



the Wolf School
Think Differently | Learn Differently

The Wolf School

The Wolf School's mission is to inspire Complex Learners to discover confidence, compassion, and a love of learning to reach their full potential.

Founded in 1999, The Wolf School opened its doors to provide an unmet need for children with multiple and complex learning differences. Today, Wolf is a premier K-8 special education school offering a unique and effective learning environment where Complex Learners thrive.

At a Glance

- Teacher/Student ratio 1:4
- All classroom teachers are Special Education certified
- Small Lower and Middle School classrooms (4 to 11 students)
- The Wolf School is special education certified in RI and MA
- Classroom teams also include an Occupational Therapist, Speech and Language Pathologist, and Teaching Assistants
- Individualized curriculum and learning plans meet students at their academic level
- Accept Out-of-District placements as well as private pay families
- Financial Aid available





“Rather than my child always struggling to fit into a school, this school strives to fit my child.”

- A Wolf School Parent

Our Students

Complex Learners:

Students who struggle in a traditional classroom setting because they experience challenges in language processing, sensory integration and social communication. They have average to above average cognitive potential that may not be reflected in testing and remains untapped.

Wolf students are Complex Learners who are not easily categorized or diagnosed. They do not have one particular learning disability and usually receive more than one diagnosis. **Complex Learners have multiple attention and learning challenges that manifest in different ways.** One Complex Learner may be introverted and quiet, another may be continuously moving and boisterous.

Complex Learners often have trouble following directions, participating in a group, communicating, problem solving and making friends. They may be anxious, sensitive, distractible, rigid, loud or shy but also creative, clever, passionate, and persistent. These students often experience school failure because they don't have the supports they need to address the interferences to their learning.

That's where The Wolf School comes in.



Our Method

Immersion Model©:

A special education model that brings an Occupational Therapist (OT) and a Speech and Language Pathologist (SLP) into the classroom with the Special Education Teacher, creating a team to plan and implement lessons that integrate language, social skills, and sensory goals for each student.

To address the educational needs of Complex Learners, students are not “pulled out” of the classroom to receive occupational or speech and language therapy. Instead, using the collective expertise of our professional team, therapeutic supports are seamlessly woven into the curriculum.



During small group instruction at The Wolf School, it's hard to tell if students are working with an OT, SLP, a teaching assistant, or the special education teacher because the entire Immersion Model© Team works side-by-side to develop curriculum and teach lessons using a therapeutic lens. With small class size, individualized instruction, hands-on experiential learning, movement throughout the day, and a strong home and school partnership, The Wolf School model is designed to help children become successful, secure learners.



“The Wolf School respects and accepts children for who they are and how they learn. Finally, they can learn and be successful.”
- A Wolf School Parent



“Our son became a successful learner because he was in an environment conducive to his needs.”

- A Wolf School Parent

Why Wolf

When children's brains work differently they might not be able to learn in a traditional classroom or with traditional methods. *But they can learn.*

Neuroeducation:

Successful learning isn't just a process of taking in facts; it's also about strengthening and developing the brain itself. Children with language, sensory and social barriers need creative teaching methods, high interest materials, art, technology, music, storytelling, and especially movement in order to calm their bodies, alert their brains and access learning.

There are countless ways to teach and whole worlds to discover. We use multiple modalities, emotional connections, mindfulness, individualized instruction and learning strategies - and we open doors to those worlds.

Your Best Self

At Wolf we believe that school should be a place of joy. We believe each student deserves to have the tools and supports they need to be their best selves. We believe that families are a child's greatest asset. With all of us working together, change will transpire.

It's not just about improved academics (which will happen) or getting into high school ready to take on increased independence (which will also happen). It's about confidence, kindness and friendship. It's about making families whole again. It's about leading full and productive lives and helping communities flourish.

It's about the future.

Lower School

Educational research points to the first years of school as the time when early vulnerability and response to intervention has its greatest impact, setting the course for a child's future learning.

Often, when younger children enroll at Wolf their challenges and past experiences require that they first learn how to participate in a classroom community with established rules and engage socially with other children in school.

On any given day a student might hop down the Lower School hallway on a bouncy ball or have their desk turn into a space station. By providing a nurturing environment, individualized child-centered goals and lessons that integrate language, sensory skills and social play, children learn strategies to focus and attend.

Lower School includes grades K-5 and offers:

Move to Learn (MTL): Move to Learn is facilitated by our Physical Education teacher and an Occupational Therapist. By participating in strategically focused physical activities early in the day, students prepare their bodies and minds to be ready to learn.

Therapeutic & Fitness-based Programs: We offer a number of programs in the community to enhance our physical education curriculum in order to improve motor development, coordination, and overall body awareness. Programs change yearly but may include Therapeutic Horseback Riding, swimming and gymnastics.

After-School Clubs: All Lower School students are invited to participate in our After-School Clubs. These change year to year but have included karate, a book club, cooking, theater arts, and robotics.



“Wolf provided her with a strong educational, emotional and social foundation to ensure her future success.”

- A Wolf School Parent



“The Wolf School has impacted my life so much - if I never went to Wolf, I don’t know where I would be today.”

- A Wolf School Graduate

Middle School

With a strong educational foundation and effective strategies, students are confident and capable to take on whatever comes after Wolf.

Middle School is a time when academic expectations expand and social interactions intensify. At Wolf, we provide guidance and support to help students create a positive growth mindset, improve executive function, and develop leadership skills.

Middle School includes grades 6-8 and offers:

Electives: Classes such as graphic design, percussion, outdoor education, theater arts and Spanish club give older students opportunities to pursue their interests.

Service Learning: During Service Learning, students apply academic and social skills to address real-life needs in the wider community.

After-School Sports & Clubs: We offer cross country, track, and basketball to develop team work and sportsmanship. Clubs change year to year but have included robotics, yoga, cooking, and photography.

Student Council: Students apply yearly for membership and create school-wide projects while receiving leadership training.

A successful transition to high school is an important component of a Wolf School education. Beginning in 7th grade, students and families receive a number of **Next School Placement** services to help with this process.



Next Steps

Admissions Process:

Our goal in admissions is to determine whether we are an educational fit for your child. To start this process, please fill out an Admissions Inquiry form on our website under the Admissions tab. Our dedicated Admissions team oversees the thorough admissions process and will assist you each step of the way.

**For more information about the Admissions process
please call 401-432-9940 or email admissions@thewolfschool.org.**

Learning Opportunities:

At Wolf, we are committed to exploring new and best practices for children with complex learning and attention issues. We encourage you to join us in this important conversation. Below is a list of our current education opportunities for the community.

Complex Learners Conference (Fall)

Rosaline I.R. Granoff Speaker Series (Spring)

The World of Complex Learners Blog (Available at thewolfschool.org)

For more information please reach out to info@thewolfschool.org.

Come and Visit:

Whether you are looking to begin the admissions process or learn more about our innovative Immersion Model© we encourage you to come for a visit to see the Wolf difference for yourself!



"How lucky were we to know that our son had...a fantastic option to be treated as the special boy he is - not a diagnosis or a label."

- A Wolf School Parent



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