

Family and Carers' Forum

What to expect in your first year at
National Star College



National Star

Realising the aspirations
of people with disabilities

Zoe Barnett
Jojo Kingsbury-Elia
August and Sept '25



Family and Carers' Forum

- Launched during the COVID pandemic to better inform parents / carers about what was happening at National Star College
- Feedback has helped to shape our work and national policy
- Good opportunity to get to know staff, meet other parents and support each other
- Most importantly ensure you are better informed to support your young person.



Parent Governor: Kim Anderson

Parent Experience

Family and Carers' Handbook

Families and Carers' Zone

Website: 'Sharing Knowledge' tab then 'Families and Carers Zone'

Role in Governance of National Star

National Star 'Life After College' Parent and
Carers Network – Private Facebook group

parentgovernor@nationalstar.org



Our Service Delivery Directors

Zoe Barnett
Director of Services

Jojo Kingsbury-Elia
Director of Learning Programmes & Principal

John Mann
Director of Services

Meg Rogers
Director of Services, Learning and Student Services



Zoe
Director of Services

**10 Ullenwood
college
accommodation**

Nursing Services

**Family and
Carers' Forum**

RM-CQC

Jojo
**Director of Learning
Programmes & Principal**

**Learning
Programmes for
Hereford, National
Star in Wales and
Heart of
Worcestershire**

**Family and Carers'
Forum**

Advisory Board

Meg
Director of Services

Work-based learning

Social Enterprise

**Recruitment,
Assessment and
Admissions, Transition
team**

LIFT travel training

**NS Community
Learning**

College catering

Therapy services

John Mann
Director of Services

Long-term living

Bradbury Gardens

Day team

Advisory board

Peripatetic team

Adam Pearce – Head of Health, Care and Support.
Oversees Scott House, Bradbury House, Manor
Barn and Lake House

Claire Townshend – Head of Health, Care and
Support. Oversees Cotswold Star, Cotswold
Sky, Ullenwood View

Hayley Allard – Head of Health, Care and Support.
Oversees Malvern, Cleeve and Shortwood

Nursing Services – Clinical leads- Khirstie
Bromhage and Zsuzsa Kis-Lesko, Harriet Gorge
(BG)



Day Services / Support and Deployment

Kirby Shepherd – Head of Deployment and Support



Long-term living and Bradbury Gardens

Angela Smith – Head of Long-term living



Key people and roles – Learning Programmes

Head of Learning and Support – **Gill Cameron**
Work-based learning e.g. Supported Internships
(Nationwide)

Head of Learning and Support – **Dave Hansell**, NS
Ullenwood
Personal Development for Active Citizenship, Personal
Development for Positive Contribution, Work Outcomes and
Personal Development, Enrichment, Functional Skills

Head of Learning and Support – **Sasha Narey**, NS in
Hereford, NS in Wales, NS @ Heart of Worcestershire

Head of Learning and Support – **Jo Waite**, NS Ullenwood
Engaging with the World, Personalised Learning, Transition
Support team, Specialist Input, Learner Voice



Key people and roles – Therapy Services

Head of Therapy – Aubrey Nkita

Physiotherapy Manger – Dan Freeth

Occupational Therapy Manager –
Suzanne Pollard

Speech and Language Therapy Manager
– Dannii Egan

Emotional Wellbeing Service Manager –
Clare Wilson



2025-26 Learning Programmes – Five Pathways



Engaging with the
World

Personal
Development for
Active
Citizenship

Personal
Development for
Positive
Contribution

Work Outcomes
and Personal
Development

Work-based
learning

Attendance:

Aspirational Expectations

What is approved Exceptional Leave?

Decision made by relevant Director

Local Authority requests for attendance records

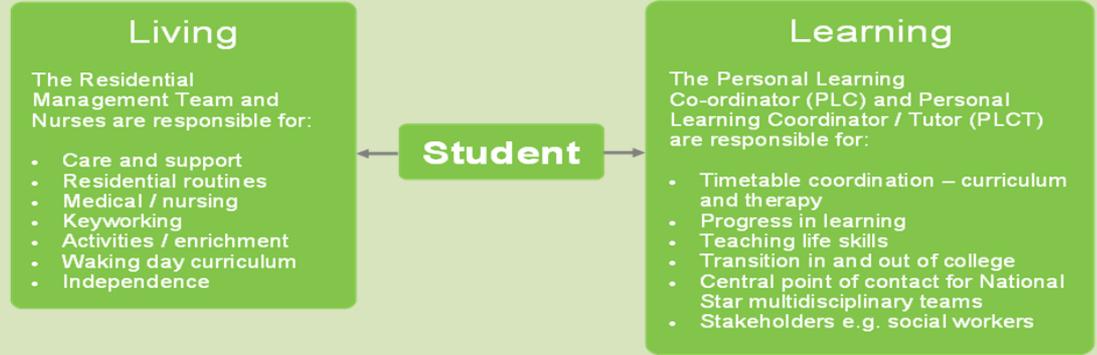
[Student exceptional leave | National Star | Learn with us](#) in the Family / Carer zone.

Working Together



- Multi-disciplinary team approach is key to the positive outcomes students achieve at National Star
- Transition for is a crucial part of our programme at National Star and begins at the assessment process
- 24 October - Transition Event at National Star, Ullenwood
- 15 October 25 - Family and Carers' Forum: Transition

Communication pathway



Support team contacts

Name	Role	Email	Telephone number
	Residential/Day Manager		
	Area telephone number		
	Deputy Manager		
	Lead Facilitators		
	Key worker		
	PLC/PLCT		
	Occupational Therapist		
	Speech & Language Therapist		
	Physiotherapist		
	Emotional Wellbeing Support		
	PLC/PLCT Manager		
	Head of learning and Support		
	Head of Care/Day/LTL		

Ambitions-Understanding aspirations/ goals

Collaboration- Working together

Integrity-Being open and honest

Respect- Listening and understanding one another.

Autumn term

- Welcome to College Week 8 – 12
September
- Baseline period observing students and establishing starting points against EHCPs
- Baseline Meeting with NS
- Regular recording against Outcomes
- Termly progress judgements made against EHCP /PfA areas



Socialising, making friends and discovering college



- Student activities
- Student Reps / Student Union
- External links to wider community enables contributions to society
- Developing independence

Welcome to National Star: Key events across the year

Autumn	Spring	Summer	F&C Future Dates and Themes
<p>Freshers' events</p> <p>Transition event 24 October</p> <p>Fireworks night 5 November</p> <p>Christmas festivities</p>	<p>Healthy Living Focus</p> <p>Transition meeting</p> <p>Reverse Jobs Fair</p> <p>Progress / EHCP Reviews*</p>	<p>Student Union elections</p> <p>Outdoor Learning Week</p> <p>Sports Day/ Swimming Gala</p> <p>Leavers' Ceremonies</p>	<p>15 October Transition</p> <p>19 December Coffee and Mince pies (Ullenwood) 2pm onwards</p> <p>20 January Mental Capacity</p> <p>22 April and 18 May Wills / Power of Attorney</p> <p>7 July Benefits</p>

Keeping in touch

- Attend future Family and Carers' Forums
- Follow our social media channels
 - Facebook
 - Instagram
 - LinkedIn
 - YouTube

National Star 'Life after college' Parent and Carers Network – Private Facebook group

Feedback on National Star



A word cloud of feedback terms. The words are arranged in a roughly circular pattern, with 'dedicated' and 'phenomenal' being the largest. Other prominent words include 'trustworthy', 'brilliant', 'determined', 'caring', 'innovative', 'outstanding', 'fun', 'welcoming', 'safe', 'compassionate', 'professional', 'hardworking', 'committed', 'flexible', 'amazing', 'thoughtful', 'vibrant', 'enabling', 'kind', 'attentive', 'positive', 'calm', and 'calming'.

positive brilliant determined
kind attentive
dedicated caring innovative
calm enabling outstanding trustworthy
thoughtful vibrant fun
amazing welcoming phenomenal
flexible committed safe compassionate
calming hardworking professional

Compliments and Complaints

If you wish to let us know of a great experience you can message us:
compliments@nationalstar.org

We welcome compliments about all aspects of our services but understand that from time-to-time people may have a concern to raise. This can be done by contacting us using the form below, in writing, or by telephone.

www.nationalstar.org/contact-us/complaints-procedure



National Star

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of people with disabilities

National Star is a working name of National Star Foundation which is registered in England and Wales, company number 00522846, charity number 220239.
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