

# Belgrave School

Belgrave School is a small independent day school for children with specific learning difficulties. It is situated in a converted Victorian house in Clifton, a pleasant residential areas of Bristol, overlooking the Bristol Downs.

## Aims

Our aim is to encourage children to enjoy school by restoring self-confidence and self-esteem and to develop self-reliance by improving reading, writing, spelling and numeracy skills, so enabling children to realise their full potential. It is hoped to bring the pupils' academic skills to a level of attainment that will allow them to happily and confidently return to mainstream education.

We follow a modified curriculum for children aged 7 to 12 years as our prime aim is to address the child's specific learning difficulties.

Belgrave School uses its own special



programme 'Nessy' - which has proved successful over the past 35 years, and also includes a variety of programmes which have proved effective in the teaching of dyslexic children. These are supported

by computers, Arrow machines, Dictaphones, spell checkers and games so that children can have many opportunities for over-learning and success.

## Admission

Each child wishing to enter the school attends for an interview with the Head teacher. This may also include an educational psychologist's assessment in order to plan an individual learning programme.

Statemented children are welcome at Belgrave School but statements will not be initiated. They can be pursued when your child returns to mainstream school.

## Curriculum

Belgrave School will follow the National Curriculum as closely as possible but modifications may be made to accommodate a pupil's individual needs.

The subjects studied are English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Humanities, Word processing and Keyboard skill, Art and Craft, Sport and R.E.



## Sport & Recreation

A selection of sports are played in Sports' Centres, Clubs and on the Downs. Study and conservation of the environment forms part

of the curriculum and we are ideally situated in order to gain benefit from the Bristol Downs.



## Staff

Staff have specialist qualifications. They also have the qualities of personality so necessary for sensitive teaching of children with specific learning difficulties. They are understanding, supportive and sympathetic and draw the best from their pupils in both academic and social fields, so instilling inner confidence and self esteem.

The average class size is 10 or 12 and within this group there will be extra help from a general assistant and some 2 : 1 teaching within the Centre. Pupil / staff ratio is generally 5:1 and this may be reduced to 11 as required.

Diagnostic and standardised assessments are carried out in June and December and the child's individual learning programme is then carefully modified. A detailed report is then sent home.

Parents have an opportunity to discuss their child's progress at Parents' Evening. Other matters may be discussed by appointment with the Principal.

## Timetable

The school days are from Monday to Friday from 9am – 3.30pm. On one day a week school finishes at approximately 4.00pm after swimming lessons.

## Lunch

Lunch is from 12.30 – 1.30pm. A ten-minute break splits the morning lessons. Children bring a packed lunch and eat in the dining room. Facilities are available for hot drinks, In the summer it is sometimes possible to have picnics on the Downs.

## Parents' Support Group

A parents' support group meets every term. This enables parents to talk over problems and to gain mutual support. It also aims to support the Bristol Dyslexia Trust, which raises funds for the assisted places scheme.

Parents' workshops are held to enable parents to gain insights into teaching and helping their child at home.

## Fees

Fees are payable by the first day of each term. They are increased to cover costs and are kept to a minimum. A term's notice is required in writing before withdrawing a pupil from the school or a term's fees must be paid in lieu.

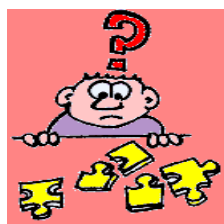
## Mrs Pat Jones

The Principal, Mrs Pat Jones, has over 30 years experience at both primary, senior and adult levels, 25 of these with children having specific learning difficulties.

She has worked in state schools (1963-76) as Head of Mathematics and Head of a reading centre, and in the independent sector where she was responsible for setting up the Dyslexia Department at Colston's School.

Mrs Jones lectures at Universities, Hospitals and is regularly invited to talk to professionals throughout the City. She is qualified as a screener of Irlen Overlays.

She has also the added experience of having brought up 2 happy, successful sons of her own, both with specific learning difficulties, and this gives her a sympathetic insight into parental worries.



**Belgrave School is registered with the Department for Education and Employment.**

**It is also a registered Charity  
Registration Number 1039105**

# Belgrave School



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