

AN INCLUSIVE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Cherry Orchard Primary School in Charlton strive to meet the needs of a diverse range of learners through outstanding teaching, varied types of learning including a forest school, and a policy of inclusion that has seen the school create a dyslexia-friendly environment.

The single form entry Primary school, which serves the local Greenwich community, has strong commitments to inclusive practice. This is driven by a senior leadership team that includes an executive principal, head of school and assistant head who are all trained SENCOs.


RISE scope of works included the provision of all architectural and engineers drawings; comprehensive groundworks including concrete pad foundation system; electrical connections into existing services; design and build of steel frame modular building – fully decorated and complete with all fixtures and fittings; delivery and installation of facility; plus the testing and commissioning of all specialist equipment. We obtained building regs approval and provided specialist training to staff upon completion.



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Buffy Lloyd — Head of School



 **Above & Below:** The diverse internal specification provides a wealth of equipment to support multiple needs.



The Project: Modular Sensory Room Pod

The RISE team worked at Cherry Orchard during lockdown number one, installing a modular sensory room to further enhance provisions for pupils with different abilities. Cherry Orchard chose one of our standard modular pods that are supplied fully kitted out with a range of sensory equipment designed to create a relaxing environment, where pupils can regulate their emotions before returning to class.

The Cherry Orchard team opted for a modular solution, due to the lack of existing space. Having a stand-alone solution also brought about another clear benefit, as head of school Buffy Lloyd explains:

“Pupils can come out of the school building and transition into a separate space, where they can explore without the limitations of worrying if someone can hear or see them. It’s a private space, and they can just do what they need to do until they’re ready to return to the classroom.”

Buffy was also impressed with the speed at which the pod was installed, once groundworks were completed, RISE delivered the sensory room on a lorry, before craning it into position next to the school.

“Everything ran really quickly,” says Buffy, “there was hardly any disruption and the pod being craned into the space was a bit of a spectacular event! As soon as it was here it was good to go.”

An Upgraded Sensory Environment

Hayley Mourne, assistant head and SENCO, explains that whilst the Cherry Orchard team previously had a small sensory area for their pupils, it had limited use due to the lack of space and specialist equipment:

“Before we had our sensory pod, we had a small space dedicated for sensory provision that had a little bit of equipment, including things we had put in there ourselves. So this [sensory room] is a really huge gain for us, providing a dedicated space to cater for the children’s needs.

“To have this space accessible for all children across the school is really exciting. Adults are excited, and the children that have been able to use it so far, are equally excited. We’re having to draw-up a timetable, as we’re almost fighting over the space!”

Click here to watch video case study:

[HTTPS://VIMEO.COM/485528353](https://vimeo.com/485528353)

For further information about Sensory Rooms or to schedule a free consultation, please call **07729 224 738** or email hello@riseadapt.co.uk