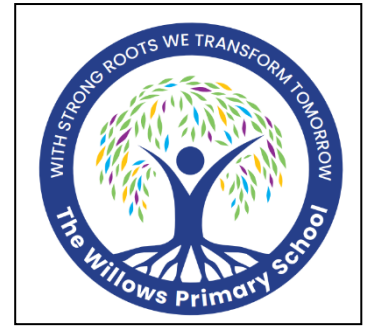


**School:****The Willows Primary School****Specialist Unit:****The Rockpool****Number of places:****12****Address:**

**The Willows Primary School,  
Downing Close,  
Ipswich,  
IP2 9ER**

**Email:**

**office@thewillows.omat.org.uk**

**Phone:**

**01473 683178**

**Headteacher:**

**Mrs Kelly Head**

**SENDCo/ Key Contact:**

**Mrs Gabrielle Deed**

**About The Rockpool**

The Rockpool is a bespoke Reception and Key Stage 1 specialist provision for children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), whose primary area of need is Communication and Interaction.

The provision is led full-time by a specialist teacher with experience in specialist education and a strong commitment to supporting every child to make meaningful, personalised progress. This is supported by a dedicated and skilled team of a HLTA and TAs who work closely with the children on a daily basis. Our staff work in collaboration with outside agencies to support the children's provision and attend regular training updates.

Our Rockpoolers are a valued and integral part of the wider school community. Based within the school grounds, we actively promote inclusion and regularly provide opportunities for the children to engage with their peers in the main school, wherever appropriate.

**The Rockpool Day**

The Rockpool school day runs from 8:50 to 3:10, Monday to Thursday, and 8:50 to 1:00 on Fridays.

Our bespoke Rockpool curriculum is carefully adapted to meet the needs of each individual child, building on their interests, strengths and skills. Functional play skills are explicitly taught, alongside life skills that support the development of independent self-help needs. Structured routines are built into the day to encourage shared interaction.

Learning is delivered through a balance of both inside and outside continuous provision, allowing for child-initiated learning alongside whole-class lessons and individual teaching. Collective times include songs and musical communication, stories, snack time and interactive games, supporting communication, social development and engagement. Throughout the day, children have access to a wide range of activities designed to support their development. These include fine and gross motor activities, small world play, building and construction, creative exploration and sensory-based experiences, as well as English, maths and topic lessons.

Children can also choose to spend time in our sensory room, which provides a calming and supportive environment tailored to individual sensory needs, as well as the unit's own outdoor OPAL play area. Children also receive weekly Forest School sessions in our on-site Forest School.

Each child has a dedicated daily 'focus time', during which a member of staff works closely with them on personalised activities linked to their individual targets. This support ensures that every child is making meaningful progress in line with their individual learning needs and EHCP outcomes. Specialist involvement from agencies including Speech and Language Therapy, Educational Psychology and Occupational Therapy is built into plans where needed.

Progress is recorded using Tapestry, allowing staff to track and monitor each child's learning journey effectively. Parents and carers have access to Tapestry, enabling them to view and celebrate their child's achievements in school. Families are also encouraged to share learning and successes from home, helping to build a strong partnership between school and home.

Children in The Rockpool wear a comfortable and practical school uniform, consisting of a Willows sweatshirt / hoodie, navy polo shirt, plain black tracksuit bottoms and plain black trainers.

Through strong roots and strong relationships with our skilled and dedicated team of adults, our Rockpoolers are empowered to flourish and embrace a transformed tomorrow.