



Virtual Willow Dene

Our Virtual School

The last few months have been challenging for our pupils and their families as we responded to a global pandemic. In order to provide maximum support, careful thought was given to keeping pupils and families safe and delivering opportunities for children to continue their learning if they were not able to attend school. Our provision to date has included:

- Outreach to provide help to those at home or isolating
- Online and concrete learning opportunities tailored to our pupils
- Bespoke support for individuals, including access to therapy services
- On-site provision for those attending school

Keeping our Children and Families Safe

Family circumstances can be complex, so we maintain regular contact with all children in our care to offer support, identify immediate concerns and to provide a sense of connection. Any safeguarding concerns are logged and escalated to support our vulnerable children and families.

If children are not attending school, we offer:

- Weekly phone calls with all families
- Additional weekly phone calls with a member of the leadership team where appropriate
- Family welfare logs
- Access to specialist equipment such as Medi-motion bikes
- Virtual safeguarding meetings
- Free school meal vouchers

Emergency/Crisis Support

The school provides both emergency and crisis support to families during isolation or lockdown. This consists of weekly calls to families, with families who need additional support receiving twice weekly calls. An emergency phone line is also available which parents can use at any time. Senior leaders and teachers are on hand to support parents with behavioural and sensory issues that arise in the home.

We have the structures in place to make food deliveries to families who are unable to access the shops or who are unable to locate food that their children eat. We also liaise with services to ensure parents have access to supplies such as pads as well as continuing to facilitate medical appointments either through the use of our school buses or by attending appointments with the child.

With the support of Charlton Athletic FC and staff volunteers, we will continue to provide an emergency food bank that will enable access to vital provisions.

Bespoke Offers

At Willow Dene we recognise that all children will need a bespoke learning offer and therefore class teachers work closely with parents to provide this for individual children. Our updated PLP format

has been designed to support the transition to and from school and will continue in the event of a further lockdown or period of isolation. This is shared with families and provides targeted opportunities both at home and in school.

Some of the additional offers available to our children include:

- Virtual therapy sessions
- Loans of specialist equipment for posture and physical development
- Loans of specialist equipment for sensory processing
- Specialist exercise equipment loans
- Providing visual supports for home
- Access to the school playground in the evenings and weekends
- Behaviour support
- Online social forums with the opportunity for parents to connect and gain information from specialists
- Annual reviews via phone call or Teams meetings

Online Learning

Willow Dene offers a high-quality personalised online learning provision for children working from home. The Willow Dene website is utilised to support all children who can access virtual learning and for information for families to lead resource-based learning at home, these include:

- Personalised messages from teachers
- Stories and activities filmed by teachers
- Group Music Therapy sessions
- Advice and links to useful sites
- Support and advice for managing behaviour
- Advice from therapists supporting the use of visual aids
- Access to Busy Things and a range of apps and programmes to support learning (including relevant lessons from the Oak Academy provided by the DfE)

Children requiring access to real objects will be supported through bespoke learning packs crafted by their class teacher which are delivered to their homes.

Contingency Plan

In the event of a national, local lockdown or where a 'bubble' will need to self-isolate the following will apply:

- Free school meals are available for those who are eligible
- Children at home will access a virtual curriculum tailored to their needs
- PLPs detailing children's learning have been shared with families and informs additional opportunities for home learning
- Google Classroom is utilised to provide a structured online offer as well as directions to support physical learning at home

Google Classroom

We are using Google Classroom to support home learning in the event of a bubble closure. Teachers set appropriate learning tasks through this platform. The length of these tasks will be set according to the needs and abilities of the class. These lessons may consist of teachers modelling for parents to enable them to recreate a learning opportunity at home. Some learning opportunities will be repeated in order to support children's learning profiles, to provide consistency and consolidation.

Children working at a Basic Concept or Applying Knowledge level:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hello from teacher				
Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy
Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy
Physical*	Physical*	Physical*	Physical*	Physical*
Enrichment	Enrichment	Enrichment	Enrichment	Enrichment
Cultural				

*Physical activity may be combined with an additional targeted sensory processing activity

(where appropriate)

Children working at an Early development or Emergent concept level:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hello from teacher				
Physical*	Physical*	Physical*	Physical*	Physical*
Cognition/Communication				
Enrichment	Enrichment	Enrichment	Enrichment	Enrichment
Cultural				

*Physical activity may be combined with an additional targeted sensory processing activity (where appropriate)

- A culturally diverse Online Book list is available on the website so that parents can continue to provide children with access to good literature.
- Each week children are assigned a cultural activity which is assigned on Google Classrooms. This allows children the opportunity to experience and engage with a task, event, performance or virtual tour that expands their horizons.

- Teachers telephone families not attending school once a week and decide jointly what the child's learning priorities are, ensuring the right resources are delivered in the most effective way for each individual child.
- For those who would benefit and need resources for virtual learning, a bank of nine iPads is available to borrow. In order to distribute these effectively teachers will conduct conversations with parents, considering how their child learns best, the benefits of the iPad, whether there is access to the internet and the needs of other learners in the home. From this a decision as to whether this is an appropriate choice for an individual is made. This is then be shared with senior leaders who will prioritise those requiring iPads.

Therapy Services

All services will continue to support children and families with a remote-first model of therapy, in all Covid eventualities. Due to the complexity of need of our children, where this is not possible, we will carry out face to face home visits supported by a risk assessment framework, consent from the families and full community PPE.

The music therapy service will transfer to online sessions, where possible, for the students currently receiving music therapy. The aim being causing minimal disruption to their access to music therapy.