

A Guide for Parents, Carers and Families

Welcome to Woodbridge Park



Welcome to Woodbridge Park

We want you to feel supported and valued. We are here to help and we want you and your child to get the best service possible.

It can be a very worrying time, moving into alternative or specialist provision like Woodbridge Park. We understand this. We understand the fear and confusion that some parents and carers feel about what it means for their child and their future.

We exist because some children and young people need a different approach to mainstream schooling. Coming to Woodbridge Park is a new beginning and an opportunity to start to get the support and intervention needed to help keep children on track. Some children and young people have thought patterns and behaviours which are preventing them from thriving and progressing in life.

We do not judge at Woodbridge Park. We accept people for their starting point and we work over time to offer strategies and intervention to build self-esteem, support self-regulation and develop the skills and character to experience success - whatever success means for an individual.

We believe that working closely, openly and honestly with families is very important and will mean that children get better outcomes.

We will work alongside you on your child's journey through Woodbridge Park, keeping you informed of the provision we are making, the strengths and where we need your support. We are



Our support for you and your child

We are here for you when you need us



Together we can always work it out

With your support as parents and carers, we can make a difference



Your journey with us

We will be available when you need us and we will work hard to make things better

here to make things easier for you and work together with you to help your child thrive personally, socially and in learning.

Welcome to our service and please never hesitate to get in touch with our staff if you need to ask a question or need our help - we are here for you.

Ian Berryman

Headteacher



OUR PRINCIPLES FOR WORKING WITH FAMILIES, PARENTS AND CARERS

- We put the needs of the child first
- We listen and take on board family and child views and wishes
- We do not blame or judge
- We accept families and children for where they are at
- We exist to support children and families to make things better



Your journey through Woodbridge Park

We have a universal entitlement for children, families, parents and carers. This is to make sure that you get the very best service.

All our parents and carers are:

- Provided with a Key Worker
- Provided with a contact email address
- Offered at least termly reviews of their child's provision, learning and social progress
- Offered the opportunity to come in as and when needed for a cup of tea and a chat
- Listened to and given a real voice - our families are not done to - we work with you

The stages of the journey are:

STAGE	What happens
Family / Parent Set-Up Meeting	We meet together to talk about the reasons for being at Woodbridge Park and plan a way forward together
Induction Week	Your child attends over a week, has a tour of the site, meets staff, attends some taster lessons and does some emotional and academic profiling assessments You could be asked to sign a Learning Plan and a Positive Handling Plan before your child attends usual lessons full time
Official start in service	Your child begins attending a usual timetable with other learners
2nd Week Review Meeting	You will meet with your Key Worker with your child and discuss the first two weeks and change any plans together
Period of Time at Woodbridge Park with at least termly Review Meetings	You will be able to contact your Key Worker at any point to ask questions and get support. We will invite you in at least termly and possibly more regularly to see what progress is being made and make decisions together on next steps
Moving on and Final Review	At some point, we might decide together that it is time for your child to move on, go back to mainstream schooling or attend another specialist provision. The end point might be Year 11 or 12 and the natural transition to the next stage of learning

What we need from you for this to be successful

Together, we can work it out.

We need to be open and honest about some clear expectations from the start. We will not be able to make the difference we want to with you child, unless you support us at home and out of school with some basics:

- **Boundaries** - if we ask for your support at home in reinforcing expectations and boundaries, we need you to do this. Children do not fair well with mixed messages and they will see weakness and confusion. Support us - trust us. If you do not trust us, your child won't
- **Attendance and punctuality** - please make sure that you challenge your child appropriately to be in school with us, every day and on time
- **Uniform** - some of our centres have a uniform - please make sure that your child is wearing it every day
- **Outdoor coats** - some of our centres expect children to hand their coats in as they enter the building - please explain this to your child and make sure they see this as a basic expectation
- **Mobile Phones / personal electronic devices** - all our centres expect these to be handed in at reception at the start of the school day - we need you to respect this and make sure that your child accepts this to avoid conflict
- **Tell us the truth about what is happening outside of school** - if we do not have the full picture and truth, we cannot help you and it will be more difficult than it needs to be, to help your child

By having your child with us, you need to buy into the above expectations and support us. We really want nothing less than the very best for you, your family and your child. Trust us and support us and we will be able to make amazing progress together.

