

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)-Alternative Provision**

### **1. What is an Alternative Provider (AP)?**

An Alternative Provider offers education and support for children and young people who may be out of education or a typical school setting does not work for them.. We create personalised learning programmes focused on sensory, communication, independence, helping learners reach their potential in a supportive, flexible setting.

### **2. Who do you support?**

We support children and young people aged 5-25 who require 1:1 or 2:1 support across Greater Manchester and Cheshire East. To see the full needs that we cover, see our Assessment Admission Framework.

### **3. Do you work with schools or local authorities?**

Yes. We accept referrals from local authorities, schools, and professionals, and we also support parents directly through private placements or outreach programmes.

### **4. What makes your approach different?**

Our provision is built around individual needs rather than fixed timetables. We use evidence-based approaches such as sensory integration, positive behaviour support, and trauma-informed practice. Our small-group and 1:1 ratios ensure every learner receives the right level of attention and care.

### **5. What does a typical day look like?**

No two days are the same, but activities often include communication work, sensory sessions, outdoor learning, creative projects, and life skills development—always paced to suit each learner’s needs and interests.

### **6. Do you follow the national curriculum?**

We use a bespoke curriculum that draws on the Q Skills Framework and the Autism Education Trust (AET) Framework, our curriculum combines structured learning with flexibility, allowing topics and targets to be streamlined around individual needs, strengths and desired outcomes.

### **7. How can my child access your provision?**

To be assessed for our provision, a referral form needs to be completed and submitted to [admin@accesssenconsultancy.com](mailto:admin@accesssenconsultancy.com). This should be done by either the local authority, education setting or family (if they are funding privately or have the permission of the commissioning body). A copy of our referral form is on our website.

### **8. Who can I speak to before making a decision?**

We encourage families and professionals to have informal chats with us before starting any placement so families can get a true feel for our environment and approach. Just email [admin@accesssenconsultancy.com](mailto:admin@accesssenconsultancy.com) or call us on 07711055427 to arrange a time that's convenient for you.

### **9. Where are you based?**

We are located in the North West and work across several local authorities. Some of our training and outreach services can also be delivered in schools or at home.

### **10. What are your session times?**

We offer flexible session times to meet individual needs, typically between 9:00am and 7:00pm, Monday to Friday. We only offer part-time and transition packages.

### **Q: How do you measure progress?**

Progress is tracked through regular reviews, observations, and goal-setting against each learner's personalised plan. We celebrate both small steps and big milestones. Weekly reports are sent to families and other stakeholders alongside half-termly progress reports and keeping an open line of communication.