

Illuminate You, Learning for Life Lodge

Student Handbook

Welcome to Illuminate You!

At Illuminate You, Learning for Life Lodge, we are excited to support you on your journey. Our school is a place where every student is valued and respected, and where learning is designed to help you achieve your best academically, socially, and emotionally. This handbook will guide you through our school's expectations, resources, and opportunities.

Our Mission and Values

Our mission is to create a safe, nurturing, and empowering environment that enables each of you to reach your full potential. At Illuminate You, we follow the T.R.I.B.E. values:

Respect: We approach each other with kindness, understanding, and appreciation for our unique qualities, creating a culture of mutual respect.

Impact: Our goal is to make a positive, lasting impact on each individual, guiding them toward personal growth and meaningful achievements.

Belonging: Together, we create a safe and inclusive space where everyone feels they are a valued part of the Illuminate You community.

Enable: We empower individuals to build skills, confidence, and independence, equipping them for lifelong success and resilience.

What to Expect at Illuminate You

1. Curriculum

- **Academic Subjects:** We offer courses in Maths, English, Science, and more through the AQA Unit Award Scheme. These classes are designed to connect learning with real-life skills, like budgeting, problem-solving, and managing personal finances.
- **Life Skills:** You'll learn essential skills like cooking, personal finance, and practical tasks that prepare you for independent living.

- **Therapeutic Support:** Our school provides therapeutic services, including music therapy and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), to support your emotional well-being and self-awareness.
- **Social Skills and Emotional Regulation:** We focus on building social understanding, resilience, and ways to manage emotions through activities and discussions.

2. Support Services

- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):** If you have any concerns about safety or need support, you can reach out to our DSL, who is here to help.
- **Mentorship and Counselling:** You have access to mentors, counsellors, and trained staff who can provide guidance, support, and a safe space to talk.
- **Individualized Learning Plans:** We create a personalized learning path, the *Illuminate Empowerment Path*, tailored to your strengths, interests, and needs.

3. Attendance and Punctuality

- Your regular attendance is vital to your learning and success at school. We expect you to arrive on time and be prepared for each day.
- If you are unable to attend, please let the school know as soon as possible so we can support you.

4. Behaviour Expectations

- **Respect for Self and Others:** Treat yourself and others with respect and kindness. Harassment, bullying, or aggression is not tolerated.
- **Responsibility:** Take responsibility for your actions, and work with staff to make positive choices.
- **Community Engagement:** Our school is a community. Whether in class or during activities, we ask you to be engaged, show respect, and support each other.

5. Student Support and Well-Being

- **Safe Spaces:** If you need a quiet area, we have designated spaces where you can go to calm down, reflect, or take a moment to yourself.
- **Healthy Mind, Healthy Body:** We encourage you to take care of your physical and mental health through healthy eating, exercise, and participating in well-being activities

6. Communication and Support

- **Meetings with Mentors:** You will have regular check-ins with your mentor or keyworker, where you can share any concerns or discuss your goals.
- **Feedback Opportunities:** We value your opinions. You'll have opportunities to provide feedback on your learning experience, and we encourage you to speak up.

Daily Schedule

- **School Hours:** Illuminate You operates from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.
- **Breaks and Lunchtime:** You'll have a morning break, lunch break, and afternoon break each day.
- **Class Locations:** Classes are held in different rooms throughout the lodge. Please check the schedule and follow the timetable provided.

Health and Safety

1. Emergency Procedures

- Fire drills are conducted regularly to ensure you know the safety procedures. Please take all drills seriously.
- If you feel unwell or need assistance, alert a staff member immediately.

2. Safe Use of School Facilities

- Keep our facilities tidy and use them safely.
- Report any damages or unsafe conditions to a staff member as soon as possible.

Bullying and Harassment Policy

We are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all. If you or someone you know is experiencing bullying or harassment, please reach out to your mentor, the DSL, or any trusted staff member.

We will take all reports seriously and work to resolve them promptly.

Digital Safety and Technology Use

- **Internet Use:** The internet is a resource for learning. Follow safe internet practices and avoid visiting inappropriate websites.
- **Devices and Personal Belongings:** If you bring personal devices, keep them safe and remember that the school is not responsible for lost items.

Parent/Carer Involvement

We believe that a strong partnership with your parents or carers helps support your success. Illuminate You will keep your family informed about your progress, attendance, and any significant events. They are welcome to reach out with questions or concerns.

Rewards and Recognition

We celebrate your achievements, big and small! Through awards, certificates, and special events, we acknowledge the hard work and progress you make throughout the year.

Important Contacts

- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):** *Rob Wardle / Natalie Masters*

Rob@illuminatecaregroup.co.uk

Natalie.masters@illuminatecaregroup.co.uk

Let's Make the Most of Illuminate You!

Remember, Illuminate You is here to support you every step of the way. We encourage you to make the most of your time here by engaging in your learning, trying new things, and reaching out when you need help. Together, we'll work towards your goals and prepare you for a bright future.

Please review this handbook with your family, and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask your mentor or a member of staff. Welcome to Illuminate You – let's make this year an inspiring one!

