



Hillcrest Curriculum Offer- 2017/18

A unique curriculum for our unique learners

Hillcrest school aims to offer the broad and balanced delivery of the National Curriculum. It is imperative that all our learners are fully equipped for adulthood and are able to use skills, knowledge and understanding in a way that is functional to them.

The holistic approach to learning is supported further by the expert practitioners that deliver as much of the curriculum as possible to their pastoral groups. This has enhanced cross-curricular links and made target setting and assessment seamless.

Many of our learners have problems accessing large parts of the National Curriculum, caused by a combination of factors: literacy or numeracy skills; limited concentration; problems with interaction with other pupils, and a general lack of confidence and self-esteem. There is simply little point therefore, in attempting to replicate the lesson content and teaching approaches that have failed in the past to motivate these pupils.

The curriculum is differentiated for individual pupils according to need and this may be through content, delivery, support and expected outcomes.

iASEND is an assessment tool used by the school to measure learners' progress. Although this is objective based on the National Curriculum it allows depth of learning to be measured in addition to linear progression.

Accreditation

Academic achievement is incredibly important here at Hillcrest. We have aspirational expectations of all the students and are keen to ensure they feel equipped and suitably prepared for the next stage in their education. Although we would like all of our learners to fulfil national qualifications such as GCSEs the examinations have been detrimental to the progress our learners make and there is often a lasting impact on their wellbeing. We therefore offer functional, short courses and entry level qualifications which are more accessible, appropriate and provide the foundations for independence into adulthood.

Holistic Progress/Thrive

Learners progress in many different ways in Hillcrest and using the 'Thrive' approach we ensure we close the gaps to ensure our learners can contribute effectively to their community and to society. Thrive develops functional skills, emotional wellbeing and interdependence which ensures our learners' outcomes in the future are more likely to be positive.

KS5 Offer

Ent/Func English

Ent/Func Maths

Entry Computing

Independence

Arts Award

ASDAN Courses

PPSED

Duke of Ed

Employability

Work Exper.

KS4 Offer

Ent/Func English

Ent/Func Maths

Entry Science

Entry Computing

KUW

EAD

PPSED

Duke of Ed

KS3 Offer

CLL

PSRN

Science

Computing

KUW

EAD

PPSED

PSHE

Personal, social and health education is a daily session at Hillcrest delivered during part of our morning breakfast. We view this as importantly as all other subjects.

Groups have a framework to follow linked closely to the National Curriculum but they are also able to be flexible regarding current affairs and the specific needs of learners.

The PSHE scheme effectively builds on each year to ensure our learners can make educated choices in the future which will result in them having improved wellbeing.

Science

Understanding of the world around is an important part of the work in Hillcrest and as such we deliver science across the 3 disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics.

- Biology
 - Animals, including humans
 - Cells
 - Plants
 - Living things and their habitats
 - Evolution, inheritance and genetics
- Chemistry
 - Materials and rocks
 - States of Matter
 - Earth and Atmosphere
 - Atoms, elements, compounds & reactions
- Physics
 - Seasons, Earth and Space
 - Light
 - Sound and Waves
 - Electricity
 - Forces, Motion and Magnets
 - Energy

KUW- Knowledge and understanding of the world

KUW is developed from the natural awe and wonder that students have. It will build around humanities inc. RE to wrap a focus into topic (thematic) learning that has clear purpose and answers questions. Students will:

- Explore geographical features
- Reflect upon historical events
- Build cultural awareness and diversity

The topic approach allows a multitude of layers to the learning experiences making stronger links. Students will maximise the opportunity to enrich knowledge, skills and understanding through out of class learning.

CLL-Communication, language and literacy

This is at the core of our curriculum. It covers all aspects of the English National Curriculum from EYFS through to the end of KS3. Although teachers plan creatively to ensure a balance of topics and genres we measure progress across the areas of:

- Reading
 - Comprehension
 - Word recognition
- Writing
 - Composition
 - Grammar & punctuation
 - Handwriting
 - Transcription
- Speaking
- Listening

We also use the school library, Lexia and Read, Write, Inc as part of our curriculum delivery.

Creative Curriculum

EAD- Expressive art and design

EAD blends all the creative arts in a way that staff can merge and incorporate an array of artistic interests. EAD allows pupils to explore:

- Art-graphic, photography
- Design technology
- Food technology
- Music
- Drama
- Dance and expressive movement

The weighting of these areas will depend wholly on the group of students.

PSRN-Problem solving, reasoning and numeracy

The core of learning in maths happens daily but this is extended throughout the curriculum. . It covers all aspects of the Maths National Curriculum from EYFS through to the end of KS3. Although teachers plan creatively to ensure a balance of topics and genres we measure progress across the areas of:

- Number and Place Value
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions, Percentages, Decimals and Ratio
- Geometry
- Measurent
- Statistics
- Algebra
- Probability
- Ratio and Proportion

The skills developed in these sessions will be built into real life scenarios (problem solving) for pupils to apply a plethora of skills. Students should show confidence in their understanding of numeracy skills regardless of the circumstance (reasoning skills).

Computing

- Programing & Computer Science
- Technology to communicate
- E-Safety
- Emerging technology

PPSED-Physical, personal, social and emotional development

It is imperative that our learners can make healthy choices in life and keep themselves fit and healthy.

- Physical Education-strength, anatomy, dexterity and motor skill development carefully planned and assessed against the National Curriculum