

**6th form
and
Gateshead East 16+ Partnership**



Starting September 2011 Hill Top is piloting a partnership mainly with Gateshead College to provide 16+ education for students benefitting from the support and teaching Hill Top offers. Students may stay on for 1, 2 or 3 years then transfer to Gateshead College or other FE facility later.

Our current 6th form caters for young people with complex need and Autism supported by the Gateshead Local Authority and this will continue.



Hill Top Specialist Arts College

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**Hill Top Specialist
Arts College**

**6th form
and
Gateshead East 16+
Partnership**

Welcome to our information for you about the exciting opportunities for your young person offered at Hill Top Specialist Arts College. We cater very well for all students with learning difficulties and we recently achieved **“OUTSTANDING”** from **OFSTED** in Feb 2011.

Expectations are high and we look forward to you contacting us should you have any further queries regarding our



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Post 16 Gateshead East Partnership

Post 16 Gateshead East Partnership (new for 2011)

Starting September 2011 Hill Top is piloting a partnership mainly with Gateshead College to provide 16+ education for students benefitting from the support and teaching Hill Top offers. Students may stay on for 1, 2 or 3 years then transfer to Gateshead College or other FE facility later. All students will study AQA, City & Guilds or BTEC qualifications which can lead to Award, Certificate or Diploma. Learning will be appropriate to individual need and interest and be a selection of courses from Foundation Learning, Personal and Social Education, Functional Skills in English, Mathematics and ICT, Enterprise and Employability, Preparation for Working Life, Project Qualification including Personal, learning and thinking skills. Options include Performing Arts, or Sport and Active Leisure or Horticulture. Horticulture may be linked in partnership with Newcastle College. It may be possible for students to continue with Arts Award and/or take part in Gateshead Schools' PE initiative.

Uniform – black jacket/blazer, black & green striped tie, white shirt, black trousers/skirt, black shoes as chosen by potential 16+ students



6th Form (complex need)

The current 6th form provision for students with severe autism/complex need is supported by the Local Authority on an individual need basis. External Accreditation is through ASDAN (Award Scheme Development Accreditation Network) and AQA (Assessment Qualification Alliance) and unit award scheme. Modules include Towards Independence, Personal development, Literacy & Numeracy in Every Day Life, Every day Living, Coping with people, Personal Safety and Water Skills at Entry level and Level 1. Students have Community Studies and Enterprise lessons providing opportunity to organise and run their own business. The school often works with Young Enterprise North East to encourage students to experiment with running a business. Making greeting cards has been a very successful enterprise as has catering via a trolley around school. Their products are sold both in school and in the community with profits being donated to local charities and the school.

Uniform: A different coloured sweatshirt is worn compared to the rest of the school. This consists of a blue Hoody worn for any external visits/trips and a blue sweatshirt for internal school activities. Both have the Hill Top School Logo sewn on to the left side. Black trousers and black shoes.



Students with complex need

Students with profound and/or severe autism who may have multiple learning difficulties benefit from a more sensory approach to the curriculum with access to innovative resources such as a sensory room, indoor/outdoor equipment. We work closely with partner schools and other professionals' e.g. occupational therapy. Speech language and hearing impaired services ensuring that students have interesting and motivating surroundings at all times.

Students with specific communication difficulties work well in our Autism centre which promotes communication through signing, picture exchange, communication systems (PECS) and the use of high and low tech communication aids. Students can access this group on a full time or part time basis. The centre works closely with the speech and language team for assessment and in developing a plan which meets their individual needs.

These students are encouraged to integrate with their peers across the school and to be included in selected lessons where appropriate. All students in school learn signing in assembly as part of a whole school communication strategy.

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