

Curriculum Intent

Our curriculum is designed to build resilient learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills to be responsible and effective members of the community locally and internationally, and in doing so transform life chances in a way which supports positive outcomes for our students.

Balance is a Key Stage 3 and 4 Alternative Provision which supports disengaged students and gives them a chance to be successful outside of a mainstream school setting. We offer a blend of academic and life skills curriculum, focussing on developing the “whole student” and providing them a wide range of skills and qualities, which they can then use in the wider world. We develop and support students holistically with their mental wellbeing and give them a wide range of behavioural strategies to successfully reintegrate back into a mainstream school setting.

Balance aims to prepare students mentally, physically, and socially to reintegrate back to mainstream education, post 16 provision and the wider world of work. The curriculum will enable our learners to be confident members of the world, whose voices are heard and who are prepared and able to tackle the barriers that may limit them in fulfilling their ambitions. The curriculum we have designed and intend to implement is one which is inspiring, supportive, and inclusive. It is responsive to our diverse and evolving context. High aspirations are at the heart of our alternative provision intention.

Curriculum Implementation

Subjects covered include Linguistic, Mathematical, Scientific, Technological, Human and Social, Physical, Aesthetic and Creative and PSHE. These are the knowledge, understanding and skills which are central to each child’s progress, focussing on a range of subjects, some within the National Curriculum and beyond. Students experience a range of different subjects ensuring a breadth of experiences to enable our students to become confident adults. Most of these subject areas are covered through our Thematic curriculum which is delivered to all students.

Linguistic and Mathematics

These are the cornerstones of learning across the curriculum and are fundamental skills necessary to enable students to unlock their potential and access the world.

Personal Skills

Personal skills are identified within our curriculum, to enable students to develop skills beyond the subject concepts. This will support students to become rounded individuals who can develop their own thinking and ideas, face challenges and lead and work with others.

We focus on the following personal skills.

- Leadership

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Next Reviewed: September 2024



- Organisation
- Resilience
- Initiative
- Communication

Employability Skills

To enable our students to be successful within the workplace, our curriculum develops a range of employability skills. These skills are based around the Skills Builder Framework which include:

- Listening
- Presenting
- Problem solving
- Creativity
- Staying Positive
- Aiming high
- Leadership
- Teamwork

Curriculum Impact

We want to provide our learners with a blend of Academic and Thematic content, focussing on developing the “whole student” and providing them a wide range of skills and qualities, and to boost their cultural capital. We develop and support students holistically with their mental wellbeing and give them a wide range of behavioural strategies to successfully re-integrate back into a mainstream school setting.

Balance AP aims to prepare students mentally, physically, and socially for a return to a mainstream school or a post-16 provision. We want students to be independent and resilient learners who have time at the Provision to reflect on their own personal development, and work with us to build a positive rapport with their mainstream school and parents/carers, increasing their likelihood of success when re-integrating.