

The Bridge School KS4 Curriculum



The KS4 curriculum is designed to be a bridge between KS3 and KS5 with an emphasis on developing independence and the skills needed for the 6th Form. There is a progression from KS3 curriculum in that students are now expected to take more responsibility for themselves and their learning.

The KS4 curriculum uses ASDAN's Transition Challenge programme as a framework for accrediting students work across all areas.

KS4 students with PMLD follow the Bridge PMLD curriculum, but with an increasing emphasis on using more age appropriate resources and activities.

The **Functional Skills** (literacy, numeracy, ICT) are taught with a discrete focus generally in the morning tutor group (alongside relevant IEP targets) although they are often taught using the vehicle of another area of the curriculum in a functional and meaningful way.

For example the students may use a cookery lesson to focus on communication/ literacy in which case extending the students' cookery skills would not be the main focus but the **communication** involved in working with others, making requests, listening, discussing, compromising or the **literacy** involved in working out and following recipes might be the main focus. The teacher of a group will therefore plan the appropriate balance and activities for the students in the group bearing in mind their PCP and learning styles. The emphasis being that students begin to learn how to use these skills in more functional settings.

Other areas of the curriculum include, but are not restricted to:

Environment

Science, geography - climate, weather etc., conservation, recycling, gardening

Community

RE, travel training, people in the community/ people who help us, geography/ history topics based on events/ festivals, fundraising/ charity work, visiting and using various venues e.g. places of worship, shopping centres, sports facilities

Life Beyond School (Careers)

Health and safety, people who help us in and out of school, work related activities, mini enterprise

Independent Living

Food technology, budgeting, healthy eating, nutrition, health and safety (including hygiene), self-care and home care skills

P.E

Swimming/ hydrotherapy, rebound therapy, physiotherapy, boccia, athletics, cricket, gymnastics, fitness training, uni hoc, football, sit ball, volleyball etc.

Creative and Expressive Arts

Music, Art, Dance, Drama, Technology

PSHE

RSE, self-care, washing, dressing, citizenship, Tac Pac, Intensive Interaction

Functional Skills

Maths/ Numeracy, English/ Literacy, ICT, Communication

Key Skills

Although we recognise that there are no performance criteria for key skills below level 1 it is nevertheless useful for our students to analyse their own performance and the performance of others in terms of the key skills.

Key Skills are targeted throughout all areas of the KS4 curriculum. The Key Skills are:-

- Communication
- Using Numbers
- Using Information Technology
- Problem Solving
- Working with others
- Organising and Improving own Learning and Performance

We feel that key skills are an appropriate means of encouraging the students to develop the functional English, Maths, I.C.T. and Social skills necessary for later adult life. Some Communication, Number and I.C.T work is carried out in specific sessions (mainly tutor group time) but the majority of work is undertaken through the main curriculum areas.

Each curriculum course outline identifies potential targeting of all the Key Skills with specific emphasis on functional use in relevant contexts.

Equal Opportunities

All work carried out in KS4 seeks to comply fully with The Bridge School Equal Opportunities Policy, in particular:

- That all students should have equal access to learning opportunities, activities, resources and experiences regardless of race, language, religion, culture, disability, gender, sexual orientation or class.
- That resources, activities, opportunities and experiences should reflect all the above, avoid stereotyping of any group and as much as possible.