

Uniform

Children attending The Willow Centre must wear their mainstream school's uniform. They must adhere to their mainstream school's Uniform Policy.

ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING MUST BE CLEARLY LABELED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME

Footwear

In order to promote our nurturing ethos, children and adults are expected to remove their shoes when entering the building. Children must therefore come to each session wearing appropriate socks. Children may leave a spare pair of comfy socks at The Willow. These should be taken home to be washed at the end of each week.

Outdoor Clothing

Come rain or shine, we will be providing engaging outdoor learning. Please ensure your child arrives at The Willow Centre with appropriate outerwear such as coats or sun hats.

Water Bottles

Please also ensure your child brings a water bottle to The Willow Centre each day (no fizzy drinks please). All water bottles should be clearly labelled with your child's name.



The Willow Centre

The Willow Centre
Mobbsbury Way
Stevenage
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Visit willowcentre.org

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Times of The Day

The Willow Centre operates from 8.45am to 2.30pm five days a week.

Dependent on individual needs, children may attend on full or part-time timetables.

Drop-off and Pick-up

Children enter The Willow Centre through the main entrance. Children leave through the small wooden gate at the side of the building.

All children are expected to arrive by their agreed start time.

If your child arrives after the register closes at 9.30am, they will be marked as late. All attendance is reported to your child's mainstream school.

If you are having difficulty in getting your child to The Willow Centre on time, please speak to a member of our team.

Parking

Parking is available in the free car park in front of The Willow Centre. Please be mindful of any restrictions in place. The Willow Centre accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to vehicles parked in this car park.

Transition

Our long-term aim is for children to successfully reintegrate back into their mainstream school.

Children experience many kinds of transitions in their lives, such as changing schools or moving house. During these times, they may experience a range of emotions and find it difficult to adapt. While at The Willow Centre, children will be given the opportunity to develop a variety of strategies to help them cope with transitions and change.

Each child will have a personalised re-integration timetable.

Before Week 1	A member of The Willow Centre team will visit the child in their mainstream setting, meet with their teacher and parents/carer on several occasions.
Weeks 1- 10	Child will attend The Willow Centre. Continue to communicate with mainstream class teacher through online class systems and invite class teacher to visit The Willow Centre.
Weeks 11 -16	Child will complete transition sessions at their mainstream school in addition to attending The Willow Centre
From Week 17	Child will be supported in attending their mainstream school or specific lessons. Child will no longer attend The Willow Centre. Parents/Carers, School and Provision Lead will meet to discuss re-integration progress.

An Example Transition Timetable

Who We Are

The Willow Centre provides a short-term intervention for primary school aged children who are at risk of being, or have been, permanently excluded from their mainstream school. We operate a sixteen-week program of holistic interventions designed to support children with SEMH needs.

All Behaviour Is Communication

For a variety of reasons, many children will find school a daunting, confusing, even overwhelming experience. It can be difficult for children to express these feelings. Many may feel the need to communicate these feelings through difficult or dangerous behaviours.

Our bespoke curriculum is designed to support children identify their emotions and build a bank of strategies to communicate how they are feeling in safe way. We aim to develop children's self-confidence and self-belief through positive learning experiences.

Meet The Team

The Willow Centre is part of the DSPL2 Stevenage Behaviour Service.

DSPL2 Lead School: Peartree Spring Primary School, Hydean Way, Stevenage, Herts SG2 9GG

Headteacher Mrs T. Skeggs (Based at Peartree Spring)

Provision Lead Miss A. Giles (Based at The Willow Centre)

Lead Teacher Mrs E. Turner (Based at The Willow Centre)

Specialist Practitioners Mrs D. Hansen, Mrs A. Mutch and Mrs E.Green

Daily Routines

What will learning look like?

We want the children in our care to leave The Willow Centre being curious. We want them to wonder, to question, and investigate. Our aim is to help children to develop key skills such as communication, collaboration and decision making.

Practical Home Learning Task

Each FRIDAY, children will be given a practical Home Learning Task to complete. They will then present their Home Learning to the group during our TUESDAY session. Please support your child in completing this task. These tasks are designed to help children develop their organisational, communication and collaboration skills.

Snack Time and Lunch Time

During our daily Snack Time, children will be offered a bowl of cereal or a piece of toast and a small glass of fruit juice or milk. Children may bring a fruit snack or cereal bar to eat (chocolate snacks are not permitted).

Our lunches are provided by the kitchen at Lodge Farm Primary School. Children are offered a hot or cold sandwich choice. At the end of each day, children will be asked to select their lunch choice for the following day. Children attending morning sessions only can take their lunches home with them. Please speak to a member of our team about eligibility for Free School Meals and lunch prices.

If your child has any allergies or intolerances you think we may not be aware of, please speak to a member of the team.

Our Environment

Our learning environment promotes curiosity and independence.



To many children the home evokes feelings of safety and security. We aim to replicate elements of the home such as the kitchen table or a comfy sofa in order to promote that feeling of security at The Willow Centre.

Children have access to a wide variety of resources through the day.

