



Moss Valley Primary Academy Resource Provisions (RP)

The Orchard and The Acorn

General Information

Moss Valley Primary Academy hosts two designated provisions: The Orchard which has 22 places for pupils with autism from reception to Year 6 and The Acorn which has 16 places for pupils with complex needs in reception and Year 1. All the children have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The school works in partnership with the local authority and parents/carers to assess the suitability of pupils for a place at the school or within the provisions. The Orchard caters for pupils who need additional provision to that which is provided in a mainstream school but may not need the specialist environment provided through 'Special Education'. The Acorn provides a more specialist education and facilities.



The team consists of teachers and learning support assistants and Mrs Lewis (Assistant Headteacher) oversees the provision. The Orchard pupils usually spend some of their time at the provision where they have access to teaching in a small group, and integrate into our mainstream classes for some part of the curriculum. The key concept of the Orchard is that the pupils will have access to the experiences and resources of the mainstream school and so when considering a placement, the suitability of a child being able to access integration into their mainstream class with mainstream peers should be considered as being appropriate in meeting their needs.



The Acorn pupils spend their time within the Acorn building and outdoor areas. There is no expectation for pupils to fully integrate into the mainstream school. However, we begin an 'integration' process from the early stages, which involves engaging in experiences similar to those in the mainstream setting. These experiences are carefully adapted to meet the individual needs of our pupils. We also make use of different areas within the school grounds to support this process.



The Orchard provides an education for children who require autism specific provision which is tailored to meet their social, sensory and communication needs, as well as providing support to enable them to manage levels of anxiety. Pupils may have a Zones of Regulation Scale to help them to manage their emotions and a sensory diet to help them regulate in readiness for learning activities. Visuals are used to support children with communication and learning needs and social stories help pupils to learn why things are happening and support them in understanding this. Many of these strategies are used within the Acorn provision.



We work in close liaison with parents, with face to face contact for those who bring and collect their child and phone and Seesaw contact for pupils who travel on transport. Parents are encouraged to attend school meetings: 'Learner Review' Days and Annual Reviews with their child's class teacher to discuss progress.