

EmpowerEd

EmpowerEd provides specialist alternative provision for young people with autism and severe learning disabilities who are unable to access or sustain existing school or college placements.



Many of the learners we support have experienced repeated placement breakdown, high levels of anxiety, or are at risk of exclusion.

Our provision offers a highly individualised, low-demand and specialist approach to help learners stabilise, re-engage and begin to access education again.

Who we support

We are particularly suited to young people who:

- Have autism and severe learning disability and / or complex learning needs
- Are unable to access or sustain current provision
- Are at risk of placement breakdown or exclusion
- Experience high levels of anxiety or dysregulation
- Require very small staffing ratios and a calm, structured environment
- Need support to re-engage with learning and routine

EmpowerEd is particularly appropriate where:

- Previous placements have broken down
- Risk is increasing (exclusion, crisis, disengagement)
- Existing provision is unable to meet need despite support
- A highly individualised, approach is required
- There is a need to rebuild trust in education

Our approach

Provision is shaped around each learner's individual profile, with:

- Very small staffing ratios (including individual support where required)
- A calm, sensory-informed environment
- SCERTS-informed, communication-led practice
- Focus on regulation, engagement and readiness to learn
- Community-based learning and life skills
- Strong partnership with families, schools and professionals
- Focus on genuine and meaningful outcomes

All programmes are aligned to EHCP outcomes, with progress evidenced through individualised targets and regular review.

Purpose of placements

Placements may be short- or longer-term, depending on need.

Short-term placements:

- Stabilise learners
- Reduce risk
- Re-engage with learning

They may also:

- Prevent placement breakdown
- Support reintegration
- Enable transition to a more suitable setting

Longer-term placements provide consistent, specialist support through highly individualised programmes, focusing on Preparing for Adulthood (PfA), including independence, communication and meaningful participation.

Experience

EmpowerEd is led by experienced practitioners with significant experience in SEND, including senior leadership in specialist provision.

We are accustomed to supporting learners with:

- Complex autism and severe learning difficulties
- Significant communication and sensory needs
- High levels of anxiety, dysregulation and behaviours of concern
- The need for highly individualised approaches

Delivery

Provision is delivered flexibly across Tyne & Wear, Northumberland and Durham, including:

- Community-based settings
- Work alongside schools or existing placements
- Home-based support (if required)

Costs

Placements are costed individually based on:

- Level of staffing required
- Hours commissioned
- Delivery location
- Complexity of need

A clear proposal can be provided following discussion and review of EHCP documentation.

Contact:

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