

School: Newmarket Academy

Specialist Unit: Key Stage 3&4 Communication and Interaction Unit

Number of places: 24



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Description of Unit

Polaris provides specialist education for students in Years 7 to 11 with communication and interaction needs. The provision combines, individualised and group intervention with access to mainstream lessons, enabling students to benefit from both focused intervention and inclusive learning experiences alongside their peers.

Students face challenges relating to communication and interaction, including speech and language difficulties, social pragmatic challenges, or Autism Spectrum Conditions. Many require support with social interaction, managing transitions, and navigating unstructured times. They may also experience difficulties with flexible thinking, relationship building, and interpreting social situations.

Overview

Polaris is a fully integrated part of the main school, designed to support students with communication and interaction needs while ensuring they remain active members of the wider school community.

Students access specialist subject facilities including catering, photography, the arts, and science, and are encouraged to participate fully in physical education and extracurricular activities, including school sports teams. Wearing the Newmarket Academy uniform, they are proud members of "Team Newmarket."

Each student follows a broad and balanced curriculum tailored to their needs. Alongside academic learning, there is a strong emphasis on life skills and personal development, ensuring students are well-prepared for the future.

Polaris empowers students with communication and interaction needs to thrive through inclusive opportunities, and a strong foundation in respect, responsibility, and resilience—preparing every learner for a confident and meaningful future.