

Ash Meadow School Engagement Curriculum

Learning, developing, engaging, participating, creating, exploring, interacting and having the best life possible!

At Ash Meadow School, as part of the Engagement Curriculum, (Key Stages) we offer our students a range of sensory and thematic approaches to learning including Communication- Incorporating Read Write Inc Programme, Independence, Structured and Sensory Free Play, Physical Wellbeing, Outdoor Learning, The World Around Me, Creativity and Aesthetics (including Drama, Art and Music), Maths for Life incorporated into Thinking & Problem Solving.

At Ash Meadow School, we have adapted the EQUALS semi-formal curriculum to suit the needs of our learners with Autism and/or severe learning difficulties and incorporated 'Maths for Life programme alongside Numicon. Their learning is developed through Curiosity, Interaction and Engagement and includes specific links to British Values and SMSC at a level appropriate to their area of development. The delivery of the curriculum outlined will be adapted to the communication pathway of each pupil and will take the length of time need for each individual pupil.

Careful planning and schemes of work ensure that there is a breadth and balance of subjects being taught across the year, including independence/ life skills and the curriculum covers relationships, sex education, basic first aid and health education including health and mental well-being. Our curriculum is further enriched through specialist provision such as art tutors and sports coaches. We follow the Read Write Inc programme and may add to this if any of our students require additional or alternative phonics support. Ash Meadow School is a specialist provision for communication and interaction and our staff are highly skilled in utilising a range of communication methods to support pupils to access the curriculum, examples include Makaton, Board Maker symbols, objects of reference (OOR), sensory cues and alternative augmentative communication aids such as Speak for Yourself Application on an iPad or equivalent. We adopt a total communication approach.

The curriculum is developmental in nature and open to personalisation. At Ash Meadow School, we recognise that some students may remain learning within the Engagement Curriculum for a significant amount of time and therefore it is not directly related to either age or key stage although there are clear, personalised progression routes. See table below.



Pre-Engagement	Engagement	Engagement into key stage	Engagement for life plus AQA units.	
			Work experience within the school with support. Work experience within the local community with support	
Engagement	Engagement into Key Stage	Key Stage 1	AQA Units	AQA Entry Level
			Work experience within the local community with support	

Subject Areas	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Subject Areas	CURIOSITY	INTERACTION	ENGAGEMENT
		Phonics	
Read Write Inc	Set 1 Sounds Students will be working within- Set 1 letter sounds- Sounds with one letter, sounds with two letters (special friends), simple words containing these sounds, by sound blending, read words carefully levelled Red, Green and Purple storybooks. Letter Sounds: m,a,s,d,t,l,n,p,g,o,c,k,u,b,f,e,l,h,sh,r,j,v,u,w,th,,z,ch,qu,x, ng and nk Literacy, ICT	Set 1 Sounds Students will be working within- Set 1 letter sounds- Sounds with one letter, sounds with two letters (special friends), simple words containing these sounds, by sound blending, read words carefully levelled Red, Green and Purple storybooks. Letter Sounds: m,a,s,d,t,l,n,p,g,o,c,k,u,b,f,e,l,h,sh,r,,j,v,u,w,th,,z,ch,qu,x,n g and nk Literacy, ICT	Set 1 Sounds Students will be working within- Set 1 letter sounds- Sounds with one letter, sounds with two letters (special friends), simple words containing these sounds, by sound blending, read words carefully levelled Red, Green and Purple storybooks. Letter Sounds: m,a,s,d,t,l,n,p,g,o,c,k,u,b,f,e,l,h,sh,r,,j,v,u,w,th,,z,ch,qu,x, ng and nk Literacy, Music
		Maths	
Maths For Life	Using Number and the number system- whole numbers Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 20 Order and compare numbers up to 20 Using Common Measures, Shape and Space Recognise coins and notes and write them in numbers with the correct symbols (£ & p), where these involves numbers up to 20 Read 12 hour digital and analogue clock in hours	Using Number and the number system- whole numbers Use whole numbers to count up to 20 items including zero Add numbers which total up to 20 Using Common Measures, Shape and Space Know the number of days in the week, months and seasons in a year; Be able to name and sequence	Using Number and the number system- whole numbers Subtract numbers from numbers up to 20 Recognise and interpret the symbols +, - and = appropriately Using Common Measures, Shape and Space Identify and recognise common 2-D and 3-D shapes including circle, cube, rectangle (inc. square) and triangle



Handling Information and data Read numerical information from lists

Maths, PSHE, Literacy-Communication & Language. ICT

Describe and make comparisons in words between measures of items including size, length, width, height, weight, and capacity

Handling Information and data

Handling Information and data Sort and classify objects using a single criterion

Maths, PSHE, Literacy-Communication & Language, ICT

Use every day positional vocabulary to describe position and direction including left, right, in front, behind, under and above.

Handling Information and data
Read and draw simple charts and diagrams including

a tally chart, block diagram/graph

Maths, PSHE, Literacy-Communication & Language, ICT

My COMMUNICATION

Explore different ways to communicate Demonstrating a curiosity

Read Write Inc. program, recognising signs and symbols in school and the local community, intensive interaction, Colourful Semantics, motivate students to communicate through a plethora of experiences such as requesting favourite items, food, activities.

My Communication

Communicating information Interacting with others

Read Write Inc. program, emergent writing, using symbols, likes/dislikes/intensive interaction, personal reading, functions of text, provide a plethora of **means** to communicate such as Makaton, AAC, verbal language, symbols.

Actively sharing and applying information Interacting in activities

Read Write Inc. program, using iPads/symbols/ speech, communication aids, emergent writing including mark making in sensory resources, read and write for an audience, make sure the student always has a communicative partner available.

Interactive singing/ signing, total communication approach during Enrichment Day activities, work experience.

My Outdoor School

(encourage students to lead learning with greater independence by

Explore the outdoor school/environment using all senses.

Experience seasonal and weather changes.
Gain confidence in touching, smelling,
listening and looking.

To know what can be tasted safely.
Support the students to make free choices
from activities that they enjoy such as

- Map-making
- Matching games
- Scavenger hunts

Sustain attention in a range of outdoor activities

Students will lead learning with greater independence by choosing activities such as mud kitchen, sensory music board, parachute, climbing wall, games

Trust games – all lean back and no one falls over.

Tracking games – following ropes, ribbons, trail of flour, finding glow sticks, trail of shells or seaweed.

Transfer skills in a range of activities using the natural resources around school.

Read stories around a campfire (see SOW and risk assessment), enact stories outside some examples include

- We're Going on a Bear Hunt
- Room on the Broom
- The Gruffalo
- Stickman
- Sharing a Shell



providing a range
of activities/ games
for them to choose
from)

- Orienteering
- Sports games

To move safely around the outdoor school environment.

To find my way from one place to another.

Setting trails for others to track, using natural materials to create arrows and markers.

Take students outdoors for usual lessons – planning is the key.

- Harry Potter
- Macbeth

To understand and look after the environment.

To make homes for creatures that live in the outdoor school.

To protect plants and maintain the outdoor environment.

My PHYSICAL WELL-BEING

Exploring activities

- Physical Activities
- Mental Health and Well-Being including bullying and peer on peer abuse.
- Heathy Eating and Health Lifestyle,
- PE/ Games/ Sports & Aquatics
- Internet safety and harm including cyber-bullying

Basic First Aid course, explore own interests by engaging in Enrichment Day each week, make choices about likes/ dislikes/ interests. Self-awareness, self-care, support and safety

Sustaining attention in activities

- Physical Activities
- Mental Health and Well-Being including bullying and peer on peer abuse.
- Heathy Eating and Healthy Lifestyle,
- PE/ Games/ Sports & Aquatics
- Internet safety and harm including cyber-bullying

Recognising the value of self, engage in whole school or group activities and display work/ photos (exhibition – writing competitions)
Interact with others during PE sessions.

Transferring attention in activities

- Physical Activities
- Mental Health and Well-Being including bullying and peer on peer abuse.
- Heathy Eating and Health Lifestyle
- PE/ Games/ Sports & Aquatics
- Internet safety and harm including cyber-bullying

Engage in Enrichment activities, share likes with other students by engaging in group activities such as café/ shop, PE, swimming. Set up in-house, transfer these skills to real life situations, make choices, communicate needs.

Science

Science-Environmental Science

Biology

How do different seasons change my local environment?

Visit various locations in different weathers/seasons
- natural, man-made - using all

Senses- collecting drawing, photographs, explore warm/cold, how to protect themselves, clothing, record colours seen, observe trees and how they change- collecting evidence, animals located in the location.

Explore weathers, collect natural resources.

Plant Diversity

Chemistry

Living and Non-Living

Visit at least 2 locations- school and in community. Make comparisons living and non- living.

Everyday Materials

Visit various locations looking at different materials e.g wood, stone, glass, plastic Record their findings- drawing, pictures, writing, recording in charts.

Coat Shopping

Stories linking to real life coat problems.

Physics

A light introduction

Exploring light and shadow by identifying light sources in the locations they visit. The effect the different light sources have on objects around them (creation of shadows, darkness). Investigate, measure and record findings in two contrasting environments locally. Investigate how shadows are formed, suggest how shadows can be changed in size and clarity, explore with cameras with flash on/off.

More Exploring Light



Plant detectives- visiting locations- colours, identification, unusual plants, 'identify groups of flowers, plant, tree- use senses, sizes, shapes.

Literacy, Maths, Design Technology

Visit shops—Listen to a welcome talk about health/ and safety talk about behaviour in the shop. Explore shops with coats available—have a list of criteria's they are looking for, imagine a character relating to the coats, discuss how the seasonal changes affect what coats will be worn throughout, how are they grouped in the shops, shortlist coats to fit a criteria for Narnia or other fictitious child. Evidence with photographs, explore labels for washing and record data. Good value for money?

ICT, PSHE, Maths, Literacy

Extend ideas of exploring light, shadow and colour, as well as transparency of materials and how differences in these properties changes materials are used for particular purposes. Encourage to explore light, colour and materials, both visually, and using a range of equipment and technology, such as digital cameras, data-loggers, tablet computers and thermometers.

Earth, Sun and Shadows

Explore the concept that shadows of objects change during the day, Visit locations where shadows can be observed changing over time, and if possible make a visit to a local sundial. Use observations of shadows to make decisions about the best area locally to create their own sun-map and why this might be. Vote on the best location to go through day to observe and gather data from sun maps they have created.

Maths, ICT, PSHE

My Play and Leisure

Exploring physical objects and environments

Social dimensions of Levels of play

1. Solitary

free play

MY PLAY AND

LEISURE

Sensorimotor
 Relational

2. Parallel3. Shared

- 3. Functional
- 4. Turn-taking
- 4. Symbolic
- 5. Co-operative
- 5. Socio-dramatic

Outdoor learning and exploration through sand/water/resources, one to one games, outdoor learning.

Functions of play and leisure

- experience interaction with others
- learn about social interaction
- practice and develop social communication

Sustaining attention in play

Emergent writing in sand, water play, attend with group, board games, card games, matching games, any game where the outcome does not rely on others.

Parallel and/or shared play, practise turntaking, sensory centre, parks, playgrounds.

Functions of play and leisure

- encourage in the making of friendships
- learn new skills in a safe environment
- explore own body and senses
- develop kinaesthetic senses
- explore the surrounding world

Transferring leisure/ play skills

Role play areas linked to theme, enrichment activities such as photography, art, sensory play, ICT, café role-play, interests of the student may help them to request activities such as cycling, climbing, sports etc. Give plenty of time to the students to interact and lead the engagement e.g., picking up a bat and using it independently.

Functions of play and leisure

- develop a safe understanding of emotions of both self and others
- develop fine and gross motor skills
- develop flexibility of thought
- develop Theory of Mind
- develop Central Coherence

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My MUSIC

My DANCE

Exploring music activities

Through a range of musical elements such as tempo or rhythm teaching music to raise awareness; becoming familiar with; focus attention on; a sensory, immersive, visceral experience; an immediate and reactive response; sharing with others; apprehension; anticipation; experiencing a range of feelings; participation in presentation and/or performance. These encounters are how we first make contact with the aesthetic.

Sustaining attention in music activities by exploration of elements

Through a range of musical elements such as listening and composing teaching music to raise recognition of the process; building sequential memory; playing; learning with and from others; experimenting; making connections, recognising same and different; discovering possibilities; coping with new or multiple encounters; expressing a range of feelings; sustaining attention; persevering; contributing; contributing to presentation and/or performance.

Transferring skills in music activities

Students will be practising and refining using musical and non-musical instruments; rehearsing; generalising; consolidating; building on previous learning; making something new; reforming, elaborating, embroidering and embellishing; arranging and rearranging; re-forming; appreciation, reflection, appraisal, practising and refining; collaboration and negotiation; independence resolution; understanding meaning and significance; interpreting a range of feelings; purposeful and focused presentation and/or performance.

Exploring mindfulness and well-being through movement

Enhanced awareness of the movement objective linked to one of the dance elements.

Focusing attention on a possible stimulus. Immediate visceral reaction to a stimulus. Responding to questions on the movement objective.

Imitating actions.

Participating in the group.

Responding to tone of voice/use of accompaniment to influence the atmosphere.

Encountering own body movements and others.

Establish movement themes; use of stimulus to capture movement themes; warm-ups – bend, stretch, twist.

Sustaining attention in a range of mindfulness and movement activities through dance

Discovering new possibilities by trying out actions, and varying the movement dynamics. Imitating an action by the teacher or a peer. Initiating movement ideas by varying the dynamics.

Sustaining attention through an ebb and flow of activity.

Persevering to try a new move.

Co-operating with others in partner/small group experiences.

Awareness of own body movements and others.

Expand possibilities relating to movement themes. Enhance quality through contrasting dynamics. Encourage extension, poise and elevation, transferring weight onto different body parts and in relation to the floor.

Transferring skills in a range of mindfulness and movement activities through dance

Selecting and combining movements into sequences.

Improving the sequence to make it interesting through use of contrasts, and to express the meaning to an audience.
Collaborating and negotiating moves with peers.

Deciding on a clear starting and finishing position.

Synchronising moves with others.

Fitting steps to musical accompaniment – live or pre-recorded.

Practising movement sequences so they are fluent, controlled, poised and/or have elevation and transitions are smooth.
Rehearsing sequences to synchronise with accompaniment.

Creating characters and/or performing

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Di igniti atales				
			moves meaningfully to convey a narrative. Sharing the dance with others – memorising moves accurately. Developing an understanding of own body and others. Combining material into phrases/sequences. Rehearsing and perfecting – presenting and reflecting.	
	My Ind	ependence and life skills		
My Independence PSHE/RSE	Exploration of independence skills Dressing/ undressing Changing and Growing Shopping Cooking/ Food Technology Travel Training Healthy Living/ Exercise Self-care, support, and safety Managing feelings Body parts, clothes for weather, develop fine/gross motor skills by dressing and undressing, understanding sequence, exploring self-organisation skills, safety and privacy when dressing and undressing, walking with increased independence around school. Riding a tricycle or bicycle with extra support and safety. Exchanging simple items in preparation for shopping.	Focussing independence skills Dressing/ undressing Changing and Growing Shopping Cooking/ Food Technology Travel Training Healthy Living/ Exercise Self-care, support, and safety Managing feelings Swimming/ changing with increased independence. Exchanging money for items in the classroom. Sports/changing, interacting with peers and adults to play sports games/gather resources using symbols. Walking outside of school with an adult holding hands or another appropriate means of safety. Using a bicycle safely on a track.	 Applying independence skills Dressing/ undressing Changing and Growing Shopping Cooking/ Food Technology Travel Training Healthy Living/ exercise Self-care, support, and safety Managing feelings Shopping, cooking, paying for items, measuring, following instructions, health and safety, cultural foods, making choices, opening and closing items, developing spreading/chopping skills, hygiene/hand washing. Walking outside of school independently. Using a bicycle independently. Paying for items in the shop by exchanging money with cashier or using card. 	
MY ART	Exploring art activities To encounter, copy and continue a pattern using a variety of objects and materials. Introduce the element of both 2D and 3D shape, form and space. Encountering differing artists who use food, junk etc. to create images of faces.	Sustaining attention in art activities Exploring the work of differing artists who use their wider imagination to create images of faces. Encountering coloured collage, layering, and both positive and negative spaces.	Transferring skills in art activities Developing understanding of coloured collage, layering, and both positive and negative spaces. Develop an understanding of texture and painting. Learning to be free within the artistic process.	

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junk etc. to create images of faces.



	Enter work into art exhibitions and competitions throughout the year.	Experiencing and interacting with materials to create facial collages. Enter work into art exhibitions and competitions throughout the year.	Developing understanding and creating facial collages. Enter work into art exhibitions and competitions throughout the year.		
MY DRAMA	Exploring drama activities Encountering Sensory engagement with items for the drama. Participating in symbolic transformation. Accepting roles and symbols, consenting to make-believe. Notional role taking. Sharing joint attention on a riveting item (prop or teacher in role). Fastness of rules, everyone to 'play the game' turn-taking. Becoming part of a group.	Sustaining attention in drama activities Interaction Participating in a range of drama conventions independently or with support. Showing initiative. Sustaining the make-believe in short then longer play sequences based on familiar social scenarios and routines. Interacting with teacher(s) in role and/or peers within the make-believe role playing (assuming a character).	Transferring skills in drama activities Understanding and creating Dealing with implications of the drama world created. Participating in/generating complex, flexible imaginary play sequences. Collaborating and negotiating with peers in and out of role. Engaging with the significance of a key moment. Making links to real life and learning from the content of the drama. Considering how the drama was created to learn about the theatre form. Using the theatre form to capture and share a meaning with others.		
	My Thinking and Problem Solving				
Thinking and Problem Solving	Exploring, memory building and recognition of a problem Introduction of the task, to be involved in tasks such as getting favourite toy, snack, drink, iPad, sensory resource etc. from wherever it is regularly kept at a regular time(s) of the day. This might be prompted by a visual timetable or now/next. Physical or verbal prompting to get the item may be needed, but must be involved in the process many, many times.	Recognition of a problem and finding solution. The student identifies a problem because they cannot find the item or activity that they are looking for. The teacher and staff are looking for students to go to the cupboard, drawer, toy tray to get 'my favourite' without being told to do so. Many situations outside such as turn on the trampoline, finding items such as the bikes and helmets.	Repeat the activity throughout the day in a range of different situations. The main concept of generalisation is that the student will go to		



THE WORLD AROUND ME

Seeking experiences Change, history and the passing of time. Festivals and celebrations.

To prepare for change on timetables/finished.

To observe events specific to each season. To experience events that are specific to seasons.

Use supporting evidence to confirm seasonal changes. SMSC BV.

Focussing experiences Change, history and the passing of time. Festivals and celebrations.

Experience giving and receiving of gifts, making decorations, Calendar of Culture, visit to places of worship. Thematic approach, SMSC and British Values.

Sharing experiences Change, history and the passing of time. Festivals and celebrations.

Look at how other things have changes over time, school, technology, houses, roads, transport.

Continue with Calendar of culture and share experiences with other groups. SMSC BV.

My Citizenship PSHE/RSE

Exploring SRE activities

- 1. Knowing my body
- 2. Knowing me
- 3. Private and public
- 4. Touching and allowing others to touch me
- 5. Forming relationships
- 6. Sexual intimacy with another person Key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body, particularly from age 9 through to age 11, including physical and emotional changes.

Menstrual wellbeing including the key facts about the menstrual cycle.

Sustaining attention in SRE activities

- 1. Knowing my body
- 2.Knowing me
- 3.Private and public
- 4. Touching and allowing others to touch me
- 5. Forming relationships
- 6.Sexual intimacy with another person

What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context).

The concept of privacy and the implications of it for both children and adults; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe.

Each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact.

Transferring skills in SRE activities

- 1. Knowing my body
- 2. Knowing me
- 3. Private and public
- 4. Touching and allowing others to touch me
- 5. Forming relationships
- 6. Sexual intimacy with another person

How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know. How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult. How to ask for advice or help for themselves or others, and to keep trying until they are heard.

How to report concerns or abuse, and the vocabulary and confidence needed to do so. Where to get advice e.g. family, school and/or other sources.

