



Hollywater
School

Inspire. Believe. Achieve.

Hollywater Further Education (FE) Curriculum



September 2024

Rationale

The intent of Hollywater's curriculum is to prepare pupils for adulthood. Succeeding in life for our pupils means living as an independent life; not just having a voice but having the skills to make their own choices and have control over their lives.

Our curriculum equips pupils with the essential life skills, knowledge and cultural capital that they will need to become the most independent and happy versions of themselves that they can be.

We aim to :

Inspire, motivate and challenge our children to be curious learners.

Develop aspirational, independent and resilient learners who **believe** they can.

Enable our children to **achieve** their full potential, that is individual to them.

Our FE department offers courses for learners who have severe learning difficulties and complex needs, providing care, support and guidance for students through a caring and nurturing community resulting in their excellent behaviour and high-quality personal development.

Intent

Within FE we aim to prepare our students for adulthood by providing a safe, stimulating, fun and nurturing learning environment, where all students can access a range of exciting learning opportunities, designed to educate, stimulate and challenge, creating an ethos in which everyone is valued and respected and where students are motivated, supported and encouraged to strive for success. We provide the highest quality of teaching and learning, through a skilled, experienced and appropriately trained and dedicated staff team delivering post 16 programmes which:

- Equip our students for an adult life in which they will have the greatest possible degree of independence as full and productive members of their own community.
- Prepare our students for adult life by taking part in independence and self-help skills programmes.
- Increase our students understanding and/or awareness of their community, environment and of the wider world
- Enable students to be effective communicators by promoting their ability to express preferences, communicate needs, make decisions and be either self-advocating and/or able to make use of an advocate

- Are responsive to the particular needs of individual students, including those who might require therapeutic curricula, in order to maintain their wellbeing.
- Provide opportunities for all students to be able to learn, progress and achieve in ways that are relevant, meaningful and realistic to their individual circumstances

Implementation

Students follow one of our Accreditation Pathways depending on their attainment levels when they join FE. Each Pathway ensures that the students' educational journey is tailored to meet their needs as well as to challenge them. In FE, learning is planned around the individual needs, interests and ambitions of the young person. Our aim is to equip the students with the skills they will need to become valued and integrated members of their communities. The curriculum is enriched by a range of creative and physical education programmes and opportunities. Students follow accredited courses leading to recognised national qualifications. ASDAN Personal Progress, ASDAN Personal and Social Development, and OCR Life and Living provide a relevant programme of work, based on independent living skills as well as the core skills of Literacy, Numeracy and ICT.

Our community inclusion experiences focus on learning life, leisure and work skills and prepare our students for transition to the next steps of their learning journey, for example, practicing leisure and social skills, money and social rules. Literacy, Numeracy and ICT are embedded across all practical aspects of the timetable and assessed through the use of the Adult Core Standards and Pre-Entry Framework, allowing for a much more functional approach. The week focuses on a theme for each day:

- Leisure and Recreation
- Careers and Enterprise
- Independent Living
- Community Inclusion
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Impact

During the 3 years available in FE, students work on individual accreditation pathways, these include units from either ASDAN Personal Progress or units from ASDAN Personal and Social Development and OCR Life and Living depending on individual level and prior attainment. All students build a portfolio of work each academic year, at the end of each year their work is submitted for external moderation and students are accredited with a qualification ranging from an Introductory Award through to a Diploma. The credit-based framework of our qualification offer allows students to be recognised annually for their

achievements, while continuing to build on their success year on year during their time with us, allowing for clear progression routes post Hollywater FE. This annual recognition also allows for any early leavers to have their efforts and achievements formally acknowledged and nationally recorded as they move into the future.

Individual pathways give students the opportunity to further develop their skills, interests and aspirations in a safe and secure setting in preparation for transition. Our curriculum focuses on life skills learning, confidence, resilience and student well-being. There is a strong emphasis on learning and applying these skills within the community in preparation for some level of independent supported living in the future. All our Students have an EHCP which is the basis for their individual programme of study. We work in partnership with students, their families, professionals and local authorities, to prepare the leavers for life after Hollywater School.