



**PURPLE OAKS
ACADEMY**

Provision Specifications

Purple Oaks Academy

Whiston Road, Northampton, Northamptonshire NN2 7RR

www.purpleoaksacademy.org

01604 434471

Type of Provision

Purple Oaks Academy is a new all-through special school for pupils aged 4 to 18 years. It currently offers provision for 95 pupils and will offer provision for up to 100 pupils by 2022. The academy is part of the Greenwood Academy Trust.

Purple Oaks Academy is for pupils whose primary needs are:

- Cognition & Learning Needs - Severe Learning Disabilities (SLD)
- Communication & Interaction Needs - Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Admission Criteria and Arrangements

- All pupils have an EHC Plan. The Local Authority will have identified their needs as requiring placement at Purple Oaks Academy.
- The Local Authority will determine the pupil's admission to the provision. It will consider parental preference and consult with the principal, following the [Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years \(2015\)](#).
- Placements can be offered throughout the year, although most admissions occur at the start of the academic year.



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- Staff will liaise with any previous or future education establishments to enable a smooth transition.

Academy Characteristics

Purple Oaks Academy provides a specialist and individualised learning setting for children and young people with a wide range of special needs. It has a wide range of facilities in a brand-new building, which includes extensive grounds. Its curriculum is founded on the belief that children learn best when they are engaged in activities that interest them and when learning processes consider their individual needs.

Maths and English lessons happen every day in the EYFS Phase (Reception to Year 2), Lower Phase (Years 3-5), Middle Phase (Years 5-9), and Upper Phase (Years 9-12). Purple Oaks Academy creates opportunities for pupils to use these skills in other lessons and real-life situations. To make education fun, memorable, and relevant, the school chooses a theme for each half-term related to the pupils' interests. Through themed lessons, pupils experience a broad range of activities and foundation subjects. The school places a great deal of importance on life skills, employability, communication, and self-management. So these skills are taught and assessed within the themed lessons and in other opportunities across the curriculum. Physical education (PE), personal, social, health, and economic education (PSHE), religious education (RE), science, and computing are taught independently and may also be linked to the theme.

Purple Oaks Academy tracks and monitors the pupil's development regarding their cognition, wellbeing, engagement, and specific obstacles related to diagnosed conditions.

Each pupil has a teacher who coordinates their pastoral and curricular needs and ensures the EHC Plan provision outcomes are implemented, monitored, and reviewed. In general, classes will be staffed by one teacher, one learning mentor, and one learning assistant. Where appropriate, additional staffing will be deployed, reflecting the level of need in the class.

The teaching at Purple Oaks Academy encompasses specific ASD methodologies (such as TEACCH and PECS) to ensure a well-rounded development both academically and socially.

Reviews

Role of the Academy:

- Review arrangements for pupils with EHC Plans are set out in the SEND Code of Practice. Purple Oaks Academy will adhere to them, ensuring that due process is followed and relevant timeframes are adhered to.

Role of the Local Authority:

- The Local Authority will review a pupil's EHC Plan under the SEND Code of Practice. It will ensure that due process is followed and relevant timeframes are adhered to.

Assessment and Monitoring

Of the Pupils:

- In addition to the academy's internal assessments, review, and monitoring, each pupil has a statutory review of their EHC Plan. This offers a formal setting for the discussion and review of the progress and provision of the EHC Plan.
- EHC Plan objectives and intended outcomes are reviewed regularly.
- Individual learning programmes are written to ensure 'quality first' interventions and are reviewed on a needs basis.
- Behaviour support plans are written and reviewed termly (or more often if the need dictates).
- There are regular opportunities for parents and carers to get involved through parents' evenings, attending the parents'/carers' group (Little Acorns), and pupil reports.
- Pupils' academic progress is tracked using B-Squared, and regular moderation takes place within the academy and across the trust.

Of the Academy:

- Purple Oaks Academy's performance is monitored by the Director for Education at Greenwood Academy Trust. Results are reported to the trust board.
- A DfE advisor monitors Purple Oaks Academy until the first inspection by OFSTED takes place.

For more information about Purple Oaks Academy, please visit their website:
www.purpleoaksacademy.org.



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