

Curriculum Provision

Our curriculum is highly differentiated to meet the needs of all the children and young people who attend the school with varying special educational needs, including individualised timetables and a sensory curriculum.

- Communication – Effective communication and the ability to make and express choices is central to our basic human rights and at Birkett House we hold this as a central philosophy in all we do. All lessons feature an element of communication and personal autonomy through speech, signing and both low and high tech AAC. We work towards a total communication environment for all.
- 1. The National Curriculum – Following the Programmes of Study from the National Curriculum we aim to provide all our students with a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum. Due to the diverse needs and abilities of our students teachers will use supporting documents from The International Primary Curriculum to assist them with their planning whilst using their professional expertise to adapt the programmes of study to make them accessible and relevant to our students. The EYFS is used to support the planning and learning in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 and this also follows the International Primary Curriculum model.
- 2. Pupil Centred Learning – Working in consultation with parents, students and other professionals we strive to provide our students with a broad range of opportunities to develop those particular skills that they need to support them through their life, for example this may include a daily motor skills sessions or additional swimming in order to support mobility needs.
- 3. Life Skills Based Learning – all students at Birkett House have their needs regularly assessed through their Educational Health Care Plan. The objectives within the plan and the outcomes that they are working towards give a more rounded and holistic approach to learning. We focus on these outcomes to ensure that our students are working towards an independence and that prepares them for adulthood.

Key Stage 4 and 5

There are a wide range of qualifications on offer in key stage 4 and 5. Accreditation is completed at a level that is appropriate to the individual pupil. Pupils are able to choose from a range of options to study, they are able to select from arts, technology, humanities and languages subjects, as well as independent skills and vocational learning.

We offer the following qualifications from the following exam boards:

OCR:

- Maths Entry Level Certificate
- English Entry Level Certificate

- Life and Living Skills including numeracy, literacy and ICT
- Life and Living - Community
- Science Award
- ICT Entry Level Functional Skills
- PSE Award and Certificate
- Maths Entry Level Functional Skills
- English Entry Level Functional Skills
- Personal and Social Development

WJEC

- Performing Arts Pathway

Duke of Edinburgh

- Bronze Award
- Silver Award

GCSE

For those students whom it is appropriate, GCSE's are accessed in conjunction with mainstream college provision with support from a member of the support staff.

At Key Stage 5, there will be an emphasis on preparation for the next stage of the pupils life and transition packages going into their final year of school. Preparing for Adulthood enables our young people to focus on using skills that they have developed and using them in every day life, alongside formal learning. This includes access to work related learning, work experience and volunteering opportunities.