

School Overview

Willow Oak Montessori is a grades 1 through 8 tuition-free public charter school dedicated to making an authentic Montessori education available to all families in and around Chatham County, North Carolina, regardless of socio-economic status. As its mission, Willow Oak Montessori strives to assist children in achieving their unique potential as responsible global citizens by nurturing self-confidence and independent decision making in a stimulating, creative, and diverse Montessori community. In pursuing this mission, Willow Oak Montessori seeks to engage with the larger community and serve as an educational resource for students, families, and community members alike.

In multi-grade classrooms led by Montessori trained and traditionally certified teachers, our students develop a strong sense of personal, social, and global responsibility; demonstrate strong leadership, adaptability, and management through collaboration with peers; engage in inventive thinking; and develop cultural, global, and information technology literacy.

About Chatham County, NC

Chatham County is a rural county located in the Piedmont area of North Carolina. The county seat of Pittsboro, a small town of about 4,000, has a classic downtown area that includes a traffic circle surrounding a courthouse and many unique shops and restaurants. The rural small town feel is balanced by easy access to the cosmopolitan area known as the Triangle, including Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill. Chatham County's central location puts North Carolina's beautiful mountains and beaches each just a few hours drive away.

Chatham County is within commuting distance of major universities and their associated amenities, including the University of North Carolina, North Carolina State University, Duke University, and North Carolina Central University. The University of North Carolina and Duke both provide health services through their hospitals, research centers, and medical schools. Nearby Research Triangle Park, a world-class research park, is home to many high-tech businesses. Two international airports (RDU and GSO) are both viable options for flying from the region.

Chatham County is known nationally for many grassroots and entrepreneurial efforts in promoting sustainable living. The local community college offers unique Sustainable Agriculture, Biodiesel Production and Natural Chef programs. Chatham County also appeals to outdoor enthusiasts. Many kayakers and canoeists enjoy the Haw River as it runs through the county to Jordan Lake. A state park surrounding the lake, less than 10 miles from downtown Pittsboro, provides swimming beaches, campsites, fishing, and boating, as well as wildlife observation areas. Finally, Chatham County has a deep tradition of music and art. Many cultural events are held frequently within the region, including live music, plays, films and art exhibits.

Links for additional information on the area:

www.visitpittsboro.com

www.chathamarts.org