

Services to Schools Menu 2025-2026



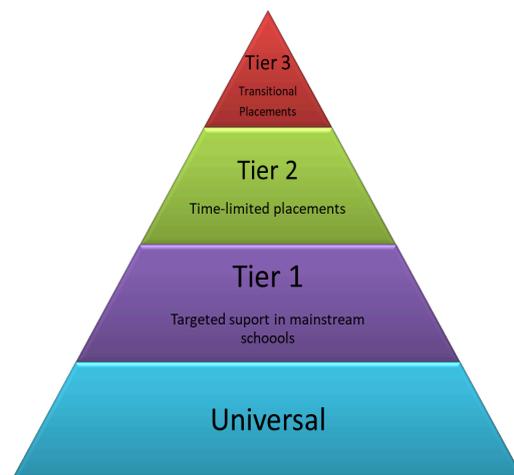
Avenue
CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

The Avenue Centre for Education offers a range of expert services to support schools in managing behaviour, enhancing student well-being and promoting positive engagement. Our experienced team works collaboratively with schools to provide tailored interventions and training to meet the needs of students and staff. This brochure outlines the range of services available from September 2025. The full offer is a blend of free to access services, and traded services. This year's offer includes free to access outreach services, and a time limited Turnaround Programme offering part funded/part school commissioned placements for Key Stage 3 pupils.

Aim:

- To improve the outcomes for vulnerable pupils presenting with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs
- To support schools in their mission to prevent permanent exclusions
- To empower colleagues in mainstream schools when dealing with SEMH
- To deliver high quality, therapeutic interventions in a timely manner

These services are part of a Tier 1 and Tier 2 graduated approach to SEN/SEMH from our local authority.



Outreach interventions at Tier 1 will build on the universal tier of ordinarily available provision within our mainstream schools. The Turnaround Provision will provide specialist support to help diagnose pupils' unmet learning needs and provide schools with suggested support strategies for the young people on their return to their school.

Access to all of our services is through the Hub Access Meeting (HAM) referral process. Pre-referral conversations are an important part of identifying the most appropriate pathway for pupils. Please contact us to discuss a young person's specific needs or if you would like more information.

OUTREACH SERVICES

As a minimum all secondary schools will receive fortnightly visits to all by outreach workers. These meetings will identify the needs of the school community and define what outreach services are required to provide in school support for pupils. Support plans will be agreed and implemented subject to capacity. Please contact Hayley Bewley hayley.bewley@avenuecentre.co.uk to discuss a potential referral. The available interventions are listed below:

1-2-1 Mentoring: A Six-week program of one-to-one sessions to improve a Pupil's attitudes to school & self. Designed to support pupils who require additional support beyond what is ordinarily available provision to enable them to be successful in the school. Available interventions include;

- Anger management;
- Aspirations;
- Assessments (PASS, wellbeing, ACEs);
- Healthy relationships;
- Friendships;
- CSE/exploitation;
- Gang awareness;
- Bullying;
- Drugs/Alcohol awareness;
- Weapons;
- Alt to PEX sessions in school for those who cannot attend ACE;
- Reintegration support, post PPP;
- ELSA;
- ELKAN (speech, language and communication);
- ELKAN (SEMH);
- SEND support;
- Pornography workshops;
- Girls groups;
- Art Mentoring;
- Attendance workshops;
- Year 7 transition;
- Observations with advice to schools;
- Supporting PSPs/target setting and
- "Hot spot" lesson support

Bespoke Group work: ACE staff will organise and deliver a bespoke intervention according to the schools stated referral needs. The planning, preparation and delivering of specific projects identified by the school and delivered by staff at ACE. Examples of topics that can be explored include: knife crime, CSE, harmful sexualised behaviour, digital safeguarding. This can include training for staff such as staff inset training or through delivery at staff..

Outreach Referral Guidance Criteria

A referral to the Outreach Team should identify students who struggle to engage with mainstream education and require targeted intervention to support their learning and development. Below is a list identifying key criteria to support appropriate referrals:

1. Attendance & Engagement

- Poor or falling attendance.
- Disengagement in lessons

2. Academic Support Needs

- Underachievement compared to ability or past performance
- Struggles with focus, concentration, or completing school work independently
- Requires alternative methods of learning due to SEN or other barriers

3. Social, Emotional & Mental Health (SEMH) Factors

- Low self-confidence, self-esteem, or social withdrawal
- Emotional dysregulation (frequent anxiety, anger, distress) impacting education
- Difficulty in peer relationships or social interactions
- History of trauma, bereavement, or adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)

4. Behavioural Challenges

- Persistent disruptive or defiant behaviour in school settings
- Difficulties with authority figures and following school expectations
- At risk of suspension due to behavioural concerns
- History of being bullied or bullying others

5. Safeguarding & Vulnerability Indicators

- Involvement in risk-taking behaviours (e.g. proximity to criminal involvement, substance misuse, exploitation)
- Identified safeguarding concerns or social services involvement
- Family instability, homelessness, or being a looked-after child
- Young carer responsibilities impacting education

6. Previous Interventions & Support History

- School-based interventions (mentoring, behaviour plans)
- Multi-agency involvement (e.g., CAMHS, social care, youth offending)

INREACH SERVICES

The Turnaround Programme

The Turnaround Programme will provide assessment and intervention placements for up to 6 students in each half term long programme. Schools must complete a referral to HAM. Placements are started as soon as capacity allows and in the order in which they are received. Pupils on the Turnaround Programme will have access to specialist teachers, support staff and where the need is identified and following a referral, the additional support of the Multidisciplinary Specialist Team (MDST). Places for schools are charged at £2000 per pupil. Schools can have one open case at any time* (*capacity allowing)

A particular focus of this programme will be on providing specialist support to help diagnose pupils' unmet learning needs. Alongside the assessments the curriculum will include life skills, preparation for school readiness and core lessons provided by specialist staff.

For each individual student there will be a tailored personal development plan which may include for example anger management, conflict resolution, appropriate behaviour, managing change, reflection to identify triggers, and learning new strategies which will be included in group work and 1:1 sessions. This plan will be incorporated alongside core subjects and community project work which will give students the opportunity to build their resilience and self-esteem. Throughout the programme we will also work on their wellbeing through discussions and regular check-ins. They will have access to support from professionals to work through any issues in a safe environment.

Commissioning schools will attend a review meeting during the programme, an end of programme meeting and receive a report from the programme outlining strategies to implement to support the pupil on their return to their home school.

After the programme the students will have support from a known and trusted outreach worker who they have worked with during their time with us, they will have this support for another 2 half terms while they transition back to their mainstream school. Schools will need to identify a key member of staff with whom the outreach worker will liaise to ensure appropriate support for the returning student.

Programme Dates 2025/2026

- Half Term 1 Monday September 15th to Friday 24th October:
- Half Term 2 Monday 10th November to Friday 19th December: Referrals by 3.10.2025
- Half Term 3 Monday January 5th to Friday 13th February: Referrals by 5.12.2025
- Half-term 4 Monday February 23rd to Friday 27th March: Referrals by 23.01.2026
- Half-term 5 Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd May: Referrals by 13.03.2026
- Half-term 6 Monday 8th June to Friday 17th July: Referrals by 01.05.2026

How to refer to the Turnaround Programme:

A referral to the Turnaround Programme should be based on clear indicators that a student would benefit from structured intervention to improve behaviour, engagement, and personal growth. Referrals must be received by the dates listed above to be considered for the next cohort. Below is a list identifying key criteria to support appropriate referrals:

1. Behavioural Indicators

- Persistent disruptive behaviour affecting own or others' learning
- Repeated detentions, suspensions (three or less), or referrals for poor conduct
- Evidence of anger management issues or emotional outbursts
- Low self-regulation skills leading to conflicts with peers/staff

2. Academic Engagement & Motivation

- Disengagement from or low motivation towards learning
- Poor or falling attendance or truancy
- Significant underachievement compared to ability/potential
- Refusal to complete work, participate, or follow instructions

3. Social & Emotional Challenges

- Low self-esteem, lack of confidence, or social withdrawal
- Difficulty forming or maintaining positive relationships with students and adults
- Evidence of bullying (as a victim or perpetrator)
- High levels of anxiety, stress, or emotional distress affecting education

4. Risk Factors & Vulnerabilities

- Risk of antisocial behaviour or criminal activity
- Family breakdown, bereavement, or other adverse life events
- Exposure to risky behaviors (i.e. substance abuse, risk of gang affiliation)

5. School & External Support History

- Previous unsuccessful interventions (e.g., mentoring, behavioural contracts, ELSA, timetable adjustments, parent/carer meetings, use of internal AP, use of ACE Outreach)
- Multiple agency involvement (e.g., social services, CAMHS, youth offending teams)

Please contact Hayley Bewley hayley.bewley@avenuecentre.co.uk to discuss a potential referral. The Turnaround Programme is designed for Tier 2 early intervention. Following a discussion with Hayley Bewley referrals are made by completing the online HAM referral form.

Pupils allocated places within the Turnaround programme may have access to support from the Multidisciplinary Specialist Team (MDST). Schools may be asked to complete a referral to the team which will be triaged and appropriate support allocated. Referral forms will be sent to schools once pupils have an agreed place on the Turnaround programme.

The team will consist of:

- Multidisciplinary Specialist Team Coordinator
- Mental Health Practitioner/ Clinician
- Speech and Language Advisory teacher
- Family Support Worker (IAPT) Full time
- Outreach worker (ReIntegration)
- Educational Psychologist (EP)
- Assistant EP
- Post 16 Transition Coach/ Youth Worker
- Youth worker

The multi-disciplinary specialist team co-ordinator is Carole Holmes (Carole.holmes@luton.gov.uk) who can be contacted for further information.

Alternative to Permanent Exclusion Protocols

The Centre offers three Alternative to Permanent Exclusion protocols:

1. Bladed Weapons Protocol
2. Drug related Incident Protocol
3. One-off Serious Incident Protocol

These consist of a 3-week full-time bespoke programme designed as an alternative to PEX*. In addition to this there are a further 3 additional full day (Fridays) intervention sessions to support reintegration. These protocols are designed for students that meet specific criteria related to bladed weapons, drugs, serious behaviour or one-off serious incidents.* Strictly subject to following pre-referral pathway. There is no charge for this service. Referrals to these protocols are through HAM. Please contact Hayley Bewley hayley.bewley@avenuecentre.co.uk to discuss a potential referral.

Additional Services

1. Exams Hosting

For students attending ACE this service is free

Cost of Exam Entry + £25 Admin per subject + £25 per hour invigilation fee (capacity allowing).

To request this service, the school exams officer should contact ACE directly (exams@avenuecentre.co.uk) to discuss. GCSE entry deadline is the 10th February 2025. Functional Skills entry deadline is Friday 6 June 2025.

2. Student SEN Assessment

£230.00 per student (approx. 6 hours)

Claudia Archampong, PACE Assessment Lead, Access Arrangements Assessor (NASENCo PG Cert, Level 7 AAA Qualified)

A comprehensive range of Social, Emotional, Behavioural and Educational student assessments, conducted by an expert team. This six-hour programme will provide focused, detailed and accurate guidance from which to develop effective interventions.

It will include an assessment report of Pupil Attitudes to Self and School (PASS) with recommendations for follow up targeted strategies. Literacy assessments such as EXACT, a test for assessing students who have specific learning difficulties and Wide Range Achievement Test Fifth Edition (WRAT 5) with subtests - Word Reading, Sentence Comprehension, Spelling and Numeracy skills will be administered. Standardised scores and approximate age equivalents can be obtained from both tests. If standard scores are below 85 in two or more subtests, then further testing such as Dyslexia screener, Dyscalculia screener or Diagnostic Reading Analysis (DRA) can be completed if appropriate. In addition, an online adaptive Maths test (Renaissance Star Maths) can be completed. These assessments will provide focused, detailed and accurate guidance from which effective interventions are implemented and decided.

3. Positive Behaviour Support Training

A certified course providing staff with the skills and confidence to safely manage situations requiring physical intervention while prioritising student dignity and safety. Two different courses are available:

1. A Level 1, 6 hour course which focuses on de-escalation and minimal physical intervention practice.

Participants will learn how to;

- Increase understanding and awareness of behaviour as communication and develop a framework to better respond to reduce risk
- Develop a greater team dynamic in supporting individuals who are distressed with approaches that have impact and strengthen relationships
- Utilise a toolkit of holistic strategies on de-escalation and crisis intervention, both verbal and non-verbal for supporting with disruptive and distressed behaviours
- Execute simple and safe positive handling techniques including personal safety, appropriate for a low-risk environment (If required by your setting). Our techniques are situated within a respectful, supportive approach to behaviour support strategies which maintains positive relationships

2. A Level 2, 12 hour course which has a greater focus on physical intervention methods are available.

Participants will learn how to;

- Understand the drivers and motivations displayed by individuals who are distressed and may become aggressive and disruptive
- Build a stronger team confidence around supporting behaviour
- Utilise a toolkit of holistic strategies on de-escalation and crisis intervention, including the importance of targeted communication, both verbal and non-verbal.
- Understand and know relevant legal standards and expectations related to use of force, and of the reporting, recording, monitoring and evaluating requirements of incidents involving physical controls and reasonable force.
- Execute simple and safe positive handling and personal safety techniques: including guiding, escorting and holding in standing, sitting and kneeling positions safely, appropriate for your service setting needs, which focus on maximum care -minimum force
- Improve expertise and confidence in staying safe, competence to carry out simple de-escalation strategies, and applying physical intervention in conjunction with a need's analysis.

The cost for these courses is £100 per person. Standard practice would involve a maximum group size of 24 staff with 2 trainers. Smaller or Larger groups can be accommodated with additional notice. Certification is valid for 24 months.

4. Therapeutic Counselling

Our qualified therapist can provide individual and group counselling to support students with emotional and mental health challenges, helping them build resilience and coping strategies.

5. Pastoral and Behaviour Reviews

Our expert team conducts comprehensive assessments of a school's pastoral care and behaviour management strategies including inclusion centre support or internal alternative provision, offering tailored recommendations to support student engagement and outcomes. The cost for a full one day consultation and report is £300.

HAM Referral Criteria/Checklist

HAM (Hub Allocation Meetings) is held on a Monday afternoon on a weekly basis. All referrals received by the end of school on a Friday afternoon will be discussed the following Monday.

The HAM panel is made up by the following staff:

Hayley Bewley	Chair
Cheryl Cook	Safeguarding and PACE Manager
Clare Murphy-Snape	SENCo
Clare Burley	Alternative Provision Manager
Carole Holmes	Multi-Disciplinary Specialist Team Coordinator (LBC)
Helen Shapter-Wheeler	Secondary Inclusion Officer (LBC)

The following criteria are used when making decisions on referrals (Alternative to PEX referrals have separate criteria for referral):

- What other interventions have been implemented by the referrer such as: SEN assessments, EP referral, Alternative Provision etc?
- Is there an EHCP in place? Is ACE able to meet the needs as identified on the EHCP?
- Are there any gang or contextual safeguarding issues impacting on the young person?
- Following completion of the HAM meeting schools will be notified of the outcome within 1 week via email.
- Schools are responsible for obtaining permission from parents prior to referral.
- Incomplete referrals will not be accepted.

For all PEX referrals we need

- current timetable
- the completed course information sheet (subjects, exam boards, options, content covered so far
- Access Arrangements form: if applications have been made or are being considered and the relevant information to support this
- CTF/CSV File