



**Ramsden Hall
Academy**

**Parallel
Learning
Trust**

**Learning Outside the Classroom
Ramsden Hall Academy**

LAST REVIEW NEXT	January 2023	REVIEW PERIOD	3 Yearly
NEXT REVIEW DATE	January 2026	OWNER	Carol Turner

Learning Outside the Classroom Policy

Rationale

Ramsden Hall Academy considers it vital that we maintain a broad and balanced curriculum. This includes ensuring that pupils have opportunity to experience first-hand and have chance to see and take part in activities outside the classroom. Our school grounds provide rich opportunities that can engage all pupils effectively in understanding about sustainability and the environment. Visits outside of school, including residential opportunities and opportunities within the wider community are built into our curriculum and enhance children's learning.

Aims

- To introduce pupils to a range of new experiences
- To develop the curriculum through using the local environment and community
- To offer pupils exciting and stimulating experiences that enthuse them in their learning
- To develop self-esteem through providing a range of opportunities for pupils to excel
- For pupils to develop their social skills, independence and resilience through experiencing a residential activity

Learning outside the classroom -

- Pupils experience at least two trips/ visits each year.
- Pupils take part in activities to develop the school environment over the year.
- Pupils use the grounds of the school in a variety of ways to enhance their learning and social engagement.
- Pupils visit at least one community building during the year and will use another community resource e.g. park, Library or community programmes to develop reading and social interaction
- Pupils have the opportunity to participate in a range of residential trips.

How we will deliver this:

Residential activities

All pupils have the opportunity to experience residential activities throughout their time at Ramsden Hall Academy. There are a range of residential activities that are designed to encourage self-esteem and social development. Funding these trips is covered by use of pupil premium funding, school fund, grants and donations from the Parents, teachers and charitable organisations.

Trips and visits

Weekly social trips are organised as part of the behaviour management policy and these encourage social development and help to build self-esteem.

Where possible, pupils in years 6, 7 and 8 experience activities off site on a weekly basis to build confidence, risk taking and build self-esteem.

It is expected that all students have the opportunity to extend their classroom by using the school grounds and local community to stimulate and enhance their learning.

Alternative provision is provided for some students. Provision includes: Rally sport, Horse therapy and developing life skills (such as shopping, using the bus and interaction with the public).

Trip leaders need to complete an Educational Visit request and have this approved by the Principal. A risk-assessment needs completion before every trip. All adventurous trips must be submitted to the EVC through Evolve for approval. All venues for trips must be approved sites or have been visited prior to the trip taking. All adults accompanying a trip must have had the appropriate police check.

Use of the school grounds

Ramsden Hall Academy is situated in 14 acres of beautiful woodland. Where possible Students use this resource to enhance their learning.

- All KS3 students use the woodland to engage in forest school activities.
- KS4 use the grounds to work through an ASDAN programme of study.
- The garden is being developed as part of the Horticulture qualification and there are plans to develop a vegetable garden for providing vegetables to be used in Food Technology.
- Grounds are used for a variety of activities across the curriculum.
- Social games are played in the grounds as rewards.
- Residential students use the grounds for evening activities and games.

The local community

When students join Ramsden Hall Academy, a standard letter is sent out to parents requesting their permission for pupils to go on short walks and trips into the community. All classes are encouraged to make visits into the local community including:

- Visiting local religious and community buildings
- Making links with local clubs
- Using local resources such as museums, restaurants and farms
- Using local facilities such as parks, swimming pools, library
- Reading activities such as visiting local care homes to read to the elderly
- Volunteering at local food banks

Extra-curricular activities

A full range of activities are provided on a weekly basis. These are led by a mixture of school staff and external clubs. The programme changes termly to reflect the seasons and the availability of staff. A timetable is circulated and students can choose on a daily basis what activities they would like to participate in. The range and timing of clubs takes into consideration:

- The interests of the pupils at the school
- The facilities available
- Links with the local community
- Expertise of adults within the school
- The needs of all groups of pupils
- The balance and range of activities available

Separate guidance and training is available for club leaders to understand the level of risks involved in an activity and to write health and safety risk assessments. Attendance at clubs is monitored to ensure that clubs are accessible to all our pupils. Students have many opportunities to evaluate the activities provided through student voice meetings.

Monitoring and evaluation

Planning and the learning outside the classroom activities are monitored by the responsible person for overseeing LOtC delivery and development.

The experiences of the students are evaluated for their effectiveness on a regular basis through self-assessment and peer assessment.