

# The Oswaldtwistle School Curriculum Statement

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**Our curriculum sits at the heart of Oswaldtwistle school life and is the key driver behind the quality of education our students receive and the experiences they gain. Its clear intent is specific to our context and the vulnerable nature of the students we work with.**

## **Whole School Curriculum Intent – distinctive features**

Central to the curriculum is the development of our students' personal, social and emotional skills, their well-being and safety. This is viewed, by all staff and stakeholders, as a vital component of our provision and is an important feature of both the KS3 and KS4 curriculum. We also appreciate that many of our students have very poor literacy and numeracy skills which in many cases underlies their inability to access the mainstream curriculum. As such literacy and numeracy are fervently promoted by all staff and intervention work features prominently in this area.

## **Whole School Offer – distinctive features**

At both KS3 and 4 the curriculum experience is complimented by an additional programme of booster sessions in numeracy and literacy for students who have fallen behind. This takes the form of a bespoke reading intervention programme, Specialised SEND interventions and form time numeracy and literacy activities.

Weekly Social emotional literacy lessons at KS3 and life skills/Personal Development sessions at KS4 allow students to identify strategies to help them with their social emotional and mental health needs. Weekly meetings between students and their key worker also allows us to work closely with each individual in terms of their well-being. This is supported by a range of mentoring and counselling opportunities that acts as another layer of support for our students.

## **KS4 Curriculum intent – Main Site**

- Offer a balanced, accessible and relevant range of learning experiences for all students in an attempt to help each student to reach their potential.
- Know our students; their strengths, interests and 'needs', so as to ensure they receive the most appropriate provision.
- Provide our students with the most up to date information, advice and guidance on post 16 opportunities in the local area, in an attempt to help secure meaningful destinations for them upon leaving The Oswaldtwistle School in year 11.
- Develop our students not just as learners, but as well-rounded young people who can move on to their next destination with confidence and succeed.
- Promote British Values and pupils' Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural (SMSC) development so as to prepare them for life in modern Britain.

## **Key Stage 4 Curriculum Offer – Main Site**

Our aim of the Key Stage 4 curriculum is to maximise the chances of our students engaging positively in education, employment or training upon leaving The Oswaldtwistle School. On entry students are interviewed in terms of their aspirations and future career intentions, this along with their current academic standing, is then used to identify the most appropriate Learning Pathway; Academic, Vocational or Combination. (See appendix 1)

### **KS4 Core curriculum**

- **Literacy and Numeracy:** we place great emphasis on these in all subject areas and, for some students, targeted intervention is also offered. GCSE/Functional Mathematics and English occupy a large part of the timetable.
- **Science** is also a part of the core offer and is available to study either as a single GCSE in Human Biology or as a dual award GCSE in combined science.

### **KS4 Foundation curriculum**

The core curriculum is complimented by a range of accredited courses. Our Learning Pathways allow individual students to choose 3 courses, depending on their individual needs and interests, these include:

- GCSE Citizenship
- GCSE Art
- GCSE Half- Course PE
- GCSE Religious Studies
- BTEC Construction
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- BTEC Looking after Children
- BTEC Land Based Studies
- BTEC Outdoor Education/Sports Studies
- Princes Trust accredited units in PSD-(Personal, Social Development)

In addition all students access one Well Being class a week, one Citizenship lesson and a double PE lesson.

**Information, Advice and Guidance:** We go to great lengths to help our students to find the right post 16 destinations and stay in touch with all our leavers for the whole of their first year in post 16, tracking their progress and supporting them when needed.

**Enrichment:** An Enrichment programme takes place every Friday afternoon which gives students the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities including boxing, cooking, hair and beauty and woodwork.

### **Key stage 3 Curriculum Intent – main site**

Prepare KS3 pupils for a reintegration back in to a mainstream school or other appropriate educational centre

- Assess all pupils to identify additional needs & make appropriate and relevant referrals to support pupils on their return to school

- Give pupils an opportunity to address the reasons why they are no longer in their previous school & to demonstrate that they are in a position to return to a mainstream environment
- Support schools & pupils to give them the best opportunity to make a successful transition
- Promote British Values and pupils' SMSC development so as to prepare them for life in modern Britain.

### **Key Stage 3 Curriculum Offer – main site**

All our students are assessed on entry (various baseline assessments and information gathering) so that we have an understanding of their capabilities and needs. We also look at data from their previous schools to see what levels they have achieved and subsequently place them in one of our two KS3 groups; Pendle that comprises students who will be returning to mainstream education, and Winter that comprises students who present with more challenging needs, thus making a move into a special school environment more likely.

**Pendle:** our students in Pendle study a broad and varied curriculum,

- Maths
- English
- Science
- Humanities
- Art
- Citizenship
- Well Being
- Design & Technology
- Physical Education
- Outdoor education

**Winter:** our students in Winter study the following subjects,

- Maths
- English

- Well Being
- Design & Technology
- Physical Education
- Forest Schools

The remainder of Winter's timetable is devoted to the development of personal, social and emotional skills through Project Based Approach to Learning, underpinned by the principles of Nurture. It incorporates elements of science and the humanities with Art being central to its delivery. PIVATS (performance indicators for valued assessment and targeted learning) and Personal Development Skills provide the framework for assessment for this component of the Winter curriculum.

**Enrichment:** An Enrichment programme takes place every Friday afternoon which gives students the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities including boxing, cooking, hair and beauty and woodwork.

### **Heys' Site we offer a bespoke Medical provision for KS3 and KS4 Students**

The Heys is located on the edge of Oswaldtwistle in its own grounds and provides a pleasant and peaceful base for those students who are struggling to access their mainstream education

#### **Curriculum Intent – Medical specific at The Heys**

- Our aim at our Medical provision is to ensure that all children who are referred to us by ELCAS are properly supported in terms of their physical and mental health, and can play a full and active role in school life and achieve their academic potential.
- In support of the above all school leaders and teaching staff are aware of the each student's condition and consult with health and social care professionals and parents to ensure that their needs are properly understood and effectively supported.

**The Intent of The Heys provision is the same as the Intent for KS3 and 4 on the main site**

#### **Medical Curriculum Offer**

All students in both KS3 and KS4 study the following subjects.

- Maths
- English
- Science
- Art
- Citizenship
- Well Being
- Physical Education

At KS4 students study the following subjects at GCSE level: Maths, English, Science (Dual Award), Citizenship, and Art. In addition Information, Advice and Guidance forms part of the curriculum.

## **College Provision**

Some of our year 11 students may wish to embark on a college course and there is an option to enrol with Accrington and Rossendale College to study a L1 vocational qualification and GCSE/Functional skills English and Maths. This is in an area of their choice or interest that we cannot provide onsite e.g. Travel and Tourism, Hair and Beauty or Catering.

## **Off Site Intervention Provision**

### **Intent**

To help individual students to identify and modify the behaviours that stand between them and their primary provision, with the aim being for them to return to this provision.

### **Intervention Provision - Offer**

A very small number of our students struggle to engage with their allocated provision and we provide a bespoke provision that is more suited to their needs and involves them either meeting daily with a member of staff for 1:1 tuition at the Civic Hall or small group tuition at The Hippings. This is always a temporary, time-limited (usually 4-6 weeks) provision that is reviewed with students, parents/carers and staff

regularly. Numeracy and literacy form the backbone of this offer along with targeted intervention to help remove the barriers that are stopping the student from being able to access their primary provision. In some instances students may find themselves accessing this provision for a longer period of time and if this is the case they will commence studies in BTEC Personal Development.