

The Orchard at Dell Primary School



Description of unit

The Orchard will support pupils in Reception and Key Stage 1 (KS1) with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN). It will provide specialist provision for children who require additional support to develop the communication, social and emotional skills needed to access learning in mainstream classes.

Our experienced teachers and teaching assistants will deliver focused, high-quality support tailored to pupils' individual needs. The team will regularly undertake specialist training to ensure their knowledge and practice remain up to date.

Pupils in The Orchard will also work with the Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) team during the week to take part in their individual speech and language programmes.

Overview

Within The Orchard there will be a structured learning classroom, alongside additional spaces for one-to-one and small group work. Children will have access to a sensory room, and outdoor space designated for Outdoor Play and Learning along with opportunities to attend our very own onsite Forest School Provision.

Where appropriate, children will be supported to take part in wider school life. This may include joining mainstream lessons such as Read Write, Inc, participating in assemblies, school trips, family group activities and sporting events.

Children are expected to wear the school uniform in line with the school's dress code. Behaviour expectations are high, and pupils can earn 'house tokens and rewards in the same way as their peers in mainstream classes.

The Orchard is a Suffolk specialist provision and, in line with the Council's admissions procedures, priority will be given to children living in Suffolk, although placements from neighbouring counties may also be considered. Decisions about placements are made by the Local Authority, usually through a Specialist Educational Panel which includes a speech and language specialist. Some pupils may have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), although this is not essential.

Please note that pupils already attending the school with communication and interaction needs will not receive priority for places and must apply through the same process as all other applicants.

The Orchard is scheduled to welcome its first cohort of pupils in September 2026



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