



Ethos

We believe every child deserves the right to succeed in all areas of life.

We offer a safe, therapeutic and non-judgemental environment in which children are able to begin to access their emotions and develop positive and real relationships with others. We help children to develop self-awareness and provide suitable boundaries enabling children to flourish without fear. By following the principles of nurture, we provide a caring and inclusive programme. We understand the individual needs of each child and we support them in developing essential skills for life.

The Primary Link team bring a wealth of experience and offer tailored support for the needs of each child. We are a fun, happy, caring team, who really understand the difficulties families and children can face. We work closely with schools, parents and children to provide a holistic partnership.

What is The Primary Link?

The Link is therapeutic unit for primary school children, aged 4-11 years, who are currently experiencing difficulties in the mainstream environment. We are based on the site of Manor Green School and are able to access their specialised facilities, including soft play, sensory rooms and their extensive play area.

Our primary focus is to help children to develop social and emotional skills. The improvement of these skills has been known not only to improve wellbeing for students, but also the ability to achieve academically. The Primary Link has an excellent record of helping students to develop social and

emotional skills during their time with us, and this is monitored through Boxall profile tracking.

"I wish every school could be like this one because this school is amazing". Link parent

What does The Primary Link offer?

Packages

We can offer several packages based on the needs of the child.

- Long Term package (12 weeks +), with full time placement. This can be pending or during an EHCP assessment process.
- 12 week partnership package, with a part-time placement in The Primary Link alongside the child's mainstream provision (e.g. 2 days with us 3 days in school per week).
- Outreach package, which includes an observation, a meeting and suggested next steps and resources for a child within their current setting.

All of our on-site packages involve access to counselling 1:1 and group sessions. We run a social and emotional curriculum incorporating FRIENDS curriculum, Mind-up and principles of nurture. Within this curriculum we will cover the topics of:

- The brain and our senses
- Self-esteem and self-concept
- Mindful awareness and growth mind-set
- How to relax and how to feel good
- Emotions and empathy
- Managing stress and anxiety
- Taking responsibility and decision making
- Making Friends and conflict resolution
- Future goals and aspirations

- Transition planning
- Kindness and helping others to feel good
- Successful communication

We also offer daily circle time topics around snack, linking to our social and emotional curriculum. All of our lessons are no longer than 30 minutes, to enable the students to develop focus and confidence in their abilities for short periods.

Within the on-site packages we also offer:

- Counselling support for families and children
- Individual emotional resilience strategies for children
- Transition support
- Integrated principles of nurture
- Boundaries to facilitate progress

"You have a feeling when you come here – this is the place you can feel safe."

Therapeutic Support

The Primary Link has access to qualified counsellors, who work with both children and parents. Children will receive 1:1 sessions, as well as group sessions. We have very strong links with Berkshire CAMHS services and use these to fully understand the needs of the student. The Boxall Profile is used to assess every student's emotional progress. All students have a behaviour support plan and targets relating to their Boxall profile. We have previously offered other therapies, such as equine therapy and Lego therapy.

Our therapists provide transition support, visiting and counselling students to ensure successful transitions. Students placed into new settings or returning to previous placements receive a transition support package.

Parents

Our holistic approach ensures our parents are supported as well as our students. We can offer:

- Anxiety workshops and 1:1 support
- Individual counselling
- Home visits
- Group support and workshops
- Help with EHCP applications
- CAMHS support and follow-up
- Signposting parents for the best areas of support from different services

“All staff treat us like a family.”

Multi Professional Liaison

We maintain regular contact with the mainstream school to ensure the best outcome for the young person. We work very closely with multi professionals including CAMHS, Social care and Family Support Teams, Local Authority SEN Teams and Virtual schools to provide an all-round support service.

The Deputy Headteacher of Manor Green School is also SENCo for The Link and brings a wealth of experience in supporting assessments for the student. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead participates in multi professional meetings including PEPs, Annual Reviews, CiC reviews, CIN meetings and CP case conferences.



To find out how we can help you or to arrange a visit, please contact:

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The Link

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A Therapeutic Setting for Primary Students



A flexible Social and Emotional programme that caters for a variety of needs