

The Den Curriculum Guide



Autumn Term 2017

Curriculum overview – The Den

Within the Den we deliver a variety of subjects at a number of different levels and with different approaches used in order to ensure that each and every student is able to access learning and achieve to their potential.

Underpinning the curriculum is the aim to provide students with the opportunity to gain skills needed to enable them to progress through school, further education and into adult life with the ability to read, write, speak and listen. In addition they will have maths skills providing them with the ability to complete monetary transactions, tell the time, and understand the 4 maths processes and complete everyday mathematics with a level of independence. In addition to these life skills it is hoped and planned that each student works towards qualifications that enables them to access further educational environments in their future.

English

Within the Den we are following the AQA Step Up to English course. The course allows the young people to be taught a variety of topics at differing levels from Entry Level 1 through to 3 and beyond allowing access to the GCSE exam at the end of the two year course where appropriate.

We will be having the opportunity to read and understand a range of texts including plays, novels, poems within fiction, and leaflets and letters of non-fiction. Students will be taught and have opportunities to make comparisons between texts, provide evidence from the text, give their opinion, write effectively and coherently, use appropriate grammars and punctuation, improve their handwriting and develop their spelling skills. They will also take an active role in speaking and listening tasks.

This term we will be studying ‘Detectives’.

We will be reading and analysing the play ‘An Inspector Calls’, the students will be given the tasks to

- produce a written diary for one of the characters,
- write a Police Log of the incident within the play,
- Write a newspaper report about the crime

The students will also plan their own story, police log, investigation and news report on a fictional murder within school.

We hope to visit the Castle Museum and take part in a trip to the Dungeons and CSI day to enhance the learning of this topic.

Maths

Within the Den we are following the AQA Mathematics course preparing the student to gain Entry Level 1 – 3 in Maths. The course consists of 8 topics, each ending with an externally set assessment.

- Component 1: properties of number
- Component 2: the four operations
- Component 3: ratio
- Component 4: money
- Component 5: the calendar and time
- Component 6: measures
- Component 7: geometry
- Component 8: statistics

For the Autumn Term we will be focusing on Component 1 and 2.

Project

The young people within the Den have access to the AQA Unit Award Scheme. This course provides opportunities for young people to achieve accreditation for each unit they complete. There are over 10,000 topics to choose from at a variety of levels enabling each member of the group to access something of interest to them and targeted at their ability.

Throughout the term we will be completing some whole group topics and some individual choice. We are beginning with all students completing

- Making Choices and Decisions
- Taking Responsibility for own Behaviour
- Improving Social Skills
- Recognising and managing feelings

I have chosen these topics as I feel they will provide a good opportunity for us to visit topics that will enhance the life opportunities and choices for the students in the future.

Art

Throughout the Autumn term we will be creating death masks.

Linking the art to the English ‘Detectives’ topic, students will be creating images of a criminal, using these images to produce a wanted poster and a clay head on a spike.

We will also be investigating fingerprints and creating art work using the students' fingerprints.

In addition to the above subjects, students from within the Den have access to College courses to study Catering, Construction and Hair and Beauty.

Some also access GCSE Art, Environmental Geography, ICT and GCSE PE.

PE

Swimming – according to their ability students will be working towards Personal Survival water safety skills, Speed and Distance Awards.



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