

School: Samuel Ward Academy

**Specialist Unit: The Gallery
(Communication and Interaction KS3 and 4)**

Number of places: 18



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**Headteacher: Mr Tom
Johnston**

SENDCo: Vicki Eldred

Key Contact: TBC

Description of Unit

The Gallery offers specialist provision for students in Years 7 to 11 with communication and interaction needs. It combines personalised and small-group interventions with access to mainstream lessons, allowing students to benefit from targeted support while remaining fully included alongside their peers.

Students may experience a range of communication and interaction challenges, including speech and language needs, social communication difficulties, or Autism Spectrum Conditions. Many require support with social interaction, managing transitions, and navigating less structured parts of the day. They may also find aspects of flexible thinking, building relationships, and understanding social situations

Overview

The Gallery is an integral part of the main school, designed to support students with communication and interaction needs while ensuring they spend the majority of their day learning alongside their peers. Students are fully integrated into the wider school community, benefiting from high-quality teaching in mainstream classrooms and, where appropriate, additional support from Learning Support Assistants.

They access specialist facilities such as catering, photography, the arts, and science, and are encouraged to take part in physical education and extracurricular activities, including school sports teams. Wearing the Samuel Ward Academy uniform reflects their valued and important place within the school.

The Gallery provides a supportive base for tutor time, targeted interventions, and opportunities for regulation when needed. Each student follows a broad and balanced curriculum tailored to their individual needs, alongside a strong focus on life skills and personal development.

There is a strong emphasis on the school's core values of being aspirational, brave, and compassionate, enabling students to develop confidence, resilience, and respect for others. The Gallery empowers every learner to thrive through inclusive opportunities, preparing them for a confident, independent, and meaningful future