WHO WE ARE



OUR MISSION

Is to provide powerful and effective education that inspires, fascinates, and transforms students who have been beset by academic and clinical challenges such as anxiety, depression, learning disability, and/or school refusal.

This mission is carried out by providing therapeutic, values-driven education of the highest quality in a safe and supportive setting.



OUR STUDENTS

Our students may be a unique and uncommon learner. They may experience anxiety and/or depression, display academic avoidance or school refusal. They may struggle to identify their own strengths and weaknesses; lack self-awareness or be unengaged in their learning process. Our sole purpose is help them want to learn.



OUR METHOD

At the core of our school model is a strong, student centered, treatment alliance. This alliance includes teachers, parents, clinicians, and individualized and student driven curriculum. Frequent collaboration of this alliance ensures a strong support team on behalf of the student's emotional and academic learning.



VISIT US



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A Therapeutic Day School Grades 6-12

A Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) Approved Special Education Program

WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE

STUDENT SUCCESS

STEP PROGRAM

OUR CULTURE

Our staff at WDS understands the importance of creating a warm, safe, fun, and challenging environment for our students. We pride ourselves on providing a truly collaborative and inspiring learning environment with small class sizes and hands on learning.

OUR VALUES

When students enter our program, they arrive with varying degrees of openness to instruction, mindfulness, and ability to be part of school community.

We meet that student where they are in their current level of both academic and social-emotional functioning and challenge them, through modeling and support, to form relationships, practice self-regulation, be self-aware, and to practice resilience.



WHY WDS?

We level the playing field for students with anxiety and depression, giving these students access to education of the highest quality. We offer an unparalleled & positive academic environment.

Our small class setting, educational philosophy, and state-of-the-art support from teachers and clinicians create an environment in which students with internalizing difficulties can reach their full potential.

OUR PARENTS

We believe there's strength in numbers and that parents have much to share and learn from one another. We ask parents to take an integral role in their child's progress. To help promote a positive school culture, inspire the milieu, and work collaboratively to improve social, emotional, and academic outcomes.



SPECIALIZED THERAPEUTIC EDUCATION PATH

Designed specifically for public school districts, the STEP program is intended to support students who are struggling to attend school and display avoidance behaviors, so significant, that it impacts daily living, academic functioning, and relationships with family and friends.

GOAL

The goal of the STEP program is gradual entry into WDS as a full-time student. This is a highly individualized and supportive process and the PPT team will make decisions on timeline, supports included, and curriculum, based upon a student's individual needs.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Goals and objectives in compliance with each student's IEP.
- Social work hours in compliance with the IEP.
- Up to ten hours of 1:1 tutoring per week.
- WDS classroom teachers deliver the curriculum with accommodations and modifications.
- Frequent collaboration with student's outside treatment team.
- Frequent collaboration/communication with student's family.
- Social worker available for home visits, and campus appointments.
- Students may complete previous academic work from their school district for credit retrieval.