

School Prospectus 2025 / 2026



Education

Therapy

Futures



Proprietor details

Witherslack Group
Lupton Tower
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Head Teacher

Mr. Mark Boyle (MA Ed)

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Holiday contact details

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School ethos/mission statement

The Grange Learning Centre is a unique Integrated Therapeutic Provision and provides a safe, caring and 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, differentiated and relevant to student need.

Our most recent Ofsted Inspection rated The Grange Learning Centre as 'Outstanding' in All Areas.

Our Integrated Therapeutic Provision provides a highly personalised curriculum with structured learning programmes tailored to individual need.

Within The Grange 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 The Grange Learning Centre our highest endeavour is to develop creative and responsible students who can 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 The Grange Learning Centre

Our collective aim within The Grange 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 human beings 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.

The Grange Learning Centre is an outstanding provision and has:

- 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 and educational underachievement.
- A powerful collective ethos that is shared by all staff to develop creative and responsible students who can deal with diverse situations and to direct their lives with purpose.
- A stubborn refusal to allow the socio-economic 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 engaging with students to manage their emotions so they can develop the skills they need to deal with frustration, anger or conflict in a responsible manner, acknowledging their feelings but also the feelings of other people who are involved and identifying ways of repairing any damage to relationships.

Within The Grange Learning Centre, we only employ staff who are highly skilled and have a desire to work in this Integrated Approach to Learning. Hence, our staff team are trained to a high level with annual appraisal 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 the Witherslack Group and beyond. All staff access training where possible that is specific to this specialist field of education through both internal and external professionals.

As The Grange Learning Centre grows into its mature state there is a clear ambition to develop this Integrated Approach with our dedicated Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational therapist and Mental Health practitioners working seamlessly alongside education staff creating a genuine therapeutic milieu supporting development

Details regarding admission process

The Grange Integrated Therapeutic Provision is a co-educational, specialist 52 week fully integrated, therapeutic, education and care facility situated on a large site near Durham.

The provision meets the needs of young people aged 8-19 exhibiting a diverse range of social, emotional and behavioural difficulties, alongside other associated conditions.

Applications are considered by our admissions panel and a non-prejudicial visit will then be arranged. Following this visit a place may be offered to pupils whose needs can be fully addressed by the school. 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.

Our Clinical Offer

Essential to the Witherslack Group Therapeutic Model are our Clinical Services Team who work alongside the wider multidisciplinary team to provide an integrated provision of therapeutic intervention, care and education.

Each of the children's learning environments are supported by a designated and bespoke team of clinicians which may include Therapists, Psychologists, Speech & Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Assistant Psychologists.

Our children, young people and the staff supporting them also have access to other specialist clinicians within the wider group including our Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist.

All of our practising clinicians are registered practitioners with The Health and Care Professions Council or their appropriate designated regulatory bodies such as The British Association of Counselling Psychotherapists, British Association of Play Therapists, and the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy, and all receive supervision from other senior clinicians within the group or from externally commissioned specialists within their field.

Line management for the clinicians is provided by senior clinical colleagues and the Regional Director Clinical, who in turn is line managed by the group's Clinical Director.

All clinicians are supported to maintain their registrations through Continuing Professional Development opportunities, many being supported by the group to develop specialisms such as Sensory Integration Therapy and Trauma Informed Communication Approaches.

Clinical Governance is the responsibility of the Clinical Director who chairs the quarterly Witherslack Group Clinical Governance Board; attended by external advisors and internal Directors.

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 The Grange Learning Centre have access to a Complaints Procedure.

Informal complaints or concerns will be initially addressed by the Centres 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 school. We have had 0 complaints within the last year, but any future action would be taken extremely seriously.

Copies of these policies and procedures are available on request.

Statement regarding accessing 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.

Safeguarding Mission Statement

The Grange 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] 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 (DSL): Jessica Monaghan

Deputy Head (DDSL): Adele Shield

If you require further support on safeguarding matters you can contact:

Sharon Lewis - Durham LADO: 03000 268835

Emergency Duty Team Durham: 03000 261570

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 12 months there were 8 reported incidents of bullying or perceived bullying, all were actioned swiftly, with positive outcome. Our relationship with the young people themselves allows a bespoke therapeutic and nurturing response to any such incident.

Health and Safety

Risk Assessments

Our role is to support children to lead a positive life, helping them to understand daily risks that they face and to learn how to overcome them safely. Due to our children's difficulties, some of them exhibit 'risk taking' characteristics; we therefore have rigorous procedures to ensure everyone's safety. Individual risk assessments will be completed for all pupils during their 12-week assessment period and will form part of the post-admission assessment review.

Risk assessments are in place and regularly reviewed that cover the environments, lessons, and general activities that take place within the school. Where off site activities are planned, the visit leader would complete a risk assessment and update our Evolve System which ensures all pre-visit checks have been completed and the visit is authorised by a senior member of staff. A fire risk assessment has been undertaken and this is kept updated following any changes to layout, heat-generating activities or fire hazards introduced. An annual review of fire safety is undertaken by a competent person.

Health and Safety

At The Grange Learning Centre we have an ISO 45001 accredited safety and health management system that ensures risks have been identified and effective control measures are in place. Monitoring is undertaken by the Head Teacher, Mark Boyle and the Senior Management Team assisted by the Health and Safety Representative, Eric Richardson. The whole site has internal health and safety checks in place for the staff to complete, with an action plan put in place to rectify any faults.

The school have support from the Witherslack Groups Safety, Health, and Environment Team, who are competent health and safety professionals who provide advice, guidance and training to create safe and healthy environments for everyone. They undertake a health and safety audit of the school annually and complete additional visits when needed.

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

The Grange Learning Centre follows a rigorous recruitment process in order that we 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, 7 full time Teachers and 8 Full time Teaching Assistants with a Pastoral Manager and an Assistant.

Attendance Data:

Attendance at The Grange Learning Centre was 97.7% for the academic Year Sept 2024-25.



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