



THECRYSTAL



The Crystal is a specialist SEN Unit located at Kingsland C.E. Academy.

We provide a nurturing and supportive environment for up to fifteen children from Year 1 to Year 6 who have a range of additional needs, particularly in communication and interaction.

As a Church of England school, we believe that every child is a unique individual, loved by God, and deserving of care, respect, and the opportunity to flourish in a supportive and inclusive community.

Our approach is built around getting to know each child individually and working closely with families to tailor support that builds on strengths and supports areas in need of development.

Our aim is simple: to help children grow in confidence, develop communication and social skills, support emotional wellbeing, and learn at their own pace.

We believe children thrive when they feel safe, valued and understood and our dedicated team celebrates every step of progress along the way!

**We don't just support the child,
We support the whole family.**

What is a SEN Unit?

A Special Educational Needs (SEN) unit is a specialist provision within a mainstream school. It offers children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) the opportunity to learn in smaller groups with specialist staff, whilst being a part of the wider school community.

At The Crystal, Children benefit from:

- ◆ Small Class Sizes
- ◆ High levels of Adult Support
- ◆ Specialist Communication-focused Teaching
- ◆ A Calm and Structured Environment
- ◆ Access to Mainstream School life when ready

Our balanced approach helps children build confidence while developing the skills they need to flourish.

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My child wants to come to school and runs through that door without saying bye which shows her excitement!

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Our Two Learning Spaces

The Crystal consists of two rooms carefully designed to meet the different needs of our children.

The Crystal – Room One

Provides a pre-formal curriculum for children with significant speech, language and communication needs.

Many of these children are pre-verbal and benefit from:

- ◆ A Highly Nurturing Environment
- ◆ Sensory and Play-based Learning
- ◆ A Strong Focus on Communication
- ◆ Individualised 1:1 Support
- ◆ Learning through Exploration and Structured Play

This room is designed to support children at the earliest stages of communication and learning development.

The Crystal – Room Two

Provides a semi-formal curriculum for children who are ready to access an adapted National Curriculum.

Children in this room:

- ◆ Access Subjects like English, Maths, Phonics & PSHE
- ◆ Learn through Shorter, Practical Lessons
- ◆ Receive additional Adult Support
- ◆ Develop Independence Gradually
- ◆ Begin accessing aspects of Mainstream School life

This room bridges the gap between specialist provision and mainstream learning.

Our Learning Environment

Both rooms are designed to provide calm, supportive and engaging learning spaces.

This may include:

- ◆ Access to Outdoor learning areas
- ◆ Sensory Spaces
- ◆ Quiet and Calming Areas
- ◆ Guided Work Tables
- ◆ Roleplay & Exploration Zones
- ◆ Reading Den
- ◆ Communication-friendly Displays
- ◆ Apple TV for Interactive learning
- ◆ Accessible toilets & Changing facilities
- ◆ Kitchen access for Life Skills learning

Our spaces are carefully organised to reduce the feeling of being overwhelmed and also to support effective communication.

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Our child is incredibly happy and is thriving in the environment!

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Entry & Transition

Children attending The Crystal...

- ◆ Have an EHCP with a primary need of Communication and Interaction
- ◆ Have The Crystal named in Section I of their EHCP
- ◆ Are in Year 1 to Year 6

When children make significant progress, they may gradually transition back to mainstream learning. This decision is made collaboratively with families and professionals.

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We really appreciate the continued support from all the team... nothing seems too much trouble.

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Curriculum & Learning

Our curriculum is carefully designed to support communication, confidence and independence. It is adapted to meet children's needs and is built around meaningful themes and experiences.

We focus on our children's...

- ◆ Communication and Interaction
- ◆ Emotional Wellbeing
- ◆ Social Development
- ◆ Independence Skills
- ◆ Play-based and Practical learning
- ◆ Individual EHCP targets

Through engaging topics such as...

- ◆ Who Am I?
- ◆ The Gruffalo
- ◆ The Weather
- ◆ Houses and Homes
- ◆ Out and About

Learning is flexible, sensory-rich and tailored to each child's stage of development.

Inclusion Opportunities

Being part of a mainstream school is an important part of The Crystal. Children are supported to access wider school experiences in a gradual and supportive way

This may include:

- ◆ Shared Playtimes
- ◆ Joint Activities between Rooms
- ◆ Visits from Mainstream Classes
- ◆ Attending selected Mainstream lessons
- ◆ Whole school Events and Celebrations

We carefully build these opportunities around each child's readiness and confidence.

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We've loved watching our child's journey and progression already!

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Partnering with Families

Parents and carers are central to everything we do. We believe that strong partnerships help children succeed.

We support families through:

- ◆ Daily communication at drop-off and collection
- ◆ Class Dojo updates
- ◆ Termly Pupil Passport meetings
- ◆ Annual EHCP reviews
- ◆ Open-door policy
- ◆ Invitations to whole school events

We value the knowledge parents bring and work together to support each child's journey.

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We've noticed a huge difference at home because of the consistency.

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Supporting Progress

Children's progress is carefully monitored and celebrated.

We support progress by linking learning directly to each child's EHCP targets and using individual Pupil Passports to guide daily practice.

Progress is reviewed termly, and development is carefully tracked using specialist assessment tools. We work closely with families and external professionals to ensure that every child receives consistent, well-coordinated support.

All staff share responsibility for progress, with oversight from the Provision Lead and Senior Leadership Team.

Specialist Support

The Crystal benefits from ongoing support and quality assurance through:

- ◆ Senior Leadership monitoring
- ◆ Subject leader feedback
- ◆ External agency advice
- ◆ Abacus Psychology support and training
- ◆ Inclusive Learning Service involvement

This ensures our provision continues to develop and meet our children's needs.





The Crystal is linked to Kingsland C.E Academy
and is part of St. Bart's Multi Academy Trust.

www.kingslandceacademy.co.uk/thecrystal

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