

Curriculum Policy for Blackpool Skills Academy C.I.C.

1. Vision and Values

At **Blackpool Skills Academy C.I.C.**, our curriculum is designed to empower students with the academic, personal, and vocational skills they need to succeed in life. By offering a blend of core academic subjects, personal development programmes, and vocational training, we aim to inspire lifelong learning and prepare students for meaningful careers.

Our curriculum is focused on **Maths, English, PSHE, Art, Cooking, PE**, and vocational training in **Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy, and Construction Trades**. This unique combination ensures a holistic education that nurtures academic success, practical skills, creativity, and well-being.

2. Aims of the Curriculum

The curriculum at Blackpool Skills Academy aims to:

1. Develop foundational skills in literacy, numeracy, and communication.
 2. Equip students with industry-specific skills for employment in **Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy, and Construction Trades**.
 3. Promote personal growth and well-being through **PSHE, PE**, and practical creative subjects such as **Art** and **Cooking**.
 4. Provide inclusive and engaging learning experiences tailored to individual needs.
 5. Encourage self-confidence, independence, and resilience to prepare students for life and work.
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3. Curriculum Structure

The curriculum provides a structured and progressive learning experience across Key Stages 3 and 4, with a balance of academic, practical, and vocational elements.

Subjects Offered:

1. **Maths**
2. **English**
3. **PSHE** (Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education)
4. **Art**
5. **Cooking**
6. **Physical Education (PE)**
7. **Vocational Curriculum:**

- Hairdressing
 - Beauty Therapy
 - Construction Trades
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4. Curriculum Delivery

Teaching Approach:

- A student-centred approach that accommodates diverse learning needs.
- Lessons that incorporate both theoretical knowledge and practical application.
- Opportunities for cross-curricular learning and real-world problem-solving.

Assessment:

- Regular formative assessments to monitor progress and identify areas for improvement.
- Summative assessments, including practical evaluations for vocational subjects.
- Feedback that is constructive and aimed at fostering improvement.

Timetable Structure:

- Core academic subjects (Maths, English, and PSHE) form the foundation of the curriculum.
 - Creative and practical subjects (Art, Cooking, and PE) provide balance and promote well-being.
 - Vocational training is integrated into the timetable, with dedicated blocks for hands-on learning in professional environments.
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5. Subject-Specific Intent and Implementation

Maths

Intent: To develop strong numeracy skills, problem-solving abilities, and confidence in applying mathematics to real-life situations.

Implementation:

- Focus on numeracy, algebra, geometry, statistics, and financial literacy.
- Use of practical applications such as budgeting and measurements in vocational contexts.

English

Intent: To enhance literacy, communication, and critical thinking skills, ensuring students are prepared for further education and the workplace.

Implementation:

- Development of reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills.

- Emphasis on workplace communication, including report writing and customer interaction.

PSHE

Intent: To promote personal, social, and emotional development, preparing students for life in modern Britain.

Implementation:

- Topics include mental health, relationships, careers education, financial literacy, and citizenship.
- Practical sessions, role-play, and discussions to explore real-life scenarios.

Art

Intent: To nurture creativity, self-expression, and visual literacy.

Implementation:

- Exploration of various media and techniques, including digital art.
- Projects that integrate vocational themes, such as designing promotional materials.

Cooking

Intent: To develop practical cooking skills and knowledge of nutrition, food safety, and sustainability.

Implementation:

- Hands-on cooking sessions to prepare a variety of dishes.
- Lessons on healthy eating, food science, and cost-effective cooking.

PE (Physical Education)

Intent: To promote physical fitness, teamwork, and an understanding of the benefits of an active lifestyle.

Implementation:

- Participation in individual and team sports, fitness training, and recreational activities.
- Emphasis on physical and mental well-being.

Vocational Curriculum

Hairdressing

Intent: To provide students with industry-standard skills and knowledge to pursue careers in hairdressing.

Implementation:

- Practical training in cutting, styling, and colouring techniques.
- Lessons on health and safety, client communication, and salon management.

Beauty Therapy

Intent: To equip students with the skills and knowledge needed for roles in the beauty industry.

Implementation:

- Training in skincare, makeup application, manicure, pedicure, and waxing.
- Emphasis on hygiene, customer care, and professional conduct.

Construction Trades

Intent: To prepare students for careers in construction with hands-on experience and technical knowledge.

Implementation:

- Practical training in carpentry & joinery, bricklaying, plastering, painting and decorating, tiling and basic electrical and plumbing work.
 - Focus on workplace safety, tool use, and project planning.
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6. Personal Development

Personal development is integrated throughout the curriculum to ensure students leave Blackpool Skills Academy with confidence and resilience.

- **PSHE** lessons focus on emotional well-being, relationships, and career planning.
 - Vocational subjects instil discipline, responsibility, and professionalism.
 - Enrichment activities, including workshops and work experience placements, enhance learning and personal growth.
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7. Inclusion and Accessibility

We are committed to providing an inclusive curriculum:

- Lessons are differentiated to meet the needs of all students, including those with SEND.
 - Specialist support and adaptive resources are available where needed.
 - Vocational training is designed to be accessible and engaging for students of all abilities.
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8. Monitoring and Evaluation

The effectiveness of the curriculum is evaluated through:

- Regular tracking of student progress and outcomes.
 - Feedback from students, parents, and staff.
 - External review and quality assurance for vocational qualifications.
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9. Enrichment Opportunities

To complement the curriculum, we offer:

- Guest speakers from the hair, beauty, and construction industries.

- Trips to industry events and trade shows.
 - Opportunities for students to participate in competitions and community projects.
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Conclusion

At **Blackpool Skills Academy**, our curriculum reflects our commitment to academic achievement, creative expression, and vocational excellence. By focusing on **Maths, English, PSHE, Art, Cooking, PE**, and vocational training in **Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy**, and **Construction Trades**, we provide a balanced and inspiring education that prepares students for success in both life and work.

Approved by: David Hodge

Position: Head of School

Date: 08/09/2025