus.**

**Our Pupils**

At Skypoint school we understand that many of the young people who join our school community have not had a positive past education experience. Most have experienced numerous transitions between a number of different schools, have been subject to exclusion, and struggle to maintain their learning in more mainstream settings. This has often led to low self-esteem, low confidence in learning and a high level of disengagement from the education system. Many of our young people have a range of additional support needs, which has meant that trying to adjust to a mainstream environment has been difficult.

All staff at Skypoint School are committed to providing a nurturing, safe and vibrant learning environment that generates a love for learning and enables every student to become the best they can be. Respectful and supportive relationships are at the heart of all that we do: we value every member of the school community equally. We recognise that our pupils bring different experiences, interests and strengths, and we understand these will influence the way they learn. Therefore, we take a child-centred approach to education that recognises and responds to individual need. We celebrate effort and achievements and set high expectations. We are here to help our students learn the skills they need to become successful, motivated and resilient young adults who are fully equipped to make a positive contribution to society.

Skypoint school aims to promote the rights of children, as outline by the United nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990). Articles that we particularly aim to promote through this policy include:

**Article 28 (right to education)** Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children’s dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this

**Article 29 (goals of education)** Education must develop every child’s personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child’s respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

**Skypoint school is a community and it is important that the vision for the school is**

**shared. In September of 2022 Skypoint school set out to redesign and develop its vision and aims. Staff, stakeholders and pupils were surveyed and feedback was collated to create the following shared vision.**

**The Vision**

Our new shared vision across the Skypoint community is:

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| **We are dedicated to offering a safe, nurturing, inclusive and rights respecting school community. Supporting our pupils in achieving their potential to become confident, successful, globally aware citizens.** |

**Our values at Skypoint school -**

**The following poem was created by pupils to explain our values**

Safe and supported at school

Knowledge is power

Your voice matters

Participation is the key to success

Our school is friendly place

Individuals feel included

No – one goes unnoticed

Teachers are caring

**Our Aims**

Specifically, Skypoint school aims to:

* Improve the self-esteem, confidence and happiness of all young people and help them understand the importance of working towards and achieving a positive destination on leaving school.
* Improve the mental health and wellbeing of all pupils through organised sport and outdoor activities, mental health education and by promoting healthy lifestyles.
* Encourage pupil participation in all four arenas – Decision-making groups, Opportunities for Personal Achievement, Learning, teaching and assessment and Wider Community.
* Encourage positive behaviour of all pupils through appropriate role modelling by staff, structure, routine, positive reinforcement and high expectations for learning.
* Continue to build on the overall achievements of all pupils through the delivery of a broad and individualised curriculum, using a variety of teaching and delivery methodologies including technology and active learning.
* Maintain and promote links with mainstream schools and partner agencies to encourage and support an effective and suitable transition wherever possible.
* Work closely with parents, carers and placing authorities to ensure consistent approaches and strategies for young people as part of a wider helping team.
* Involve parents/carers in the development of IEP’s, curriculum and general life of the school.
* Encourage and support young people to have tolerant attitudes towards diversity and equality.
* Work in partnership with relevant agencies such as Social Work, Educational Psychology, CAMHS, drug, alcohol and sexual health services to maximise the support available for our young people.
* Increase significantly the chances of all young people to enter further or higher education or employment.
* Ensure continuous improvement of our schools through training, robust evaluation procedures and strong distributed leadership.
* Recognise and respect children’s rights in all elements of life.
* Encourage and embed Learning for sustainability (LfS) to enable learners, schools and the wider community to be contributors in a socially-just, sustainable and equitable society.

**Implementation of Aims**

Skypoint school is committed to providing high quality educational experiences to ensure that all children and young people’s rights are observed to develop the attributes, knowledge and skills they will need to flourish in life, learning and work. To achieve our aims, we offer a flexibility of approach, paying very close attention to the health and wellbeing aspects of the curriculum whilst encouraging the best possible educational outcomes. We have a rigorous quality assurance process to ensure the best possible practice.

Staff track and assess the progress of young people using, experiences and outcomes, benchmarks and progress frameworks at the appropriate level within the CfE. All pupils have an IEP with personalised targets which are monitored, updated and evaluated throughout the school terms. A folio of work called My Learning Journey, holds assessment evidence, photographs, pieces of work and features pupil voice.

Skypoint school also encourages global citizenship and wider achievement of all young people, with pupils participating in a number of well recognised schemes and awards such as Right’s Respecting Schools, Eco schools, the Duke of Edinburgh, ASDAN, John Muir, JASS and Saltire Awards. Out of school activities, residential trips and after school clubs are encouraged and success is celebrated on a regular basis.