

Support for your Child at Willow Tree Primary School



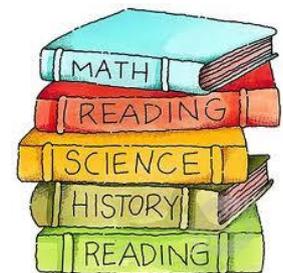
'One Team One Goal to do our Best Always!'

Our job is to help your child achieve the very best they can at school. You know your child best and you may feel that they need some additional help or support for some or all of their time at school.

This booklet is to inform you of the types of support available for your child at Willow Tree Primary School. It will help you understand who can help and how this support can be accessed.

All pupils in school receive quality first teaching. This means that a range of teaching and learning styles are used and that appropriate learning objectives are set for all children with a curriculum matched to their needs.

The majority of our classes are supported by teaching assistants and some pupils are also offered additional one to one tuition, small group work or catch up programmes where needed.



Some children also need support at break/lunchtime- our Nurture group supports a small number of children who need different provision at lunchtimes. Support can also be arranged so our extra curricular activities are inclusive.

At Willow Tree the progress and attainment of all pupils is reviewed every half term by the Senior Leadership Team at which time provision may be adjusted to meet identified needs.

You would normally be informed about your child's general progress and targets through the twice yearly Parent's Evenings and annual report.

If a child continues to have difficulty after intervention or has a high level of difficulty when they join us, they may be considered to have special educational needs (SEN) and placed on the SEN register. Parents will be informed of this.

Approximately one in five children will have special educational needs (SEN) at some time during their school career.

Children with SEN have learning difficulties and/or physical disabilities which make it harder for them to learn than most children of the same age. They will need extra support or different help eg modified tasks, extra time or breaks in formal assessments.

Schools and other agencies can help most children overcome their difficulties quickly and easily. But a few children will need extra help for some or all of their time in school.

This means they may have difficulty with:

- some or all of the work in school
- reading, writing or mathematics
- understanding information
- expressing themselves
- understanding others
- organising themselves
- sensory perception or physical mobility
- managing their behaviour
- making friends or relating to adults

Or a medical condition which impacts on their learning

At Willow Tree every effort is taken to ensure transition times are successfully managed. All children spend time in their new classroom and when possible meet their new teacher. Additional visits are also arranged to re-assure pupils and parents.



SEN stages and terminology

The Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2001 gives guidance to schools in meeting the needs of pupils. It sets out how help should be given in a step-by-step approach. You will be consulted at all stages of this graduated approach and staff will inform you of the additional work they do with your child.

Class teachers will assess your child to identify their strengths, needs and the extra help they require. If they need extra or different support than most children their age they may be placed at:

Early Action (EA) or School Action (SA)

This may involve

- extra help from a teaching assistant in class
- small group or individual support out of class
- alternative resources such as a sloping board, ICT access, visual prompts.

Early Action Plus or School Action Plus (SAP)

If your child continues to have difficulty even with this extra support, we will seek professional advice from:

- Speech and language therapists
- Visual/hearing impairment teachers
- Health professionals
- Educational psychologists
- Learning Support Service (LSS)
- LASC (Social Communication)
- BIT (Behaviour Improvement Team)
- Occupational therapy/Physiotherapy
- Trained Counsellors - amongst other professionals.

Statement of SEN/Enhanced Provision Funding

If your child's needs are complex or severe we may suggest that we ask the Local Authority for a Statutory Assessment or Enhanced Provision Agreement. This document will describe your child's SEN needs and the special help they should receive.

Both Enhanced Provision agreements and statements usually involve the Local Authority providing extra resources to help your child. These could include money, staff time, special equipment and attendance at a school with specialist resourced support.

This additional provision will be reviewed annually or sooner if required and would include parent, teacher, SENCO and pupil.

If you would like to know what provision is in place for your child or if you have any concerns that your child has some additional needs please speak to your class teacher who can put a plan in place to support your child.

You are also very welcome to make an appointment with our SENCO. Appointments can be made through the school office (01744 678730)

Further information can be found on the school's website regarding policies and school events.

We have a highly experienced team of staff who may be involved in supporting your child at Willow Tree. These include:

- Your child's teacher, who will always make sure that tasks set are appropriate and accessible for your child. Teachers are usually available to you at the start and end of each day.
- Teaching Assistants, who support pupils in class. We have several additional TAs who help support groups and individual children with their learning.
- Our Learning Mentor and Behaviour Management Manager, work with children who may be experiencing a particular period of trauma or emotional difficulty, including help with friendships.
- The SENCO (Pam Dickinson) who has the National Award for Special Educational Needs Co-ordination coordinates the provision of SEN in school
- One of the School Governors who works with the SENCO in leading SEN in school.
- Sometimes school may commission Specialist Support to work with identified children with a particular focus eg Speech and language therapists or Occupational therapists.

To ensure our staff have the skills and knowledge to support children with SEN—there is a programme of on-going training both in school and elsewhere. Our SENCO attends all meetings and forums for SEN run by the Local Authority and keeps informed of current legislation

As part of our support for all children in school we have regular opportunities to consult with support services and health agencies through a multi-agency approach which sometimes includes completing the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) to support the family as well as the pupil.

- We will discuss the needs of the individual/family in school and plan together the best use of advice and support from other agencies.

Professionals who might attend this meeting include:

- Our **School Nurse** who works closely with us and can advise and assess any medical needs. If a care plan is required this would be done in conjunction with the parent/nurse and reviewed annually as a minimum.
- The **Speech and Language therapist** who can advise upon whether your child would benefit from this support or assessment.
- Our **Educational Psychologist** may give advice or complete an assessment for a few children.
- **Behaviour Support Professionals** who give advice if required.
- **Outreach support** from specialist schools
- Our link **High Schools SENCo** who liaises to support successful transition to Year 7

At Willow Tree we value the support and feedback from all our stakeholders, we have an active school council and conduct pupil questionnaires throughout the year.

Parents may wish to join our Governing Body or get involved through our Parent Meetings or with the Friends of Willow Tree fund raising group.

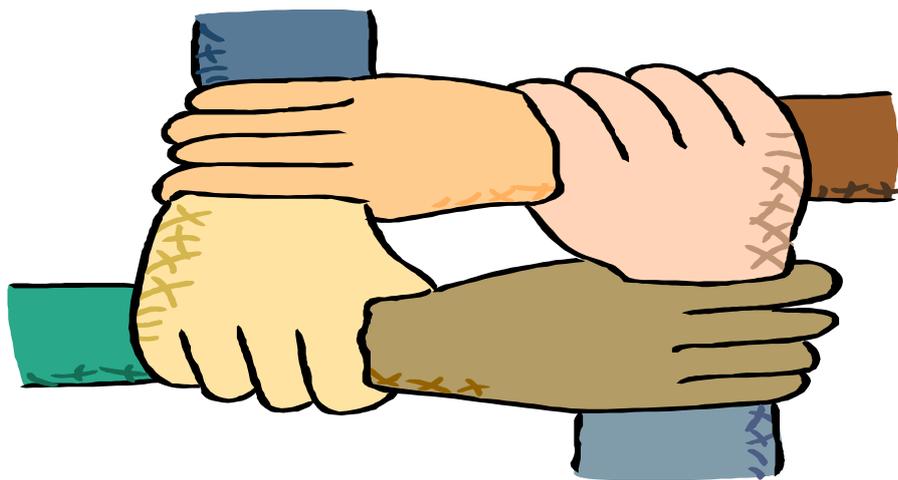
If you want advice from professionals outside school you may find the following numbers helpful:

IAS: 01744 677368

SEN families support group: 01744 675 615

School Nurse Service: 01744 811 592

Inclusion Officer 01744 671115



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