



Willow Green

Willow Green Trustees Annual Report

Year Ending 3rd April 2024

Our aims, which are unchanged from the previous year

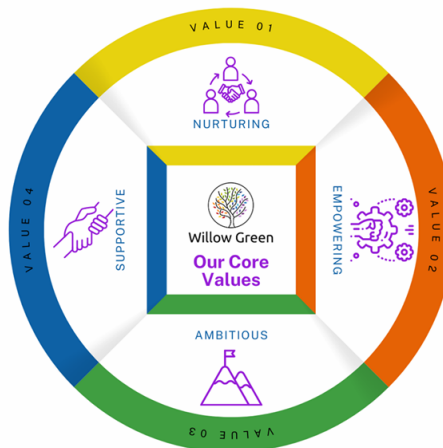
Willow Green is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charities Commission, with Registered Charity Number 1173796. The purpose of the CIO is to “to empower young people with special educational needs and disabilities, through the delivery of practical and skill based programmes, that will enable them to participate fully in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals.”

Currently, in order to achieve and develop socially, emotionally and economically after age 18, the young people of Warrington with special educational needs and disabilities have to move or travel out of the area. This means being away from their surroundings, families and support networks. It can lead to great distress as a result of the upset to the routine of the young person and those around them as well as often being at great expense to both the local authority and local families.

Willow Green aims to create a familiar, supportive and local environment which will further the lives of young people with SEND through high quality, bespoke development programmes based on their individual needs. The programmes will provide a foundation for lifelong learning and wellbeing. They will focus on essential and transferrable work, economic, social and life skills which will enable increased independence and self-determination.

Willow Green puts the individual and their specific requirements at the heart of our provision. We develop our learners by supporting their participation, volunteering and employment possibilities and liaising with partner agencies to offer our learners a place within their organisation. We want to enable our learners to reach their maximum potential.

Our Values



We provide a nurturing environment where learners feel cared for and respected. Our team encourage our learners to be kind and caring towards each other and role-model this behaviour themselves.

Our staff team inspire our learners to be stronger and more confident young adults. We share our determination to succeed and encourage our learners to be ambitious in their choices. We empower our learners by providing them with the tools needed to pursue these choices and control their own future.

Willow Green is a supportive, encouraging and inclusive college environment where we all share and celebrate in one another's success.

Our ambition

Is for all our learners at Willow Green to develop the skills and knowledge needed to progress towards employment and reach their maximum potential.

Impact

When learners leave Willow Green they will have gained experience, knowledge and skills needed to achieve their goals and succeed in the working world. They will know more, remember more, and be able to apply more, meaning that they can do and achieve more. We will enable our learners to learn, think and act more independently.

Our Achievements during Academic Year 2023/24

For the academic year 2023/24 we provided 38 places in total, with:

- 6 learners on the Supported Internship programme (Education).
- 7 learners on the Work Skills programme (Education).
- 25 learners on the Adult Social Care programmes.

For the academic year 2023/24 we had 19 leavers who achieved the following qualifications:

- City & Guilds Employability Skills Level 1 Certificate x 5
- City & Guilds Employability Skills Level 1 Extended Certificate x 1
- City & Guilds Employability Skills Entry Level 3 x 4
- City & Guilds Employability Skills Entry Level 2 x 3

Of the 6 Supported Interns who left Willow Green:

- 1 is now in paid work (full-time).
- 1 is now in paid work (part-time).
- 1 has moved onto our Adult Social Care programme.
- The remaining 3 are all in voluntary work placement (unpaid).

Those leaving the work skills programme (education funded) have transitioned onto supported internship programmes (2 learners) and the other 5 have moved onto adult social care day services.

Feedback from our learners continues to be very positive and their attitudes have been fantastic throughout the year; our learners have met the high expectations that both they and the teaching staff have set. We have had no exclusions or incidents of bullying.

We are continuing to implement our Improvement Plan which focusses on the quality of our provision. We have made significant progress over this academic year which has been recognised by our external quality assurance partners.

Staffing

We made a number of changes to staffing structure for the 2023/24 academic year to support the continued improvement of both our Education and Adult Social Care programmes. We recruited a Head of Learning who is responsible for the quality of the delivery of all of our programmes, as well as an experienced qualified teacher to deliver our Education-funded programmes. We have continued to bolster our team by directly employing our Learning Support Assistants to reduce our reliance on Agency staff.

Staff follow a robust Continuous Professional Development (CPD) programme enabling them to meet the developing needs of our learners and to improve their own pedagogical practice. A detailed monitoring and quality assurance cycle ensures that high-standard, quality-first teaching is maintained with further development and training being provided for teachers/ tutors where identified.

Trustees

We plan to recruit additional Trustees in the coming year to provide more direct support for promotion and marketing, and for developing relationships and placement opportunities with employers.

Our Finances for Period Ending 3rd April 2024

Revenues for the year total £938,107.

£623,471 was earned through the Education programmes (Supported Internship and Work Skills programmes) funded via contracts with local authorities and the Education Skills Funding Agency (through Post-19 High Needs Funding).

£313,166 was earned through the Adult Social Care programmes. Many of the clients supported through this funding also receive 1:1 additional funding support which is why the revenue is so high for such a small cohort.

The total cost of the provision for the financial year (i.e. both the education and social care programmes) was £822,002 and the net operating surplus for Willow Green was £116,105. This surplus will be used to fund future accommodation and to invest in equipment and resources for our learners.

Future Plans

Following the success of our programmes we are looking to continue to grow to meet the needs of the cohort of students into academic year 2025/26 and beyond. There is a national push to increase the number of Supported Interns enrolled on programmes and as such we have amended our provision offer to take account of the increasing support needs of this cohort.

In the longer term we are still in need of larger premises with a number of options open to us which are being assessed. Plans currently involve the investigation of moving all Willow Green programmes to a newly refurbished site within the town which would become a shared site with the local special 6th form college but this will not be ready until January 2026 at the earliest.

We are also exploring running the provision over 2 separate sites to create greater separation between the Education and Adult Social Care programmes as well as address the issues with lack of space at St Werburghs Development Centre.

Balance Sheet - As at 03 April 2024

Assets

<i>Fixed Assets</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Total Fixed Assets</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Cash in Bank</i>	<i>333,808</i>
<i>Total Current Assets</i>	<i>333,808</i>

<i>Total Assets</i>	<i>333,808</i>
----------------------------	-----------------------

Liabilities

<i>Total Current Liabilities</i>	<i>255,525</i>
<i>Future Liabilities</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Total Future Liabilities</i>	<i>0</i>

<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<i>255,525</i>
---------------------------------	-----------------------

<i>Total Net Assets</i>	<i>78,282</i>
--------------------------------	----------------------

Equity

<i>Net Profit / Loss (prior year(s))</i>	<i>258,634</i>
<i>Net Profit / Loss (current year)</i>	<i>116,105</i>

<i>TOTAL EQUITY</i>	<i>£374,739</i>
----------------------------	------------------------



Willow Green

Profit and Loss – As at 03 April 2024

<i>Income</i>	<i>£</i>
<i>Sales - Services</i>	<i>936,423</i>
<i>Donations</i>	<i>55</i>
<i>Learner Lunches</i>	<i>1,629</i>
<i>Total Income</i>	<i>938,107</i>
<i>Gross Profit /(Loss)</i>	<i>938,107</i>
<i>Operating Expenses</i>	
<i>Payroll - Salary & Wages</i>	<i>604,017</i>
<i>Rent</i>	<i>156,282</i>
<i>Office Stationery</i>	<i>3,250</i>
<i>Computer & Software</i>	<i>9,785</i>
<i>Consultancy & Professional Fees</i>	<i>1,882</i>
<i>Professional Fees</i>	<i>12,313</i>
<i>Curriculum & Subscriptions</i>	<i>31,978</i>
<i>Equipment</i>	<i>2,080</i>
<i>Training Costs</i>	<i>356</i>
<i>Bank Charges</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<i>822,002</i>
<i>Net Profit /(Loss)</i>	<i>116,105</i>



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Willow Green
CIO

On accounts for the year
ended

3rd April 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1173796

Set out on pages

N/A

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 03/04/2024

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below *~~) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

27/01/2025

Name:

Debbie Monk, Norbreck Ltd

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

MAAT

Address:

107 Norbreck Close, Great Sankey, Warrington, Cheshire, WA5 2SJ

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A