



## Curriculum Statement

### Curriculum Intent

At Heart of the Forest Special School our aim is to make a fundamental difference to all pupils with special educational needs.

To achieve this we provide a focused provision to all, ensuring every child receives a personalised, quality education, ensuring breadth and depth through progressive and sequenced teaching and learning with communication at the centre.

We strive to provide a healthy and safe caring environment where safeguarding is paramount. Pupils can identify who to seek further help and guidance from and learn to manage risk safely.

We ensure everyday inclusion opportunities and encourage independence whilst providing an enabling learning environment; preparing pupils with experience and skills for the wider modern world.

We continually strive to ensure that our curriculum

- Has consistently high expectations
- Engenders excitement and enjoyment in learning
- Extends the essential skills of communication, reading, writing and mathematics
- Empowers pupils with knowledge that is useful and relevant
- Focuses on developing pupils' skills to be as independent as they can be
- Promotes successful learning attitudes and behaviours
- Makes exceptionally good links between subjects
- Encourages individual creativity
- Means pupils have a better understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society

### Implementation

Our curriculum is developmental, but person centred, with our recognition that each pupil will be supported through a personalised pathway. We recognise pupils' strengths, needs and interests and build on these to promote achievement and success.

Our curriculum aims to promote the social inclusion of all pupils and prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. As the pupil's transition through the school, the skills they need for living become an integral part of learning.

Our curriculum aims to ensure breadth and depth in teaching and learning through a progressive educational journey that is bold, brave and prepares our pupils for life beyond school.



As a specialist provision for children and young people it is essential that our focus is to prepare our pupils for participation in the adult world.

Our curriculum prepares pupils for adulthood through gaining experience and an understanding of the diverse world in which they live.

Our school provision is personalised through identification of pupil needs and outcomes translated from the EHCP. At the very core of our curriculum offer is the intention to nurture each pupil's sense of identity and belonging within the school and wider community. This is achieved through inclusive practice, celebration of successes and an emphasis upon developing independence wherever possible alongside an effective communication system.

Pupils at Heart of the Forest Community Special School have a range of needs which include Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties with complex needs (PMLD), Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and Moderate and Additional Learning Difficulties (MALD).

These sit in three provision pathways and follow a curriculum appropriate to the pupils needs.

Pathway 1 – Pre-formal Curriculum

Pathway 2 – Semi-formal Curriculum

Pathway 3 – Formal Curriculum

These provision pathways include focused provision, a relevant therapeutic curriculum, and enrichment opportunities through an extended and accredited curriculum where appropriate. Accreditation is studied progressively at KS4 to KS5 at Entry Level to Level 3.

Classes are needs based and provide an appropriate enabling learning environment for the pupils.

Each pupil has a Personalised Curriculum Plan (PCP) which has a communication, behaviour, and sensory needs portrait followed by termly targets which are taken from the EHCP and thematic curriculum.

### Impact

At Heart of the Forest we want our pupils to develop detailed knowledge and skills across the curriculum and, as a result, achieve well.

We want our pupils to be ready for their next stage of education and then to be able to move on and live as independently as possible.

We want all of our pupils to achieve the best possible outcomes that they can.

The impact of the school's curriculum is measured through several means:



- Progress and attainment data using Solar for current year groups
- Attendance data
- Behaviour logs
- Pastoral Support
- Engagement in enrichment activities
- Student voice