



## Alternative Provision Listing.

### Contact

#### **NAME OF ORGANISATION**

Black Stream Education

#### **PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR ORGANISA**

Black Stream Education, for learning fuelled by curiosity, questioning and collaboration. Harness your chaos with our home education, tutoring, mentoring and enrichment programmes. Whatever your age or stage, whether you're neurodivergent or just in need of some support, we're here for you. Currently a private company, we're a nonprofit social enterprise in practice, and are in the process of registering our own charity (The Community Hub) to be part of our group to better reflect our aims and values, and enable us to work more closely with harder to reach and disadvantaged folk who would otherwise be unable to access our support.

#### **AGE RANGE OF PROVISION**

For the upcoming 2024-25 academic year, we have the capacity for an additional 1-3 young people ages 12 - 19 years. However, we expect both this age range and our capacity to increase for the following year.

#### **PLEASE TELL US ABOUT COSTS**

All of our programmes are bespoke and designed collaboratively, around each individual young person's needs, interests and other requirements. Our pricing is therefore negotiable, and we offer different packages to make things sustainable for all. As a rough guide, our starting rate works out to around £66 per hour, though most of our clients prefer the transparency and accessibility of our tailored monthly and termly contracts. These can all be adapted to provide hourly, daily or weekly equivalent rates for ease. For the upcoming 2024-25 academic year, we have the capacity for an additional 1-3 young people ages 12 - 19 years. However, we expect both this age range and our capacity to increase for the following year. In the meantime, our home education groups and activities within The Community Hub may be of interest for additional young people and families to engage with us less formally.

#### **PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR OFFER.**

Black Stream Education was founded and is run by people who have experience with the sorts of struggles children have with school, so all of our programmes are inclusive of, informed by, and compassionate for all sorts of neurodiversities, traumas, mental health issues, anxieties, and the whole gamut of reasons why a child or young person might be out of school or avoidant of it. Our approach targets children and young people that are disengaged or hard to reach, or who have complex needs, and helps them integrate: be it back into formal settings, into further support, or into society. When you can meet the child or young person where they are and actually empathise with them, you build a relationship that they can rely on, which is an excellent foundation for further personal and academic growth, providing both the impetus to improve and the support with which to do so. Children and young people are works in progress, and it's important to recognise this both when designing a programme—a curriculum—and when working directly with the child or young person. We take an adaptive approach, working alongside the child or young person and allowing for the constant changes in trajectory that are inevitable when someone's interests, understandings, even their personality is changing hour to hour, minute to minute. Programmes are themselves constant works in progress, readjusting and reframing to keep the learner challenged without disengaging or overwhelming them. By designing programmes that are informed by the challenges children or young people face, we do not simply create programmes that address those specific needs for the individual, but programmes that are fully inclusive to all individuals. That means that we don't create trauma-informed programmes only for those that have trauma that needs addressing; rather, all of our programmes are trauma-informed, avoiding accidentally triggering unknown traumas, but also generally presenting a welcoming environment that helps build trust. This applies to everything, not just trauma: an ADHD-friendly programme is also accessible to people without ADHD, and the adjustments tend to benefit everyone. Black Stream Education has an excellent track record of working with complex and disengaged young people and helping them realise the joy of learning, and the potential that life can bring, and we've done this by mixing academic and pastoral lessons and support. It is impossible to have a successful academic career without first having confidence in your own ability to learn, and so part of the constant adjustments we make to our programmes is to add guidance for the child and young person's personal and social development, reinforcing that foundation so that they can really retain what they learn and thrive in life.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY OFFER FOR ENGLISH AND MATHS**

We offer academic or pastoral support or a blend, tailored to the child or young person's needs and situation. Programmes are targeted at an achievable outcome for the child or young person, and are adjusted based on progress to ensure the student is challenged but not set back. Regular reports will keep stakeholders apprised of alterations in trajectory. There are several programmes available at Black Stream Education, each targeting a different balance of academic and pastoral learning. Academic learning sessions focus on the subjects we learn at school, while pastoral learning bolsters the student's social and personal development, supporting them in establishing a groundwork within their lives and community. It is impossible for anyone lacking confidence in the pastoral areas to have a successful academic life, so this is one of the things we look for, and fix, when we work with struggling students. Most learners need a blend of these approaches, and we work with them to establish the right balance, and adapt as the situation improves. In both pastoral and academic programmes we practise cross-curricular active learning, a strategy that connects learning to daily life to make the subject matter approachable, interesting, and memorable. It also connects the fields of academic and pastoral learning, which is why most programmes are naturally a blend of the two and links to the National Curriculum, utilising appropriate programmes for each individual, such as the AQA Award scheme. This allows a child or young person to build confidence and capacity in their learning and see evidence of their success as they progress. For students who are ready, we offer access to GCSE and IGCSE preparatory programmes in appropriate subjects, alongside exam skills and mocks. Although we are not an exam centre, we can support students accessing exam centres and schools - as private candidates or otherwise - or to put alternative arrangements in place. As well as adjusting the balance, each programme also scales in intensity, tailoring the number of available hours to both the available budget and the needs of the learner. A student who would be easily overwhelmed by too much time spent in active learning would be set back just as much as a student who needs extra support but doesn't get it.

#### **WHO SHOULD WE CONTACT,**

Jenna Douglas, Director and Educator: [j.douglas@blackstreadeducation.co.uk](mailto:j.douglas@blackstreadeducation.co.uk)

#### **ADDRESS AND POST CODE**

Black Stream Education 1a The Mill at Rectory Farm East Farndon Road  
Marston Trussell Market Harborough Leicestershire LE16 9TU

**EMAIL AND PHONE NUMBER(S) AND WEB SITE ADDRESS. (PLEASE NOTE WE WILL LINK OUR SITE TO YOUR WEB SITE IF YOU GIVE US THIS INFORMATION)**

hello@blackstreameducation.co.uk blackstreameducation.co.uk

**ADD ANY FURTHER COMMENTS**

For full details of all of our programmes and opportunities, please get in touch.

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