



Serenity School

Serenity Education Group Ltd
Robert Denholm House, Bletchingley Road, Nutfield, Surrey, RH1 4HW

RE: Letter to all Stakeholders

As we look back over the last five years since we first opened Serenity School at South End Croydon to a small cohort of 25 pupils, which, during a period of profound change to our world due to political, health and economic change – it is remarkable how much we have accomplished, not just from an academic perspective, but in our steadfast dedication to helping our students, families and local authorities with special educational needs and the additional barriers and complexities associated with living with SEND on a daily basis.

Some quotes from His Majesty's Inspector from May 2023 Inspection of Serenity School Coulsdon.

"Pupils love coming to Serenity School. They described their experiences very positively, saying that they are happy and feel safe".

"Pupils thrive here in so many different ways. Often, their previous experiences of school have been negative. Leaders know that time is precious. They have unrelenting aspirations for every pupil".

"Pupils' personal development is exceptional. The school's approach to personal, social, health and economic education has been well thought out. Pupils learn a plethora of important topics in their personal and social development lessons".

The dedication of our headteachers, management teams and teaching teams has been exemplary in all areas of education and childhood development to the extent that all our schools that are eligible for a full Ofsted Inspection by the DfE have been judged Outstanding in all areas of the inspection framework. It is worth noting that only 2% of all schools in the UK that are registered as Independent special schools for ASD/ADHD hold the status of Outstanding in all areas. We hold two of these positions! 100% record.

To place this in context, since August 2018, the percentage of schools judged outstanding overall has declined from 21 per cent to just 19 per cent nationally.

The decrease is largely driven by a decrease in the proportion of schools rated 'outstanding', which fell from 8 to 5 per cent. (Schools Week Reporter 2022 Edition No.4)

In an era where a large proportion of schools judged outstanding under the previous Ofsted framework have now lost their outstanding status, we at Serenity Education Group have achieved two outstanding judgements in consecutive inspections in the last 12 months. This confirms the quality of education we have on offer across the three tiers of our curriculum.

Serenity School Eltham – Grade 1 Outstanding in all areas of the inspection framework April 2022. This inspection was particularly satisfying considering that it's the first time inspected.

Serenity School Coulsdon – rated Good 2019, now judged Grade 1 outstanding in all areas May 2023

Serenity School Crawley – Pre-Inspection Dec 2022. Due our first full Ofsted Inspection in the coming weeks.

Serenity School Maidstone – Opening in 2024



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Website www.serenityschool.org.uk
Phone: 01737 824010



We will continue to support families across Southeast England with SEND. We are currently serving the needs of just under 300 pupils with a capacity to serve 405 pupils. By 2024 with the introduction of our Maidstone School this will rise to 555 pupils.

The successes to date are all down to the hard work of our committed staff teams at each school working in unison with consultants and directors at SED to create a vision for high quality SEND provision, a culture of learning at our schools that is driven by systems management and high aspirations. The cumulative impact is that our schools are well safeguarded, and all pupils achieve and develop at a rate of pace bespoke to their own education flightpath.

Company Values and Expectations:

At Serenity Education Group we are guided by our shared values:

- **Moral Purpose:** We are driven by our shared moral purpose to do all that we can, both directly and indirectly, to improve educational outcomes and life chances. Excellence from enrolment to graduation is our mantra.
- **People First:** Inclusion, Independence and Self Worth are the values woven into all aspects of our organisation.
- **Stronger Together:** We believe in the power of partnership and collaboration, understanding that the very best outcomes are delivered only when we embrace challenge and work together – with each other, our teams, and partner schools.
- **Excellence:** We are committed to excellence from enrolment to graduation for all pupils. This means inclusive education practice pre enrolment to post graduation and future destinations.
- **Spirit of Innovation:** We have a restless curiosity; we embrace every opportunity to learn, to challenge the status quo, and to seek to set new standards for outcomes and delivery. In summary, we care, value and challenge everyone.
- **Integrity:** We expect the highest standards of professionalism and integrity of ourselves and others, acting at all times within the ethical framework of our values.

The three facets of inclusion within our schools that make us unique;

Inclusion has many forms but one principle, the right of a person to have the same opportunities and respect as anyone else.

1. Responding to need for each and every individual pupil
2. Providing opportunity and support to both the pupil and the family as a unit
3. A sense of identity for each pupil – Our schools ensure that children who follow their personalised curriculum leave school with a strong identity and a sense of who they are, why they are as they are and the impact that this has on their families and their lives. It also helps them to understand how they see themselves, their families and the wider world.

Maximising individual achievement is central to the purpose of Serenity School. Inclusion is the common thread woven into this narrative. It shows in the exceptional efforts made to help children and young people in our schools rise above their difficulties through highly skilled teaching, therapy and care that we have built into our overall curriculum offer at all key stages.

Our staff teams continue to embrace inclusion and in return we all learn greater independence and self worth. By doing so our schools are harmonious and a place for serenity.

Kind Regards,

Gareth McCullough

CEO of Serenity Education Group / Formerly Executive Headteacher Serenity Schools



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