



Woodlands ASD Resource Base

The resource base provides the children with specialized teaching while aiming integration into main school with support while taking part in the activities within the classroom. The resource team provides a personalized curriculum plan depending on individual needs with different strategies to accomplish this. This focuses on not only on national curriculum targets but also on their social/emotional, communication and independence skills. Developing children as whole individuals is our highest priority. The mainstream school has children with special needs (ASD, speech and language needs, behaviour needs) who are fully integrated into all lessons.

Our methods include focus on academics, independence and social skills. We teach through 1:1 sessions (with the teacher or a Teaching Assistant), small groups, TEACCH and full class lessons. We ensure to nurture links with home and family support to encourage consistency for the children. We implement Sensory Needs into our methods of teaching and encourage the use of the 'sensory room'. Therapy Sessions are offered to a range of professionals and then taught to the Teaching Assistants so that therapies can continue on a daily basis (Speech and Language Therapist, Occupational Therapist etc..) Woodlands puts a lot of effort into Behavior Management training for all staff to be able to support children's ability to focus and concentrate without behavior interfering with their learning. Individual Education Plans are used for need specific learning and ensuring that each child is challenged regardless of their academic level. All staff are trained with a background knowledge of autism. We believe in following the child's lead and really trying to enter their world rather than looking at the 'surface' of challenges.

Woodlands ASD Resource Base is based in Camden and part of Netley Primary School. At Woodlands, we take on local children who have been diagnosed with moderate to severe autism. They are currently taught in two classrooms of eight students. Our children range from 3 years old to 11 years old. As we are part of a mainstream primary school, it allows parents the opportunity to have their children in school just as any child but with very intensive programmes from a range of different professionals who specialise in autism. It also allows some children to experience and integrate into functions in the mainstream school. We have amazing and dedicated staff who work very hard with some pretty big challenges. Woodlands is a place where we take any child that cannot cope in a regular setting and has a diagnosis of autism.

Keywords: Woodlands Resource Base, Autism, Mainstream integration