



Keelman's Way School

'An inclusive, happy and successful school'

Prospectus 23-24



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



Keelman's Way School

'An inclusive, happy and successful school'



Keelman's Way School, Campbell Park Rd, Hebburn,

NE31 1QY Tel: **0191 489 7480** e-mail

Foreword

‘AN INCLUSIVE, HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL’

It is my pleasure to present to you the Keelman’s Way School Brochure for the coming academic year .

The aim of the prospectus is to give you a taste of the opportunities and curriculum activities students and their families can access at Keelman’s Way.

Keelman’s Way School is a nurturing, educational and therapeutic community for pupils aged 2 to 19 and their families. We provide relevant and stimulating experiences to support pupil’s progress and personal development.

The majority of pupils have severe learning difficulties; many have complex or profound needs. Some of our pupils have ASD as their primary need.

Our young people leave school having gained skills that allow them to access the adult world confidently with their highest level of independence.

As a school we pride ourselves on having a positive and welcoming atmosphere. When visiting Keelman's Way you will meet pupils working at different subjects at different levels. You may also meet some of our multidisciplinary colleagues who we work closely with.

We place a high value on developing strong relationships with parents and carers so we can work together to meet the best needs of your child. We encourage families and friends to engage with all aspects of school life, providing a variety of opportunities to participate in.

School is an important part of life for children and their families. We hope that our school website helps you get to know a little about us and can help you to keep up to date with news, events and any changes we make. Please feel able to ask any questions that will help you to get to know us better.

We hope you enjoy your time with us as a parent, professional or visitor. If you visit the school I hope you see the progress our children make in the very supportive environment we provide for them. We want the very best for them whilst they are with us and for a very successful fulfilled life when they move on to new schools, colleges or work placements.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

Paula Selby



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Admissions Process

Keelman's Way School has Trust School Status. We provide a day service for pupils and students with severe or profound learning difficulties and related needs aged 2 to 19 years. In addition to their delayed cognitive development most pupils and students also have additional needs related to:

- Language and communication
- Physical needs and mobility
- Sensory impairments
- Medical or nursing needs
- Social, emotional and personal care needs



All pupils and students follow an appropriate curriculum that meets their individual needs depending upon age. Learning experiences and objectives are then differentiated to meet individual needs in age appropriate settings.

Criteria for Admission Keelman's Way School provides a day education provision for pupils and students who have severely or profoundly delayed cognitive development and related skills and abilities. Pupils and students may also present with a wide range of additional language, communication, physical, mobility, medical, sensory or personal needs.

These circumstances limit the understanding of pupils in social interaction and their understanding of the world around them. All pupils or students will have an Education Health Care Plan which identifies their needs, an appropriate school placement and related information. It will also identify the pupils' funding band prior to admission.

Out of Borough Placements will be considered but only when fully resourced and there is capacity to do so.

Admissions Procedures Educational and related special needs will have been identified through preschool assessment or through the Special Educational Needs coordinator (SENCO) in a mainstream school The assessment process will have resulted in the drafting of a Education Health Care Plan.

If Keelman's Way School is named as the appropriate school the Local Authority will request a place on behalf of the individual. The majority of admissions take place at the start of the school year (September) but, because of unavoidable circumstances, some pupils also join the school roll at other times.

School Uniform

A uniform gives a school a sense of identity, belonging and pride. Pupils at Keelman's Way look very smart in our uniform.



Our uniform consists of the following...

- White or pale blue polo shirt or t shirt.
- Navy sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper
- Black or dark grey trousers/ joggers / skirt / pinafore
- Blue / white checked dresses for summer.
- Sensible flat foot wear- shoes or trainers. No flip flops

Here is a link to the supplier we use for our embroidered uniform items

All clothes must to be clearly named. This is to ensure that if items are left at school they can be returned to their rightful owners!

Children will need to bring swimming costumes, towels and P.E. kit (shorts, white T shirt, plimsolls or trainers) into school. The class teacher will let you know the days your child needs these.



Our School Day



Most pupils arrive at school by transport organised by the Local Education Authority. For any concerns or questions please contact South Tyneside transport team on 0191 4247599.

Primary pupils arrive between 8.30 and 9am.

Secondary and Post 16 pupils arrive between 9am and 9.30am.

Pupils are greeted by staff at the entrance and taken to their classes.

12.00-1.00pm is lunchtime and outdoor play.

Afternoon teaching begins at 1pm.

The school day ends at 3pm for Primary pupils and 3.30pm for Secondary and Post 16. Pupils are supervised onto transport.

We hold a Primary and Secondary assembly on a Friday afternoon where we recognise pupils achievements through our 'Star of the week' awards. We celebrate birthdays and enjoy singing and signing.



After School Clubs

After school Clubs - £6 per session
3.30-4.45 pm

Monday- EYFS/KS1

Tuesday- KS 4/14-19's

Wednesday- KS2/3

Thursday- Football



Monday Club offers different adventure opportunities such as exploration, outdoor and indoor play, arts/crafts, music and movement, messy play.



Tuesday Club is a cookery clubs which offers time to relax and enjoy cooking budget meals and snacks to support important life skills. There are opportunities to socialise with peers and help each other with independence skills.



Wednesday Club is swimming. Pupils enjoy a range of pool games and socialising time. Children are offered opportunities to interact with their peers they may not always see around school.

Thursday Club is Football. Pupils are given the opportunity to work on their football skills whilst following instructions and working in a team



Keelman's Café

Keelman's Café is open to the general public every Friday morning and is run by the Post 16 students.

Pupils make toasties, sausage rolls, cakes, scones and cookies.

They develop a range of skills such as taking orders, serving drinks, calculating prices, cleaning tables, and washing and drying dishes.

25% of our profits go local and national charities.



Keelman's School Council

The school council is made up of pupils from Key Stage 4 and Post 16. The Council meet weekly on a Friday for the afternoon session.

The Council have been very effective in making changes for the pupils in the school e.g. designing and choosing the play ground equipment, interviewing people for positions in school, holding whole school events 'Blue Monday' in support of Mental Health and setting up recycling points around the school.



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Support, Medical Care and Inclusion

At Keelman's Way we understand that each student is an individual.

We pride ourselves on supporting each student with the best possible learning and medical support available.

All students have access to...



Public Health Nurse

Medicine and Inclusion officer (School Based)

Community Nursing team (Where required)

Physiotherapy

Occupational Therapy

Speech and Language Therapy Team

Educational Psychologist

Social Work Team (Children's & Adults)



Therapies– Physiotherapy

The physiotherapy service at Keelman's Way School has been developed to be a highly integrated service incorporated seamlessly into the children's learning programme.

The service is delivered through a team of specialist physiotherapists, assistants and a specialist Higher Level Teaching Assistant.

A neurodevelopmental approach is used in the assessment, planning and general physical management of the children with physical problems and motor programmes are integrated into the school activities including physical education, hydrotherapy, rebound therapy and individualised therapy treatments.

The physiotherapists form part of a multi-disciplinary team developing an innovative, integrated approach to working with all our children with complex needs in the educational setting. Physiotherapy can be fun and the team work hard to provide stimulating and rewarding activities that challenge the children and extend their abilities.



Individualised Therapy Sessions

The majority of the physiotherapy management of pupils is integrated into the classroom and general school settings, but some individualised sessions may be required to establish base line abilities, or develop specific therapeutic targets, or to assist with on-going rehabilitation following surgery.

The dedicated physiotherapy environment and designated specialist HLTA enables this to be achieved with minimum impact to the pupil's on-going education and minimal disruption to the class involved. This process also enables multi-disciplinary assessments and shared goal setting targets to be established.



Hydrotherapy



The school has an excellent hydrotherapy pool where a range of activities are provided by the physiotherapy team including relaxation and reduction of increased muscle tone. All staff are trained in the Halliwick Method which enables pupils to develop confidence in the water and control of their bodies. The facility is also utilised to deliver rehabilitation following surgery when required .



Orthotics

An orthotic clinic is available every week at school and attended by a Senior Orthotist, physiotherapists and the HLTA. Parents are welcome to attend to discuss any orthotic problems and training and demonstrations are provided for the application of the orthotic devices as required.



Wheelchair services



Wheelchair clinics are provided regularly in school by South Tyneside Foundation Trusts Wheelchair Services Team. This service includes assessments of the children's needs, provision of wheelchairs and ongoing reviews of the equipment provided. Adaptations are provided as necessary and all of those involved with the children are encouraged to participate in the process to achieve the best possible outcome. The service is also provided during school holidays at the child's home, or at the Wheelchair Services Clinic at South Tyneside Hospital, if necessary. Repairs to wheelchairs/ buggies are also provided at school by Mediquip.



Transitions

Physiotherapy has close connections with South Tyneside Community Adult Learning Disability Service and provides support for the older children in transition. Keelman's Way School has strong links with South Tyneside Educational College and has assisted in the development of a similar approach to the integration of therapies in the adult educational setting.



Therapies– Speech and Language

At Keelman's Way School we offer a total communication environment for each and every child. Our aim is to provide every child with opportunities to communicate functionally and effectively.

We use many different forms of communication, including Makaton signing, vocalising, PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System), objects of reference, smells of reference, Talking Mats, Social Stories, Colourful Semantics, Eye gaze, Language steps, as well as a variety of different communication aids both high and low tech.



We have NHS Speech and Language therapists who work into our school on a weekly basis, as well as having an HLTA for communication based in school, who acts as a link for parents/carers, staff and therapists as well as other outside agencies.

Our therapists work with children who have a wide range of speech, language and communication difficulties, as well as feeding and swallowing problems.

Children have access to speech and language intervention individually and/or in small groups, this may be delivered by a Speech and Language Therapist, the HLTA or by classroom staff.



Makaton



What is Makaton?

Makaton is a unique language programme which may be used as:-

- a systematic multi-modal approach for teaching communication, language and literacy skills
- a source of highly functional vocabulary for the person with communication needs and for those who interact with that person

Who uses Makaton?

- Children and adults who have a broad range of communication needs.
- Parents, carers, professionals, education and service providers.
- Children and adults with profound, severe, moderate or mild learning difficulties, autistic spectrum disorders, profound-severe physical impairments, sensory impairments and specific language disorders.

We also offer free regular Makaton sessions to parents and carers. These are friendly and informal sessions and are run at the school on a termly basis.

These are usually topic related, for example, Easter Vocabulary, Christmas Vocabulary, Animals, colours etc. If you are interested please contact the school on 0191 4897480 to book a place.





Little Chatterboxes

Little Chatterboxes is aimed at our children in our Early Years and Primary part of the school. It is delivered by our HLTA for communication with the help of 'Frank' the puppet.

The aim of the group is to help children enjoy and participate in small groups, and to be able to develop an understanding and expression of simple language including Makaton signs/symbols.

It helps our children to anticipate what is about to happen, teaches turn taking skills, encourages interaction with each other and to make learning enjoyable. Strategies and activities are also modelled to staff so that they are able to continue and build on these skills in the classroom.

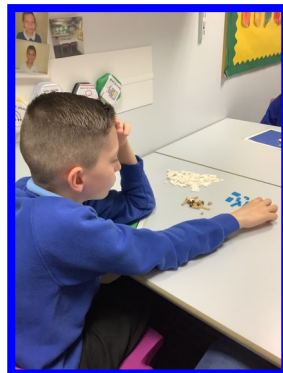


Lego Club



LEGO Club is carried out in groups of three. It is aimed at with Autism.

The group encourages listening skills, turn taking, effective communication, problem solving, specific roles and interaction skills. The children are encouraged to work as part of a team to build a model of their choice, by using good interaction and communication skills.



Social skills Group

Our 'Friend's Group' is aimed at the older and Post 16 students in our school. The group looks at situations the students may find themselves in when they are outside of the school environment, such as travelling on public transport, shopping, work experience and being aware of strangers etc.

It help students to understand what is appropriate behaviour, and who they can trust.

The group encourages them to discuss their different personalities and focuses on topics such as "All About Me". It encourages the students to listen to each other, take turns, to encourage debates and to understand that everyone is allowed to have an opinion even if you do not agree.

We also do singing and signing each week where pupils learn the signs for popular chart songs that they then perform in assemblies on a Friday afternoon.



Therapies– Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapy is an integral part of the multidisciplinary team working in Keelman's Way School, which includes physiotherapy and speech and language therapists.

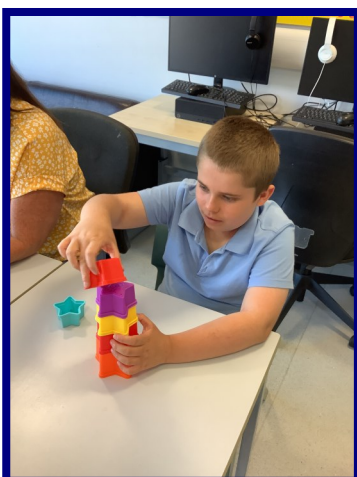
Occupational therapy aims to promote independence skills and to help children and their families to live the way they would choose to, with respect to fulfilling meaningful activities.

How can Occupational therapy be delivered in school?

Not all pupils need the same amount of time and input from O.T. Therefore, the level of intervention will vary depending on the needs of the individual pupil.

It may be possible to resolve some of the issues quickly, for example the introduction of equipment whilst others will need more in-depth long term support. With this in mind pupils will be given block sessions of therapy focusing on agreed goals (such as helping a pupil to become more independent). Those who need long term support may be seen on a more regular basis or over a period of time, allowing the pupils to develop skills and to review their progress.

Staff will be given support to allow them to continue with the therapy programmes during the normal school day.



Pastoral Care and Parent Group

At Keelman's Way School, we approach the welfare of our pupils in a positive way; all our staff reinforce the philosophy and ethos of the school.

As a 'Healthy School', we promote the health, safety and wellbeing of our children through the support and care we provide, through the management of the school, through our learning and teaching and through our partnership with others. We wish our children to feel happy and secure in whatever activity they are taking part.

An effective Pastoral Care system is required as a result of the rapid changes taking place within society.

Our children require all the skills necessary to deal with the rising pressures of media, family, education and peer pressures that they encounter in their daily lives.

Pastoral Care is composed of an ethos, laid down in a variety of policies, programmes and procedures which encourages each individual child to develop to their full potential by catering for their spiritual, moral, emotional, intellectual, physical and social needs in a safe and secure environment.

Our Aims

- A happy, well rounded child, interested in learning and with a keen sense of personal worth (Emotional Investment).
- A child who is confident in relationships with peers, parents, teachers and other adults (restorative approach).
- A child who is able to cope with success and failure; joy and sorrow; the ups and downs of everyday life.
- A child with a responsible attitude towards self and others
- Advocacy for our pupils and their welfare

We have created a Parents Group, that is run by our parents and for our parents. The group encompasses the whole school and allows our parents to meet together once a month. This allows the opportunity to discuss issues and general school life with each other as well as voicing their opinion to school leaders. We welcome all parents to attend this meeting where possible.



PMLD Sensory Curriculum

Pupils with Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties or Complex Needs may also access a highly individualised programme of learning. This is assessed through the Routes for Learning Scheme and based in a more multi-sensory approach. This curriculum is based around the core areas of Communication, Cognition, Physical, Motor and Sensory and Emotional and Social Development. These are taught through a variety of activities, taught to accommodate either skills or process based learning and which may include:

Rebound therapy, Intensive Interaction
Hydrotherapy. Sensory Integration Activities
Community Awareness, Musical Interaction
Cooking, Art, Massage
Sensory Story Sessions
ICT for Cause and Effect
Light and Dark Room
Self Help Skills



Underpinning the delivery of activities will be the extensive use of cues and AAC (Alternative and Augmentative Communication) EG:- touch cues, sound cues Objects of Reference, signing, symbols and photographs.

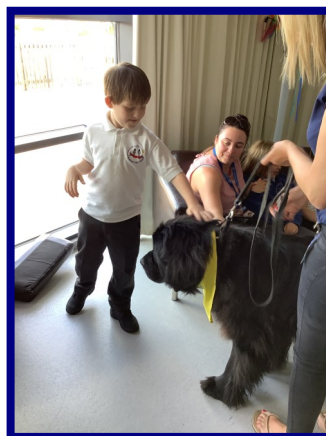
As a school we aspire to full inclusion at least 50% of the time, this will be flexible where pupils with complex difficulties may find a high level of inclusion too challenging or need an alternative curriculum to meet their needs. Pupils may also have additional inclusion where particular lessons or educational visits are relevant and appropriate to their needs.



Our Therapy Dog

We are very lucky to have a regular visit from Teddy who is a therapy dog. Teddy is brought into school by his owner Toni, they are both part of Pets As Therapy, which is a charity who go into school to support children/students who face difficult challenges on a daily basis.

Teddy is a Newfoundland dog with an exceptionally gentle nature and interacts with all of the children. He is a massive hit with all the children who have seen him. Each class is placed on a rota and take it in turns to spend some time and interact with him.



Learning Pathways

Inclusion in our school and wider community is at the core of everything we do. Pupils learn best when they are happy, calm and feel supported.

They have the best outcomes when they have a sense of purpose and staff that have the skills to meet their needs. They are most successful when families and school work together.

We follow 3 learning pathways at Keelman's Way.

Profound and Multiple Learning difficulties

Learners with profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD) have complex learning needs. In addition to their severe learning difficulties, they may have other significant difficulties, such as physical disabilities, sensory impairment or a severe medical condition

Semi formal/Complex Learning Difficulties and Disabilities

Cognition is well below national expectations. Communication is limited and pupils use signs and symbols alongside emerging conventional communication. Pupils have processing and memory deficit and need time to process information. They learn from repetition and routine. Socially and emotionally they function below age related expectations and may have additional sensory, physical and medical diagnosis.

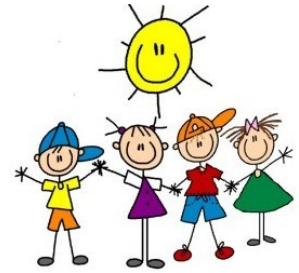
Subject Specific Learners

Pupils are able to access learning with some independence through themes, and discrete subject areas. They may communicate conventionally and can seek support where and when required. Socially and emotionally they remain vulnerable. They may have sensory, physical and medical diagnosis.



Early Years

Learning which takes place in the early years is very important for pupils at Keelman's Way School. We aim to provide an adapted sensory curriculum that meets the individual needs of the youngest children in school. The environment is set up specifically to enable children to develop all their emerging creativity and skills.



Each child has Personal Learning Goals to work towards each term that are specifically written for them. All pupils have a personal e-learning 'Learning Journal'.

Daily routines allow children to develop their independence skills as well as having the confidence to explore their immediate environment. Play is very important in the early years and skills are developed throughout the day with a high level of adult modelling and 'guided play' opportunities.



The environment is stimulating, challenging and engaging; encouraging high levels of play and learning which will help the child to become more confident, self-reliant, responsible and motivated. Where possible we use a free flow environment so children can choose to play inside or outside.



In particular we try to keep our environment safe and calm to avoid sensory overload. Play scenarios are planned on a weekly basis, the planning is flexible and will often change to take into account the children's developing interests. Children in the early years are fully emerged into the wider school environment despite being the youngest in school. They have a range of opportunities and are timetabled for children to access across the school such as the swimming pool.



Primary Department

The primary curriculum at Keelman's Way school is developed to ensure pupils have the most fulfilling and engaging experiences as they learn about the world around them.

The teaching and learning methods are matched to each pupil's needs through popular topics such as 'Parks and Picnics', 'Traditional stories' and 'Me and my body'.

Every topic has a creative focus and supports developing skills within art, music and creativity. Science topics are linked to 'Equals' units and we follow the PHSE guidance related to 'Relationships; Sex education and Health' as part of our half termly RHSE focus and sessions.

We aim to provide a stimulating environment to ensure our pupils achieve to the best of their ability as well as presenting challenge towards their independence. From an early age pupils are encouraged to make their own choices and see through the challenges of daily life from an early stage. Thus preparing our pupils in their preparation for adulthood, employability and enterprise.



Secondary Department

The Secondary department in Keelman's Way continues to develop and build upon the skills acquired in our Primary Department. Pupils are taught through topics that promote independence, creativity and positive well-being.

Our curriculum is personalised to meet the individual needs of our pupils and targets are met through stimulating and engaging learning opportunities.

This is delivered through individual/small group/whole class teaching where appropriate.

Pupils continue to work on their Maths and English skills alongside developing their personal and social skills. Pupils prepare for 14-19 curriculum by focussing on life skills and working with outside agencies in preparation for work experience.



14-19 Department

Pupils study a range of topics aimed at developing their personal and social skills and enhance their health and economic wellbeing. Pupils develop the skills needed to understand and form appropriate, healthy and safe relationships.



All students take part in our enterprise projects in post 16. They make a huge range of craft, glassware, wood jewellery, pottery and ceramic items.

In Food Technology students shop, bake and prepare meals using a range of tools and appliances. They plan balanced meals and prepare shopping lists, developing their money skills by using price lists and keeping within a budget.



In Home Management students practice their domestic skills by

cleaning the flat, the hub and the kitchen. Students also iron, Hoover and use a washing machine and dishwasher.

Pupils at Keelman's Way complete a number of tasks in outdoor learning including; Building, Gardening, Using Tools Safely Enterprise, Design and Crafts. This feeds into our core subjects including Maths, English and ICT and

is accredited through the Equals Programme of study. Our school garden has become a Enterprise site when we learn a number of Employability skills throughout our learning.

Pupils develop their functional numeracy skills by applying what they know to real life situations. They use and improve their number skills in a meaningful way throughout the curriculum e.g. using money, reading timetables, measuring and problem solving. Pupils progress is assessed through MAPP and PIVATS.

Pupils develop their functional skills by applying what they know to real life situations. They learn to communicate clearly with others through both spoken and written words. Reading for a purpose e.g. recipes, shopping lists, etc. allows the learners to use their skills in a more meaningful way.



For more details on our 14-19 provision please see our school website for our 14-19 prospectus.



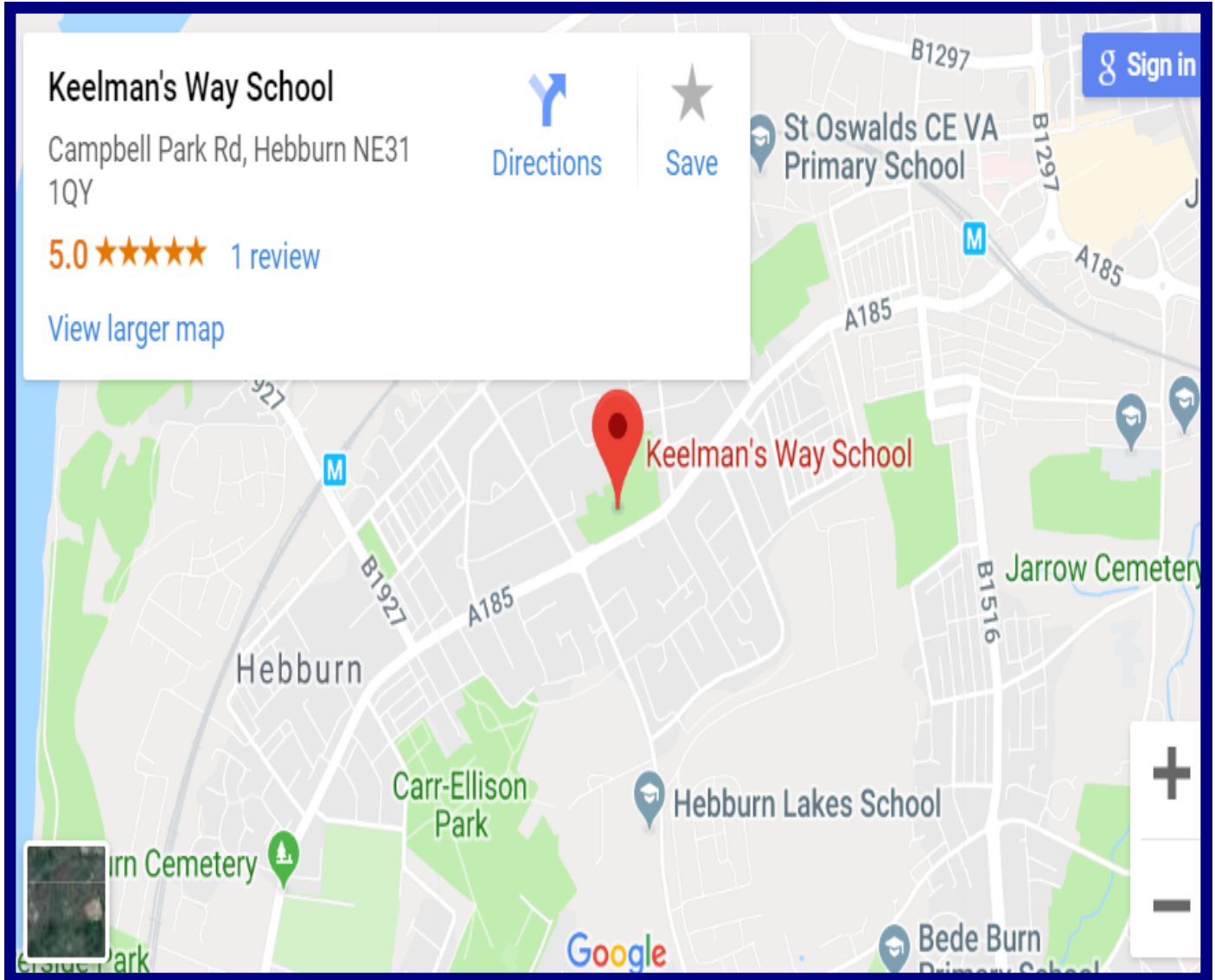
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School Contact Details



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