**Information For Parents**

## **THE YELLOW HOUSE SCHOOL OF THERAPEUTIC EDUCATION**

Parents and students alike surely feel anxious when a new school placement is about to commence. This is natural, understandable and fully acceptable but you will soon discover we do our utmost to make the new student welcome and feel at ease.

### **At The Yellow House students will be able to:**

* Have the requirements of their statements of special needs met.
* Come to terms with issues that have hindered their success in school, and explore ways of dealing with specific problems.
* Develop an awareness of themselves as individuals, feel comfortable about who they are, and feel good about themselves and others.
* Gain self-confidence and self respect.
* Develop a network of friends and people to help them.
* Plan for a positive future.
* Relax and not be afraid.

### **Does The Yellow House have rules?**

We don’t have a long list of rules. We have some clear, simple expectations, which apply to students, staff and visitors and all of which are beneficial and help young ones feel safe.  
We expect everyone to treat one another with tolerance, acceptance and respect.  
We expect our students and staff to show consideration and respect towards our neighbours and the local community.  
People are not permitted to bring weapons of any sort or illegal substances into The Yellow House.  
Smoking is not allowed on the premises.  
We try to resolve all conflicts which may arise through open discussion. Dealing with these difficulties successfully is an important part of the therapeutic learning which takes place at The Yellow House.  
If you are unhappy about the language or behaviour of another student or a member of staff, you can make a complaint to the director.  
School policies and procedures relating to curriculum, bullying, child protection, health and safety, behaviour, complaints are available on request. Information regarding staffing, academic performance and exam results are also available from the school.  
Where English is an additional language specialist help will be available.

### **What is The Yellow House?**

The Yellow House is an Independent Special School registered with the DfE.  
It has two small centres for pupils aged 13—16 who need an alternative to mainstream school. Initially pupils attend part time, building up their hours as and when they feel ready.  
Each centre provides an alternative education and therapeutic learning environment for about 6 pupils.

### **Who is it for?**

Students who come to The Yellow House have a statement of special needs identifying one or more of the following disorders:

* ASD, ADHD, ADD, OCD, ODD, Tourettes, PDA, Attachment Disorder, PDD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia.
* Social, emotional and behavioural problems (as a result of their disorder).
* For those who are self harming or who have eating disorders.
* For young people who find a conventional school environment too demanding.
* If the young person needs a consistent small group setting.

### **What is “alternative” and “therapeutic”?**

Each person’s needs are different. The Yellow House provides the flexibility to design individual programmes to match each person’s learning, social and emotional needs.  
At The Yellow House you will find:

* A friendly, caring and safe environment in which students can continue their education
* A student centred, therapeutic approach.
* A multi- professional team of experienced staff.
* Individual and small group work.
* Access to externally accredited exam courses.
* Work experience opportunities and relevant careers advice, ensuring successful transition into college or the workplace.

### **How do students secure a place in The Yellow House?**

Students are referred to The Yellow House by local education authorities. If you think that The Yellow House is the right place for your child, you will need the support and agreement of your local education authority. Senior staff from The Yellow House will visit your home to discuss the suitability of the placement and once funding has been agreed, a provisional place will be offered. After an assessment period, a students place at The Yellow House is confirmed. Placements will be subject to regular reviews at which the student’s progress will be discussed with the family and the education authority. Students and their parents are expected to attend all review meetings.

### **Where is The Yellow House?**

The Yellow House at Sible Hedingham is on the A1017 between Halstead and Haverhill. The Yellow House at Clare is on the A1092 between Haverhill and Sudbury. The addresses are:

The Yellow House (Sible Hedingham)  
1 Alderford Street  
Sible Hedingham  
Halstead  
Essex  
CO9 3HX

….and….

The Yellow House (Clare)  
1 Nethergate Street  
Clare  
Suffolk  
CO10 8NP

DfE No. 8816048

How can I get more information about The Yellow House?

We will be happy to try and answer any questions you have.  
Director: Debbie Pester M.Ed. B.Ed. Dip.AD.  
Head Teacher: David Ollier M.Ed.  
Telephone: 01787 462504 (Hedingham), 01787 279139 (Clare)  
Email: [yellowhouse@btconnect.com](mailto:yellowhouse@btconnect.com)