



An independent DfE
registered SEMH
school for children
with SEND needs.

Part of the
Channels & Choices
community.



Day school



8 - 17 years old



SEMH, ADHD & ASD

Welcome to the

Sallygate

School



Welcome to **The Sallygate School**, located in the village of Kearsney, situated just outside the coastal town of Dover.

We are an independent provision providing specialist education services for children and young people aged 8 to 17 years with a wide range of needs. These include social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), an autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) and attachment disorders.

Our SEMH school is part of **Channels & Choices Therapeutic Children's Services**, a local children's organisation who have been providing specialist, therapeutic care for children and young people for nearly 20 years. Their residential children's homes, foster care placements, SEMH school and inhouse therapy services are all part of Channels & Choices' wider wrap around care services.

“It's incredible to see this development. We are so grateful to the school for their amazing commitment, perseverance and care.”
- the carer of a Sallygate pupil



We provide a nurturing, small class learning environment, with a broad and balanced curriculum enhanced by our onsite Forest School.

At Sallygate School, we recognise that every child's learning journey is unique. The prior experience of education will be different for all pupils and we understand that this can affect how they feel about school. That's why we take a different approach—one that is nurturing, personalised and focused on building trust, confidence and a love for learning. We create an environment where every child feels valued, safe, supported, and empowered to succeed.

We provide a welcoming and supportive learning environment to help children and young people overcome any barriers to learning they may have felt at school and look to support children to become happy and active participants in their education that specifically meets their individual needs.



Ofsted
Good
Provider

Our most recent inspection was in 2022 when we were awarded "good" overall and "outstanding" in the following areas:
Behaviour and attitudes, Personal development, Leadership and management

At Sallygate School, we place therapeutic approaches and an understanding of trauma at the heart of everything we do. We know that behaviour is a form of communication, and we respond with empathy, consistency, and care. Our staff are trained to recognise the impact of early experiences, and we work to build trusting relationships that create a sense of safety and belonging. Through therapeutic support, emotionally informed teaching, and a strong pastoral ethos, we help children develop the confidence, resilience, and self-regulation they need to thrive in their learning and beyond.

We provide each child with an engaging curriculum, delivered within a nurturing environment, which meets both their academic and personal needs whilst supporting them to fulfil their own potential. The foundation of our curriculum is built upon high-quality teaching and emotional support, ensuring every one of our students feels seen, heard, understood and supported.

We offer a broad and balanced range of subjects that meet the needs of children with a wide range of abilities. Emphasis is placed on Basic Skills, which includes reading, writing, mathematics, science, religious education, arts and DT as well as Life Skills, including self-care and personal organisation.

The school works in partnership with our inhouse, multidisciplinary therapy team, including Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapist, Dance and Movement Psychotherapist and Art Psychotherapist, to support pupils in understanding and managing their emotions and behaviours, empowering them to engage positively with their learning and reach their full potential.

Our dedicated therapy team plays a central role in supporting the emotional wellbeing and development of our pupils. Working closely with staff and families, they provide targeted interventions that help children process and recover from trauma, regulate their emotions, and build positive relationships. By embedding therapeutic support into the daily life of the school, the team ensures that emotional development and mental health are prioritised alongside academic learning. They also play a key role in upskilling staff—delivering training, consultation, and reflective practice sessions that enable all adults in the school to respond with empathy, consistency, and insight. This collaborative approach helps create a safe, nurturing environment where children are understood, supported, and ready to learn.





“ He is happier and more settled than we have ever seen him within a school setting. He has built some very positive and trusting relationships with staff and is now able to open up and discuss any issues that are bothering him. ”

- Parent of a Sallygate pupil

At Sallygate School, our values of Respect, Kindness, Resilience, and Tolerance are more than just words – they are lived every day in how we teach, support, and care for our pupils. We place the child at the centre of every decision, shaping our curriculum and daily practice around their individual needs, strengths, and aspirations. Relationships are the foundation of our work, and we pride ourselves on creating a calm, compassionate environment where trust can grow and every child feels seen, heard, and valued. Learning here is not just about academic progress – it’s about nurturing the whole child: socially, emotionally, and personally. Set in beautiful, peaceful surroundings that inspire reflection and wellbeing, our school offers a safe space where children can thrive. Our dedicated and passionate team are unwavering in their belief that every child deserves the best possible start in life – and we work together to make that belief a reality.

The Sallygate School

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Watch a video
introduction to
the school!

