



Our Ethos

No Judgement – No Blame – No Shame

At Helm Academy, we are a specialist SEN school providing trauma-informed, therapeutic education for children aged 11 to 16. We create a nurturing and stable environment where every interaction is underpinned by empathy, understanding, and evidence-based practice. Our staff are highly trained to recognise and respond to the impact of early trauma, attachment difficulties, and neurodiversity, ensuring every pupil is met with compassion and a tailored approach.

Our unique primary-model structure supports pupils in remaining with one dedicated teacher and class throughout the day, minimising transitions and reducing anxiety. Lessons are delivered using secondary level content but adapted to each child's developmental stage and individual needs. We also offer a dedicated nurture class, supported by tools such as the Boxall Profile, for pupils requiring more intensive therapeutic input.

At Helm Academy, we believe in providing a curriculum that meets children where they are, developmentally and emotionally, and empowers them to grow in confidence, skills, and self-worth.

Our leadership team is made up of experienced and highly qualified professionals who bring a wealth of knowledge in both education and special needs. They lead with expertise and vision, guiding a dedicated team of fully qualified teachers who are committed to delivering the highest standards of care and education.

But what truly sets our people apart is their passion. Beyond their qualifications, it is their unwavering dedication to empowering young minds that makes the greatest impact. They believe in every child's potential and work tirelessly to create a nurturing, inspiring environment where children are equipped not just to learn, but to thrive and to navigate their future with confidence, resilience, and hope.

Mission Statement

At Helm Academy, our mission is to create a therapeutic, trauma-informed learning environment where every child feels safe, understood, and supported. We are committed to delivering a developmentally appropriate, needs-led curriculum that nurtures emotional well-being and inspires academic and personal growth.

We aim to reduce barriers to learning by offering consistency, connection, and compassion in every classroom. Through a primary style teaching model, expert staff development, and evidence-based practice, we ensure that each child has the stability and tailored support they need to thrive, both in school and beyond.



Why Choose Helm Academy?

At Helm Academy, we believe that every child is unique—and so is their path to success. As a trauma-informed SEND school, we understand that emotional, social, and mental health needs are just as important as academic achievement. That is why every child receives a bespoke curriculum tailored to their individual strengths, challenges, and assessed abilities.

We recognise that some children may not be ready to engage with traditional academic learning.

At Helm Academy, we meet them where they are, supporting their emotional and social wellbeing first, and gently introducing learning in ways that feel natural, engaging, and safe. Our approach ensures that education does not feel forced or overwhelming but instead becomes a positive and empowering experience.

Choosing Helm Academy means choosing a place where every child is seen, heard, and understood, where their potential is nurtured in every way.

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Helm Academy

EMPOWERING MINDS. NAVIGATING FUTURES