



CURRICULUM POLICY:

Our mission is to enable young people with Autistic Spectrum Conditions and other difficulties to reach their full potential by building resilience and removing social and emotional barriers to educational achievement. We aim to provide bespoke experiences that connect outdoor learning and PSHE with the broader curriculum using a highly flexible, well organized and person-centred approach where we work closely with parents and their children alongside other professional agencies

At the heart of the curriculum is a core of PSHE and Citizenship which allows children to develop their skills through a meeting a series of challenges.

Key Stage 2 pupils will access learning based on National Curriculum English and Maths (through the Hamilton Trust) with some also accessing Science as a separate subject where appropriate to their needs.

PSHE and Citizenship:

ASDAN Stepping Stones is a PSHE/Citizenship-based programme with an accredited outcome. Children develop their skills through a series of challenges. This will provide the basis from which specific aspects relevant to individual pupils can be explored in more depth. Stepping Stones is linked to: the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum; Enrichment; PLTS; and Personal skill development. Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning will also be embedded into this programme.

John Muir Award: A 4 part environmental award scheme for people of all backgrounds and ages designed to encourage people to connect with, enjoy, and care for wild places. This award is non-competitive, inclusive and accessible and will be achieved as part of the Forest School strand.

For older students (Key Stages 3 and 4) PSHE and Citizenship continue to underpin the curriculum but with increased depth and challenge. Accreditation where appropriate is through the Key Steps Awards at Key Stage 3, and at Key Stage 4 through a range of ASDAN short courses (including PSHE) and the Award of Personal Effectiveness (which is a qualification on the OfQual register). We will also be able to offer the Prince's Trust Achieve programme leading to a Personal Development and Employability qualification at Entry Level through to Level 2 where this is suitable.

Pupils will be assessed on arrival, focusing on emotional wellbeing and engagement as well as using National Curriculum sub levels and this process will be repeated at intervals for tracking purposes. We will also use a Learning Journey profile (with the emphasis on social communication) to assess and record the different stages of a pupil's readiness and ability to access our curriculum.



Core Curriculum subjects:

The core subjects are taught individually and are also integrated into other activities. The focus is on embedded social communication, PSHE and the literacy and numeracy skills needed to succeed in school and employment.

PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education)

Developing interpersonal and social skills is the key to our approach and is integrated into the timetable in the form of Nurture groups, Forest School, ASDAN Awards and other individual or small group activities. PSHE is combined with learning practical life skills such as shopping, cooking and using public transport to form the main strand of our core curriculum

Maths

Our approach will be to teach basic functional mathematical skills at a level appropriate to the individual and to use as many practical applications as possible to embed understanding, for example cooking activities can be used to demonstrate the use of fractions and ratio.

English

Through functional skills we will deliver guided reading, comprehension and writing sessions, and will also use every opportunity to apply literacy to “real world” situations such as travel, budgeting, shopping and cooking. Each pupil is set individual learning targets according to their level and learning style.

Our range of enrichment subjects and activities include the following:

- Sports: Football, basketball, footgolf, badminton etc
- Archery
- Swimming
- Indoor climbing
- Teambuilding, Role Play and Social games
- Textiles, Arts and Crafts
- Construction Skills
- Forest School
- Gardening
- Cooking
- Animal Care
- Science

Date: 1/9/2016

Review: 1/9/2017



Signed:

Role: