

School Prospectus 2026 / 2027

Education

Therapy

Futures



Proprietor details

Witherslack Group
Lupton Tower
Lupton
Cumbria
LA6 2PR

Tel: 015395 66081

Email: admin@witherslackgroup.co.uk

Head Teacher's name and contact details

Mrs. Ashley Roberts

ashley.roberts@witherslackgroup.co.uk

Holiday contact details

Learning Centre Senior Administrator -

Kirstie.palmer@witherslackgroup.co.uk

School ethos/mission statement

Elmbank Learning Centre is a unique Integrated Therapeutic Provision which provides a safe and caring learning environment within which personal growth and development is promoted. We place learning at the centre of everything we do offering an individualised structured curriculum that is differentiated and relevant to the student needs. Our Integrated Therapeutic Provision provides a highly personalised curriculum with structured learning programmes tailored to individual needs. Within Elmbank Learning Centre we raise the standard of achievement for all, enabling students to develop into socially and emotionally responsible citizens by providing outstanding high quality education, care and therapy.

At Elmbank Learning Centre we endeavour to develop creative and responsible students who are able to deal with diverse situations and to direct their lives with purpose. We therefore gradually, and through a carefully planned development, merge the creativity with a highly structured approach to learning to create an innovative, exciting and creative outstanding learning environment.

Aims of Elmbank Learning Centre

Our collective aim within Elmbank Learning Centre is to equip all our students with the skills they need to access education where they will continue to develop and leave full time education as well rounded individuals who are resourceful, creative, responsible and curious with the skills necessary to meet the challenges of the 21st Century and with the problem solving skills required for a sustainable future.

Elmbank Learning Centre provides:

- A strong and distinctive sense of purpose that responds to individual students and results in outstanding progress.
- The capacity and willingness to innovate by providing a pathway to positive educational and social outcomes for students who join the centre with challenging behaviour, ACEs and traumatic life experiences, which combined may have led to underachieving in education.
- A powerful collective ethos that is shared by all staff to develop caring, capable and confident students who are able to deal with diverse situations and to direct their lives with purpose.
- A stubborn refusal to allow the background of any student to become an obstacle to progress.

- Continue to engage with, and keep abreast of, innovative approaches to education and therapeutic intervention whilst maintaining careful evaluation of individual progress.
- Through therapeutic intervention engage with students to manage their emotions so they are able to develop the skills they need to deal with trauma, grief, fear, frustration or conflict in a safe manner.
- Working closely with the clinical team to identify risk factors and safety factors to help formulate an effective plan for students, to develop their sense of self, sense of safety and self-confidence.
- Within Elmbank Learning Centre we only employ staff who are highly skilled and have a desire to work in this Integrated Approach to Learning. Therefore, our staff team are trained to a high level with annual performance targets which aid their future development and develop their experience and skills to ensure they deliver the highest level of education. Staff are encouraged to take advantage of the extensive CPD programme within Witherslack Group and beyond. All staff access training that is specific to the specialist field of education (Attachment and Trauma, ACEs, CSE, Contextual Safeguarding, sensory processing difficulties, communication difficulties, Positive Behaviour Support etc) through both internal and external professionals.

Elmbank Learning Centre has a clear ambition to develop this Integrated Approach with our dedicated Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapist, Talking Therapists and Psychologists working seamlessly alongside education staff creating a genuine therapeutic milieu supporting development.

[Details regarding admission process](#)

Elmbank Integrated Therapeutic Provision is an all female, specialist 52 week fully integrated, therapeutic, education and care facility situated on a rural site near Stockton. The provision meets the needs of girls aged 7-18 exhibiting a diverse range of social, emotional and behavioural difficulties, challenges related to exploitation and early life trauma. Applications are considered by our admissions panel and a non-prejudicial visit will then be arranged if appropriate. Following this visit a place may be offered to pupils whose needs can be fully addressed by the learning centre. Fees and NASS approved contracts will then be agreed with local authorities. Referrals can be made throughout the academic year.

If you wish to discuss making a referral please contact Witherslack Group placement team.

Details for consideration of pupils/parents whose first language is not English

On admission a child's need for additional support is identified. Appropriate provision is then established prior to the pupils start date. One to one support from a bi-lingual support assistant will be provided if this is an identified requirement.

Details of complaints procedure

In accordance with the Children's Act 1989, all students at Elmbank Learning Centre have access to a Complaints Procedure. Informal complaints or concerns will be initially addressed by the Centre's Pastoral Manager. Formal complaints directly from the child or via a parent/carer or member of staff should be reported directly to the Head Teacher.

Complaints or concerns arising from adults also follow set procedures. Firstly the concern should be addressed informally with the Learning Centre. We have had zero complaints within the last year, but any complaints would be taken extremely seriously. Copies of these policies and procedures are available on request.

Statement regarding Exam Results

Exam results are accessed in accordance with to the Awarding Body Policies and Procedures. Dates are published annually by Awarding bodies and we are compliant with their processes. Examination results can be obtained by contacting the Learning Centre Head Teacher.

Safeguarding Mission Statement

Elmbank Learning Centre is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our students. We believe in the importance of working with partner agencies to ensure that students are kept safe, happy and healthy. All staff working here are made aware of the need of protection and how to respond to these concerns.

Where we suspect that a child has been abused or neglected, we have a statutory duty to make a referral to relevant agencies. Where local procedures allow, we will inform the parent[s]/carers of the referral. The school will share any information relevant to the referral with those agencies and will contribute to any assessments being undertaken.

We have a Safeguarding Policy and all staff are supported by our Designated Safeguarding Leads:-

- Pastoral Manager and Designated Safeguarding Lead: David Hugill
- Deputy Head Teacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Leanne Fisher
- Head Teacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ashley Roberts

If you require further support on safeguarding matters you can contact

Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Safeguarding Hub children partnership: 01429 284284

Promoting General Welfare

Anti-Bullying

We pride ourselves on our warm and caring atmosphere. All members of our community are entitled to safety and protection and therefore bullying will not be tolerated. We have clear policies and guidelines raising awareness in staff, children and young people to signs of bullying. During the last academic year, there was 1 reported incident of bullying. Any incidents of bullying will be dealt with using positive restorative practices by a highly trained staff team, the school appointed Anti-Bullying Coordinator and the pupils involved to an appropriate conclusion.

Health and Safety

At Elmbank Learning Centre the Health and Safety is coordinated by Kirstie Palmer. The whole site has internal health and safety checks in place for the maintenance staff to complete, with an action plan put in place to rectify any faults. The Witherslack Group's Management and Risk Assessment Teams visits and audits the school each term.

First Aid/Medical Care

All staff as part of their induction training complete a one day Basic First Aid course for children's services. All First Aid training is followed up with refresher training every three years. The on-site Children's Homes administer prescribed medication to students. All medication is recorded and kept in a locked medical cupboard.

Details regarding staffing and recruitment

Elmbank Learning Centre follows a rigorous recruitment process in order to recruit high quality staff and ensure that children and young people are kept safe. Senior Leaders involved in the recruitment process undertake safer recruitment training and all staff employed within the school are subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Within The Learning Centre we have a Head Teacher, Deputy Head teacher, 3 full time Teachers, 1 full time HLTA, 2 full time Teaching Assistants, Forensic Psychologist, Speech and Language Therapist, Occupational Therapist and a Therapist.

Attendance Data

Attendance at Elmbank Learning Centre was 98.68% for the academic Year 2025-26.

Complaints

There have been 0 formal complaints in the academic year 2025-26



Elmbank
Learning Centre

witherslackgroup.co.uk

