

Toucan

SPECIALIST PROVISION FOR TWO YEAR OLDS



In partnership with Willow Dene School



Welcome

We are excited to be able to tell you about Toucan. Toucan provides child care for children who are two years old and who have a complexity of need.

Toucan is based at Willow Dene School, which is the Royal Borough of Greenwich's primary special school with a wealth of experience and expertise in meeting the needs of children with a wide range of special educational needs.

Toucan provides an environment which is safe, stimulating and nurturing.

Children and their families are at the centre of everything we do. Time, care and support are our priorities.

We have built-in capacity for child centred planning according to need with flexible hours and timings.





About us

We are a team of exceptional practitioners working as part of an extensive multi-disciplinary team of specialists. Our area of expertise is working with very young children who have complex needs.

Toucan is led by an experienced early years teacher and a skilled team with specialist knowledge of early child development. There is a high ratio of adults to children.

About our places

Children have either a morning or afternoon place. Sessions run during school term time from 8.30am to 12:15pm or 12:45pm to 4:30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

We are able to offer flexibility within our sessions to meet the needs of children and their families. We offer a supported transition to your child's next placement.

About our children

Children who come to Toucan may;

- have had a challenging start to their lives
- have had a medical crisis or accident
- have had input from a range of services
- have spent a lot of time in hospital
- need specialist equipment or expertise
- need a high level of care
- need a lot of stimulation and opportunities for supported play

Children who come to Toucan are likely to need an Education, Health and Care plan in the future.

About our environment

Toucan is a spacious and light, purpose built child-care environment with an outdoor area. We are fully accessible. We offer a wide range of play activities with particular emphasis on sensory play experiences. The specialist environment has been created to encourage children to explore in safe and exciting surroundings.

Children who come to Toucan have access to a warm water pool and specialist sensory areas including sensory rooms and a sensory garden.

We provide specialist equipment and technology which is carefully chosen to suit each individual child.





How we support children and families

We offer:

- Support and advice which will help you and your child at home
- Attendance with you at medical appointments or other meetings
- Liaison with health professionals and other services
- Parent groups
- Home or hospital visiting
- Reports which include photographs and video
- Daily contact with families
- A nursing team on site and relevant medical training for staff which includes administration of medication
- Regular contact with other professionals including Oxleas NHS therapists and Greenwich Sensory Service
- A family support worker
- MOVE and sensory processing co-ordinators
- Music therapy
- Regular school based clinics including dietician, optician, wheelchair /buggy clinic, dentist, orthotics

Frequently Asked Questions

Do children attending Toucan always move on to Willow Dene School?

No, admissions to Willow Dene School are separate. Children are admitted to Willow Dene via Greenwich Local Authority Special Needs Department. We can support children to transition to a range of settings.

Can parents come to Toucan with their child?

Yes. We have an open door policy and parents are always welcome to visit or to stay as long as they want.

Can parents or professionals visit to find out more?

Yes. Just contact us using the details in this booklet.

How can parents apply for a place?

Contact your local Children's Centre or the Prospects team. Children from anywhere in Greenwich can come to Toucan. Parents can apply before their child is two years old although the place will not begin until their child's second birthday.



If you would like to find out more or meet our team, visit our website or contact us:

 www.willowdene.greenwich.sch.uk

 contact@willowdeneschool.co.uk

 0208 854 9841

You can also follow Willow Dene School on Twitter:
twitter.com/WillowDeneSch