



School Development Plan

2026-28

Our school vision and mission statement ©

To be the international Centre of Excellence in Autism education, research and professional development.

Our school motto ©

Abbot's Lea is the best specialist school in the world!

Our school aims ©

- To provide outstanding education to our students
- To work in united partnership with their families
- To recruit, develop and retain the best professionals
- To lead innovation and positive change in the field of Autism
- To use the resources available for the greatest benefit to the school

Our code of conduct: Golden Rules ©

- Be here. Every day...
- Work hard and be nice
- Never give upon yourself or others
 - Stay positive and be happy!

Our Philosophy of Education: The ASD Model ©

At our school, we focus equally on:

- **A** - academic progress
- **S** – specialist therapeutic support
- **D** – development of life skills

Strategic Statement of Focus

1. **To maintain excellence** in the educational and therapeutic provision for all students
2. **To strengthen further** transitions, attendance, engagement, safety, workforce development and sustainable resources required for the ongoing growth
3. **To proactively shape** and competently navigate the wider strategic landscape affecting our educational work, including, but not limited to the known and emerging priorities:
 - ❖ **Locally:**
 - Liverpool 2040: <https://liverpool.gov.uk/council/strategies-and-policies/liverpool-2040>
 - LCC Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategies: <https://liverpool.gov.uk/council/equality-diversity-and-inclusion/>
 - Liverpool Area Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Strategy 2023-2026 (and any other that follow): https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/liverpool/fsd/files/send_strategy_final_v1_1.pdf
 - Liverpool Experts-at-Hand practice to support mainstream educational providers with inclusion
 - ❖ **Regionally:**
 - Child of the North: <https://www.healthequitynorth.co.uk/child-of-the-north/>
 - ❖ **Nationally:**
 - Every child achieving and thriving <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/every-child-achieving-and-thriving>
 - Ofsted inspection framework: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-inspection-framework-eif>
 - Fit for the Future NHS 10-year plan: <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6888a0b1a11f859994409147/fit-for-the-future-10-year-health-plan-for-england.pdf>
 -
 - ❖ **Globally:**
 - Autism-related education, research and professional development
 - Global Schools Alliance

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Termly review of Operational Action Plans by ALS Leadership Team
- Termly monitoring by ALS Governing Body Committees
- Thrice a year RAG-rating of progress reported to Full Governing Body
- External validation through LA, Education Improvement Partner, commissioners and partners
- Ofsted inspection activity

OUR STUDENTS

Goals	• Maintain excellence across Adapted National Curriculum (ANC), Bespoke Provision (BP) and Flexible Provision (FP) programmes • Improve further attendance and engagement • Increase physical safety of students and staff and reduce the need for Restrictive Physical Intervention (RPI) • Increase proactive safeguarding support, including in relation to online safety • Expand outdoor learning provision (on, and off site) • Ensure every student's feeling of belonging and inclusion
Strategies	• ANC - Review curriculum on offer in our ANC provision and implement agreed recommendations • BP - Implement fully BeSST curriculum in our BP offer, and enhance further all staff specialist expertise related to Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) • FP – Strengthen further therapeutic and trauma-informed practice to reduce risks of significant harm to self, others and damage to property • Enhance further proactive safeguarding by harnessing the newly increased capacity in Safeguarding Team • Enhance further our transitions by creating a new role of Transitions Coordinator • Enhance further outdoor learning opportunities by creating new role of Outdoor Learning Coordinator • Promote equity, belonging and anti-racist practice
Operational Action Plans	• Curriculum Development Plan • Attendance Development Plan • Safeguarding Development Plan • Restrictive Intervention Reduction Plan • Transition Development Plan • Outdoor Learning Plan • Digital Citizenship Plan • Student Leadership, Engagement and Belonging Plan

OUR TEAM

Goals	• Maintain excellence of our talented, passionate and dedicated workforce, for the benefit of the students we serve. • Enhance further our leadership development and succession • Harness talent and passion of teachers and support staff by promoting innovation in the classroom • Support Professional Learning Communities at all levels of the organisation to make CPD relevant to the priorities in this plan and any learning needs arising over time • Enhance further our staff' retention through the above and a range of team and individual wellbeing initiatives • Engage in learning from the best and with the best, and, together with strategic partners, contribute to future workforce development • Share ALS staff expertise with others through Expert-at-Hand model
Strategies	• Develop and roll out PLC Leadership Strand • Develop and roll out PLC Classroom Innovation Strand • Conduct a review of impact of role-specific CPD and enhance as needed to increase professional capacity at all levels of the organisation • Re-launch clinical supervision model to align it to the SDP 2026-28 priorities • Work with partners – locally, regionally, nationally and internationally – to develop workforce at all levels of the school • Develop and roll out, with LCC, Experts-at-Hand model of practice
Operational Action Plans	• Leadership Development Plan • Classroom Practice Innovation Plan • CPD Development Plan • Expert-at-Hand LCC model of delivery

OUR RESOURCES

Goals	• Maintain responsible use of public funds and resources to meet this strategic plan and all resulting operational projects • Increase capacity on existing and potentially additional sites to meet demand for places • Diversity facilities to meet increasingly complex needs of our students • Strengthen infrastructure by reviewing and adapting all available indoor and outdoor spaces • Create efficiencies in school administration by strengthening further digitalisation and partnership with external specialists • Support potential multi-site school operation rollout and Experts-at-Hand outreach model
Strategies	• In partnership with LCC as maintaining LA, explore all options for on-site and off-site capacity growth • Improve all facilities on ALS site (indoors and outdoors) • Improve efficiency of all administrative functions through digitalisation • Together with LCC, develop and launch Experts-at-Hand Partnership Plan
Operational Action Plans	• Sufficiency Plan for ALS • Facilities Development Plan • Digital Technology Development Plan • Experts-at-Hand Outreach Model and ALS Plan

Approved by the Governing Body on 9 July 2026