STATEMENT OF PURPOSE - STUDENT VERSION

St Catherine's is a national charity which is approved by the Department for Education.

The school has 3 three terms a year. Residential placements are weekly boarding, term time only (Sunday evening to Friday afternoon).

St Catherine's is in Ventnor, a small seaside town on the Isle of Wight. The location and supportive community are key to the success of the school, as it gives our students opportunities to develop their independence and life skills. The school buildings include 4 four residential houses. Students are in houses appropriate for their age.

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Education

Each student has their own programme, allowing individual needs to be met within a modified learning environment.

Classes have no more than 10 students and each class has a teacher and a teaching assistant who work together with speech and language therapists and occupational therapists.

Students are given access to the whole range of subjects.

Literacy and numeracy underpin all aspects of learning, therefore, a significant amount of time is devoted to them.

Sixth Form **College** **Curriculum**

The College's aim is for young people to make continued progress in education and functional communication skills in order

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to be successful in the completion of any future full-time vocational training, education or employment.

Care

The residential care team at St Catherine's provide much more than a welcoming and comfortable place to stay, they support students to further develop their life and independence skills.

Each area of independence is broken up into small stages and in total there are around 500 steps that students can cover if they complete the entire programme.

Therapy

The therapy department consists of speech and language therapists and therapy assistants, occupational therapists and therapy

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assistants, a dance movement psychotherapist, an art psychotherapist and our therapy dog, Dougal.

The therapy team is an integral part of St Catherine's - working throughout the school, sixth form college and within the residential houses.

Behaviour **Management**

At St Catherine's we recognise and understand that all behaviour is communication.

We regularly reward and celebrate both behaviour for learning and behaviour that reflects personal values and qualities.

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Staff

Our Business, Maintenance, Housekeeping and Kitchen Teams support the education and care staff in the smooth running of the school.

St Catherine's has a well-equipped Medical Room staffed during the school day by an experienced medical team, who work closely with Care, Education and Therapy staff to provide each student with optimum healthcare, health surveillance and health education

Anti-bullying

We believe that all people at St Catherine's have the right to work and to learn in a supportive, caring and safe

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environment without fear of being bullied.

Bullying and child on child abuse of any type will not be

tolerated and all staff will reinforce this message

Inspections

The school is subject to inspections by Ofsted, the Fire Service

and the Environmental Health Officers. Our residential care is

independently monitored on a half-termly basis by National Youth

Advocacy Service.

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