

ST. AUGUSTINE'S C.V.A ORCHARD CLASSROOM



CLOSE ADULT SUPPORT AT ST. AUGUSTINE'S

At St. Augustine's all staff are highly trained in how to meet the needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). As part of our mission statement, we are passionate about the love and care we show to all pupils, meeting their individual needs in the best way that we can in order for them to flourish and fulfil their God-given potential, academically and emotionally.

We aim to ensure that all children, including those on the SEND profiles and with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), have their identified needs met in the best and most effective way possible. However, we take active steps to avoid providing children with '1 to 1' adults. Here's why:

RESEARCH TELLS US THAT '1 TO 1'S CAN:

- become a barrier to a child's learning and development as they become over-reliant which affects their independence and flexibility
- be detrimental to pupils' achievement and progress
- make transition to secondary school even harder as this provision is not available

INSTEAD, IT IS MORE BENEFICIAL:

- for a child to have a key person that knows them, their needs (and their EHCP if relevant) well and who has a positive relationship, but not be glued to them
- for all classroom (and indeed school) adults to know a child's needs and be involved in their support, building a team around them
- to build independence but also have the support they require available when they need it
- for interventions to be delivered by those with the best training and expertise

ORCHARD - HOW DOES IT WORK?

Orchard has been developed to provide education to pupils who struggle to access full-time education in the mainstream classroom and require a level of specialist support. It is designed to provide a smaller, more individualised learning environment. Where possible, pupils accessing the Enhanced Support Provision (ERP) are supported to transition into a mainstream classroom for at least part of their learning. Staff work closely with class teachers to ensure academic progress.

Support in the ERP is fluid and the pupils working in the room will work with different adults from our team at different points within the day. This enables pupils to build relationships with several key adults. The amount of time that pupils spend in the ERP will be dependent on the needs of individual pupils.

Accessing the ERP will facilitate pupils to learn, understand and manage their emotions. They will develop their ability to set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy to others whilst developing the ability to make constructive choices about personal behaviour and social interactions. Time spent in the ERP will differ according to the individual needs of our pupils, however for those pupils with the most significant needs, the timings of their day may differ to other pupils in attendance.

WHAT IS ORCHARD?

Orchard is the name of the dedicated base (classroom) in school where we run Enhanced Resource Provision (ERP).

Mrs Garland (SENCO) and Mrs Reeves (Pastoral Support Assistant and ERP coordinator) oversee the provision for pupils with severe and complex needs, who often have or are awaiting an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).



ORCHARD

We aim for this to be a calm space where pupils feel safe, understood and supported.