

Intent

At James Brindley School, the Primary curriculum is designed to engage all pupils, develop curiosity and inspire a life-long love of learning. It is designed to provide a comprehensive, **inclusive**, and **adaptable** educational experience that meets the **diverse needs** of our students. It aims to 'fill the gaps' so that all pupils are enabled to succeed and begin to take pride in their achievements, despite the challenges they face. The curriculum is planned and **adapted to the needs** of each individual cohort, with pupils able to access all National Curriculum subjects, with a clear focus on application of basic skills. Wherever possible, foundation subjects are taught via cross curricular approach based upon the topic for each half term. We aspire for all pupils to show confidence and enjoyment in reading and staff are committed to developing the whole child to ready them for the next stage of their education and for life outside school. Pupils' EHCP outcomes are carefully considered when planning, with their **social and emotional development** being a high priority.

At Dovedale, we teach from the primary National Curriculum but **adapt** it to meet the needs of the pupil, meaning pupils may be chronologically Year 5 or 6, but accessing KS1 or Lower KS2 objectives. At Dovedale we have **high aspirations** and if pupils are able, they will access end of KS2 SATs.

Thrive is interwoven throughout the curriculum, with pupils accessing a group Thrive session once a week and a discrete social skills session, both aiming to address **pupils' SEMH needs**. We aspire for the Primary classroom to be a **safe, nurturing** environment where pupils can develop their **self-worth and resilience**. Our ultimate aim is for pupils to successfully transition from Primary to Secondary, feeling confident that they can take on new challenges.

Implementation

All our primary pupils have a diagnosis of Autism and many have associated co-morbidities. The primary classroom has a class teacher and Higher Level Teaching Assistant, so the class can break into smaller groups for **targeted intervention** if needed. This may be to address significant gaps in learning or to **challenge and extend** pupils who can access end of KS2 assessments. The majority of lessons are taught as a whole class, with **differentiated activities** based around a common theme.

Over their first six weeks at Dovedale, pupils are assessed to create a baseline and identify gaps in their learning, particularly in the core subjects. This will then inform future planning and intervention, with subsequent lessons **tailored** to address these gaps.

Pupils are taught all National Curriculum subjects, wherever possible **adapted** to appeal to pupils' particular interests. History and Geography form the basis for cross-curricular learning, with a new topic each half term. English texts are, where possible, linked to the topic to help embed learning. There is a focus on digital literacy and ensuring pupils know how to **stay safe online**. A cross curricular overview is completed for each half term, which identifies what will be taught in each subject area. However, plans need to be **flexible and adaptable**, to ensure pupils are engaged by the curriculum and learning opportunities are maximised. Lessons are taught in a variety of ways, with a focus on practical, hands-on-learning wherever possible. **Thrive** developmental tasks, social skills and life skills are embedded within the curriculum as well as planned discretely, with evidence of activities recorded in a group journal.

Impact

The success of our Primary curriculum is measured by progress made by pupils throughout their time in Year 5 and 6. Progress is tracked regularly from their initial baseline upon entry to their final outcomes and may be assessed via exercise books, observations, photographs and more formal assessments.

Pupils are tracked against:

- SEN Toolkit
- National Curriculum Age Related Expectations
- Pre Key Stage Standards
- End of KS2 Assessments (SATs), where appropriate
- Thrive Developmental Strands