



Rowan High School

***'Learning and Achieving
Together'***

Prospectus &
School Offer
2026-2027

Rowan High School

Welcome to Rowan High School, I hope you enjoy reading our School Prospectus.

Rowan High School is an annex of Rowan Park School and provides education for young people aged 11 - 19 years with autism. The additional site is situated in Sterrix Lane, Litherland, 0.2 miles from our existing site.

As an annex to Rowan Park School, the High School has "Outstanding" status for the past three inspections. The most recent Ofsted Inspection stated *"you offer a varied, imaginative learning experience that significantly contributes to developing pupils' self-belief, their confidence and personal development and life skills. Leaders match the curriculum precisely to pupils' individual needs. As a result, activities are interesting and there is a high expectation that all pupils will participate in their learning in all subjects and, therefore achieve well."* (November 2018).

The school is designed, with a combination of teaching areas and specialist areas such as Food Technology, Science, PE & Sports Hall, Art and Design and ICT. There is accommodation for therapy services and a multi-sensory room.

The school has excellent links with health and therapy services. Therapists are also available, to support the needs of pupils and to offer support to parents.

There are a range of outside and communal areas, including a woodland area, to engage young people in the outdoor curriculum. The school also takes advantage of its close links to Litherland Sports Park, accessing the football pitches, running track and gym. Adjacent to the main site is an adventure park known as Rowan Adventure Park (RAP) and the school has sole access during the school day. This park provides further sporting and play activities for pupils and their families, after school and during holiday times.

School partnerships with local schools, offer further opportunities for young people to get involved in shared events and activities.

Rowan High School Admission Information

Admission Information

Anyone interested in Rowan High School, is welcome to contact the school office site for further information and a meeting with the Headteacher.

Admission Criteria

The criteria for admission is:

- Young people who have a diagnosis of autism and this is the primary need;
- Aged 11- 19 years;
- Academically able to undertake Entry Level, Level 1/2 and GCSE courses at 14 - 19 years.

Procedure

The school is identified as a possible place for your child during a meeting at school, or in another professional meeting. The parent arranges a meeting with the Headteacher. If the parent makes the decision that the school is the right place for their child, they will let the current school or Sefton SEND and Inclusion Team know.

A referral to the Headteacher for a place is made by Sefton Local Authority and the school reviews all the paperwork sent and may even visit the child in their current school setting, to decide if we can meet your child's needs.

If the school has offered a place to your child, we will arrange transition links. We know transition can be a difficult and often a daunting time for young people and their parents, which is why we work closely with schools to design a transition package which supports reducing anxieties for everyone involved, such as planned visits to your child's current school; time to talk to the new class team and joining in shared activities with new pupils.

We offer activity days with our staff to get to know your child and to give your child an opportunity to meet the others, in the summer term.

Rowan High School Aims

Rowan High School is a place where we:

- Work, learn and achieve together;
- Respect and care for everyone, actively encouraging the pupil voice;
- Foster creativity, personal, physical, moral and spiritual development;
- Have high expectations of learners and celebrate their achievements;
- Support young people to be independent, resilient and confident;
- We work in partnership with families, professionals and members of our community to enable our children and young people to become active citizens.

Rowan High School enables everyone to be proud of their achievements by:

- Providing a safe, secure, happy and caring environment;
- Encouraging everyone to do their best;
- Developing a love of learning, inspired by high quality specialist teaching;
- Recognising and developing individual strengths and talents;
- Promoting the development of communication and social interaction skills;
- Developing self-awareness, self-esteem and confidence in all pupils;
- Preparing young people for future.

Rowan High School Curriculum

Curriculum

Pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum and follow all subjects within the National Curriculum. Pupils are taught at their own pace to ensure they achieve success in small classes with an average of 10 pupils, one teacher and two teaching assistants. We place equal importance on pupil's academic achievements, as well as their social and emotional development, to give them the knowledge and understanding to have successful lives beyond school.

Key Stage 3 (11 - 14 years)

At K.S.3, pupils in Year 7, 8 and 9 are taught mainly in year groups, where subject teachers teach within the pupils form group to reduce the number of transitions around the school. For specialist subjects such as PE & Sports, Cookery and Science, pupils move to specialist rooms.

Key Stage 4 (14 - 16 years)

At K.S.4 pupils have a base group for core subjects and will transition around the school for specialist subject and Options. Options are chosen by K.S.4 pupils. Pupils within all subjects work towards accreditation, which includes GCSE's and equivalent progression routes. An example of option pathways can be found on our website and in your welcome booklet. Students also access the wider world through college links; work experience and independent living.

Key Stage 5 (16 -19 years)

At Key Stage 5, students will have a varied curriculum which includes progression within their qualification to extended college links/courses; continued development of independence and self-help skills and, where possible, further qualifications to A Level or other vocational route. Where there are insufficient numbers to form a study group for studies at A Level or other course, the School will support students to take up studies in particular subjects at the local Sixth Form or College.

All pupils have access to Travel training, which is provided by school accredited staff, to support the development of knowledge and understanding of road safety and use of public transport.

Sensory

It is extremely important that we support young people's individual sensory needs, to ensure they can access every aspect of their learning. We have regular social communication and social interaction sessions and offer a range of sensory support which includes, use of sensory circuits and individual resources. We also continue to commission services from Shine Therapy who are at school each week, to support social interaction and identify resources/tasks to support children's sensory needs.

Careers Education

In addition, Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance is offered throughout your child's career at School, with the support of the Careers service and taught lessons are within the curriculum to support transition post school.

Sex/Relationships Education

Sex Education is one of Health Education Curriculum components. It is taught throughout the school to all ages.

The Sex Education Policy is available for parents/carers to discuss with the Headteacher on request. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of Sex Education outside the National Curriculum. An open afternoon is made available at the beginning of the summer term each year, for parents/carers to view the resources that will be used in the teaching of the subject.

Reading

All pupils are encouraged to read at school, as reading improves focus, memory, empathy, communication skills and supports young people to access their learning at a higher level. Our systematic, synthetic phonics programme is Read, Write Inc for those young people who may have gaps in their phonetic knowledge.

Reading is immersed within every subject area; pupils will engage in shared texts, individual intervention work and access the library to borrow books to take home.

Homework

At the beginning of each school year, all pupils are given a homework timetable, indicating the evenings when they are expected to complete homework in different subjects.

Core subjects have weekly homework, presented in a termly booklet, Non-core are on a carousel. If a young person is undertaking an accreditation, they will be provided with regular homework, independent study time and revision booklets. Examples of booklets, knowledge organisers are available on the website.

The role of parents and carers

Parents and carers do a great deal to support pupils with their homework, not least by showing a genuine interest. We ask them to:

- Provide pupils with the necessary equipment for schoolwork and homework;
- Try to ensure that the pupils have a suitable, quiet area in which to work;
- Find opportunities to talk with the pupils about their work and, if appropriate, to read with them;
- Try to look through the work when the pupils have finished;
- Record on the online communication system "Class Charts" to comment if your child has found any of the work difficult or have been unable, for a good reason, to do the work.

The role of pupils

Pupils who complete homework will make better progress. They will increase their opportunities to practise their knowledge and understanding. They will achieve results that reflect their full potential, since they will have developed their skills of independent learning throughout Key Stages 3 and 4.

Pupils should:

- Record all work set in Class Charts;
- Make sure that homework is clearly labelled in exercise books/folders;
- Make every effort to do the work to the best of their ability; and meet the deadlines given for handing in work.

Assessment

Pupils are assessed on entry to the School, to inform how to effectively plan for success. Each pupil has targets set each half term to review and monitor their progress towards their end of

year targets. At the end of each Key Stage, there are further assessments to inform the best routes for progression for your child's entry to formal qualifications.

Language and Communication

It is very important to develop your child's social communication and to offer them a communication system which is meaningful. In school we offer a range of communication systems, through our language and communication teacher who works closely with parents/carers and speech and language therapists to support the development of a child's communication.

Specific Learning Difficulties

Our English teacher Mrs Wellens, is a fully qualified specialist Dyslexia Teacher and ensures the environment and learning resources are dyslexia friendly. There is also individual provision for identifying key resources for pupils to support their learning.

School Counsellor

We have a part time (3 days) school counsellor Mrs R Lindsey, who offers 1:1 counselling for pupils and group work sessions.

Counselling provides a safe space where young people can explore what is worrying them, setting their own goals, tailored to meet their individual needs, and helping them to 'off-load' and function better in their daily lives

Out of Hours Club

An Out of Hours Club is available to all pupils on a Wednesday evening from 3.15 p.m. until 4.30 p.m., at a cost of £2.00 per session. These sessions are supported by our own staff.

Lunchtime club

As unstructured times can be difficult for some young people, lunchtime's are structures with a range of activities, such as Drama Clubs, Lego Clubs and Football club. These are provided by school staff and pupils have the option to sign up to them.

Trips / Residential

Pupils have the opportunity, as part of their curriculum, to visit places of historic importance, natural beauty and events in their local community.

Pupils are given the opportunity to attend a residential holiday, where they can develop their independence, try out new skills and develop their communication skills with their friends.

Rowan High School General Information

School Hours:

Morning: 8.50 a.m to 12.00 p.m

Morning Break 11.00a.m – 11.15a.m

Afternoon: 1.00 p.m to 3.15 p.m

School Uniform:

- Navy Blazer with School Badge
- Navy 'v' neck sweater or cardigan with School Badge
- White school uniform shirt
- School Tie
- Grey skirt (flared or pleated)
- Grey uniform trousers
- Grey tights or socks
- Plain black shoes
- Plain/ Navy or Black hat or cap (weather dependant)

PE Kit:

- Navy polo shirt with school badge
- Navy jogging pants (Winter/Spring)
- Navy shorts (Summer)
- Navy knee length sports socks
- Training shoes/football boots
- One-piece swimming costume or swimming shorts and a towel

Uniform is supplied by Paul's Place, opposite Bootle Strand. Pauls Place offers planned payment schemes and savings clubs. Please call Pauls Place direct on 0151 922 2472.

Science and Technology Clothing

All pupils will follow a Design Technology and Science course during their school career. Health & Safety within these subjects are of prime importance. The school provides a workshop apron and laboratory coats to protect clothing. Pupils should wear strong full shoes during practical lessons and long hair must be tied back. All pupils will be informed of the requirements for Science, Food Technology and Textiles Technology.

Additional Equipment

Pupils should bring a bag to school to avoid loss or damage to schoolbooks and PE kits. All books are provided free, pupils are asked to provide appropriate equipment for lessons, such as pens, pencils, rulers, calculator, etc.

Notes

Boots, trainers or leisure shoes must not be worn. Hair accessories must be plain navy or black. No jewellery may be worn except for a watch and a small pair of earrings. No caps or hats to be worn during lesson time.

Please note that the school is aware that some pupils may have particular sensory issues in relation to clothing. We will manage this on an individual basis.

Mobiles/Technology

Mobile phones and other personal equipment cannot be used during the school day including break times. We strongly discourage pupils from bringing such items into School. Those pupils who use technology for their journey to school, hand it in on arrival.

Pupils must not bring valuable property to school. School accepts no responsibility for the loss or theft or damage of personal belongings.

Attendance and Punctuality

The Governors of Rowan High School recognise the importance of good attendance at school as a significant factor in attainment and achievement. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that their child attends school regularly. It is also the responsibility of parents/carers to inform the school of the reason for any absence from school. Parents/carers may contact the school by telephone, letter or via the bus escort, and should state the reason for absence and expected date of return to school. If we have not been contacted by 9.30 a.m. on the first day of the absence, the school office will ring home to check the reason for your child's absence. Absences of pupils of compulsory school age without a valid reason, or for which no explanation has been provided, must be treated by the school as unauthorised.

We are trying to encourage the best possible attendance from all our pupils. We strongly urge parents/carers to ensure that family holidays are taken during the school holiday period. Except in very exceptional circumstances, we will not authorise absence in term time for family holidays.

Please see additional school attendance policy on our website for more information.

Lunches

School lunches are now provided through a company called Dulce. They will provide a balance and healthy meal whilst still supporting the needs of the pupils at Rowan High. Ducle operates a cashless system, all payments must be sent through school grid.

Some pupils are entitled to free school meals - please contact the School Office if you think you may be eligible. If you prefer, your child can bring in their own packed lunch.

Home-School Transport

If you need school transport for your child, you will need to contact Sefton Council on 0151 934 3399.

Parents who wish to bring their child into school themselves, must report to the school reception where a member of the office staff will arrange for a member of staff to collect their child. At the end of the school day, parents must again report to reception and a member of the office staff will arrange for their child to be brought to the waiting area. Due to Safeguarding Procedures, no visitors are allowed to walk around the school without a badge and all should be escorted by a member of school staff.

Medicines Policy

Medicines must be handed in to the school office on arrival. On no account should medicines be left in school bags.

At the end of school day, staff will collect the medicines and hand them to the escorts or responsible person.

Medicines can only be administered in school with written consent from parents/carers. In exceptional circumstances, we can take verbal consent over the telephone. (See Medical Permission form in pack)

First Aid/Emergency Support for Pupils

Staff are trained to administer emergency medication, to ensure that pupils do not miss out on curriculum opportunities outside of school. There are also staff trained in first aid and the use of a Defibrillator. The school has a defibrillator on site.

Protection from the sun

We advise students apply sunscreen before coming to school, and can bring their own (clearly labelled to reapply during the day in the summer months)

Pupil Behaviour and School Discipline

The school aims to provide a safe, secure, happy and caring environment. In order to create this environment in which young people feel safe and in which there is an ethos of achievement through endeavour, it is essential we support all our pupils

We work closely with parents/carers to support pupils and identify proactive strategies to manage and minimise times when children may find situations difficult to manage. We work hard to reduce anxieties and support young people to learn to manage their own behaviour through a therapeutic and nurturing approach.

Where challenging behaviour poses a risk to the health and safety of the child, staff or others; staff may, once all other strategies have been exhausted and only as a last resort, have to include the use of positive handling to reduce the risks to themselves or others.

Copies of the Behaviour Policy and Care and Control Policy are available from the school and can be found on the school website.

General Complaints

The Governors have adopted the Local Authority General Complaints Procedure. This document is available to parents/carers on the school website www.rowanhighschool.co.uk

Religious Affiliations and Education

The School is non-denominational, although Christian principles guide the teaching and the ethos of the school. Other denominations are welcomed and, if parents wish, can be provided for accordingly.

The school provides religious education and acts of collective worship for all pupils. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child from religious education and/or the daily act of collective worship. Parents/carers can do this by contacting the Headteacher.

Protecting Your Child

Parents/carers should be aware that where it appears to a member of school staff that a child may have suffered some form of abuse (neglect or physical, emotional or sexual abuse), or where a child tells a member of staff about an alleged incident, the school is **required**, as part of the local Child Protection Procedures, to report their concern to the Social Services Department and Sefton Safeguarding Team immediately. A copy of the School Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy is available in school for parents/carers to read on the school website or in school.

Changes of Address / Telephone Number

Parents/carers must inform school immediately of any changes of address or telephone number. This also applies to emergency contact numbers.

Parental/Carers Involvement and Home-School Links

We value the specialised and comprehensive knowledge that parents/carers have of their child and which they can offer to the school. We aim to ensure that parents/carers are well informed and involved in their child's development, health and education as they progress through the school. Each parent/ carer will be given a log in to our online communication system Class Charts. Class charts reports on your child's daily attendance, behaviour and attitudes in lessons and homework and an opportunity for you or the form tutor to write a message. A person-centred annual review is held once a year to discuss your child's progress and next steps. Parents and carers are welcome to arrange an appointment with the class teacher or Headteacher, at anytime, to discuss their child.

Parent/Carer Support Officer

Deputy Headteacher, Nicola Clayton is our support person for parents and carers. She arranges Early Help meetings, parent workshops/Coffee mornings & training and is happy for you to contact her if you need some support. Look out for training courses in our newsletters.

School Website

NULL www.rowanhighschool.com

The school website includes useful information; class and whole school events and latest news.

Emergency School Closures

If the school makes the decision to close, we will post details of any emergency school closures on our website <http://www.rowanpark.co.uk/> www.rowanhighschool.com , send a text to parents/carers and contact the local radio station who will broadcast the closure on air. For further information, please see our Extreme Weather Policy on our website.

Text to Parents/ Carers

We subscribe to a text messaging service that will send a text message to your mobile phone or a voice message to your land line. We use this system to inform parents of emergency school closures, events and meetings. It is therefore essential **that we have your up to date mobile phone numbers**. We also rely on parents/carers keeping us informed of any changes to telephone or mobile phone numbers.

Charging and Remission Policies

The Governors have agreed to adopt the Charging Policy recommended by the Local Authority. Please refer to our website for a copy of the Charging Policy.

School Minibus

The school has a minibus to support pupils to access the curriculum offsite and to attend events.

Rowan Adventure Park (RAP)

The Adventure Park was opened in June 2014 and is situated adjacent to the main school site. The Park is owned and run by the School and was developed after many generous donations from local businesses, Sefton Local Authority and Grants. The Park is for children and young people aged 0 - 25 years with SEN and their families. The School has sole access to the park within school hours. Parents/carers and their families are welcome to enjoy the park after school from 3.15 p.m. and during the school holidays, at any time, weather permitting. If you wish to purchase a fob as a parent or carer, the cost is £60 per year (12 months from the date of purchase). Please contact the school reception.

School Council

The School Council members represent pupils from each class, who have been voted as the class representative. The Council meets every fortnight and discuss issues and ideas to improve the school. They are a valuable group within our school community and have been instrumental in bringing about change to the school.

Staff Training

The School provides regular weekly staff training to ensure we are always improving our practise and meeting the needs of the pupils. In addition, to our training programme, all staff receive core training in Safeguarding; Manual Handling; Health and Safety; Numeracy and Literacy; ICT; Sign Along; Autism; PECS/TEACCH, Visual/Sensory Impairment; Sensory Processing; Behaviour Management and Communication and Sensory Circuits The school also has staff trained in life saving/pool rescue and minibus driving.

Staff are also encouraged to complete additional post graduate qualifications in autism. The current staff team working with children with autism hold qualifications from post graduate certificates to Masters Level and are suitably qualified to support new and developing colleagues to maximise pupils' learning through practical strategies.

Pupil Premium

The Pupil Premium is allocated to schools on the basis of the number of students on roll known to be currently eligible for Free School Meals, or who have claimed within the last 5 years', as well as students who have been Looked After by the Local Authority for more than 6 months and those children of services personnel.

How will we be spending the Pupil Premium?

- To support basic skills - Reading, Writing and Numeracy;
- To fund additional support for PPG eligible pupils to access the curriculum;
- To fund individual resources for PPG eligible pupils
- To fund residential experiences and trips for PPG eligible pupils.

For full details of the Pupil Premium, please see our website.

Rowan High School Information

Executive Headteacher

Ms K Lynskey

Head of School

Mrs S Furlong

School Address

Rowan High School
Sterrix Lane
Litherland
Liverpool
L21 0DA

Telephone No. 0151 257 6900

Email: adminrh@rps.mvlt.co.uk

Website: www.rowanhighschool.com

Chair of Governors : Jackie Gregg

Clerk to Governors: J Crampton

