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I have two children with autism who attended Woodford's Waterville Preschool. My son, who is now nine, started preschool at age 3 in another state in a setting not suitable for him. It was a mainstream classroom with an ed tech. My son has sensory processing disorder, autism, is non-verbal and has severe cognitive delays. He would cry before school and not want to go. Once at school, every day he had meltdowns that included throwing his shoes. The teacher wrote me almost everyday asking for help. They literally tied him to a chair which made him more distressed. When we moved to Maine and he began school at Woodfords, he was like a different child. The staff saw his strengths, not his behaviors. They helped him over time be able to tolerate school. For children like my son there is no other classroom setting appropriate than a program like Woodford's. In Rhode Island we were hindered by our zip code as to what school he could attend, a school like Woodford's was not an option. All children deserve a chance and schools like Woodford's offer the perfect balance of education and therapy. Please allow them to help all children who can benefit.