

BLACKFRIARS ACADEMY CURRICULUM PLAN



CLASS - DUDSON

AUTUMN 2024

When deciding what Anchors we wanted to develop as a team of staff working in a school for young people with varying needs and abilities, our starting point was 'What is the point?' – why would we choose 'this' as something that anchors all other learning?

In order to answer this question, we went back to our core moral purpose as a school which we believe is to educate our students, because education has the power to transform lives.

By educating our young people, we can help them to be more independent. For some this may mean helping them to use their 'Voice' to ensure their views, hopes and aspirations for what they want 'their world' to be like are heard. For others, this means that they can become more aware of the environment around them.

We are starting our academic year by focusing upon the anchor of '**IN THE BEGINNING**'

This gives us an opportunity, as a whole school, to explore who we are and where we have come from. Students have moved to a new class or a new school and the anchor encourages us to think about everything that has gone before – years in primary school, academic years at Blackfriars etc, to think about lessons learned and how they can be applied to the new and exciting things to come. We will also be looking ahead, developing an understanding that every day is a new day, starting with positive thoughts and expectations.

We will develop a 'Preparation for Adulthood' profile that not only establishes where we currently are but also your and our parent/carer aspirations for the future.

In the Immersive Pathway, we will be focusing upon understanding each child as an individual, their strengths and needs, their likes and dislikes so that moving forwards. We have the knowledge of how we can immerse them in our exciting curriculum which will promote their tolerance, engagement, communication, independence and understanding.

Across all sessions students will have the opportunity to explore, realise, anticipate and some will show persistence and initiation in a range of learning opportunities that will extend their knowledge.

Session	Content to be covered
Greeting	<p>Communication is the foundation of Dudson class and the work we do in the daily sessions. Our sessions are all tailored and adapted, so all students have the opportunity to develop their skills continuously.</p> <p>We use Greeting as an opportunity for students to identify themselves and others and share news to enable us to learn more about each other. This also occurs through the shared News Group, which focuses on Weekend News communicated via Showbie from parents, at the beginning of each week.</p> <p>Greeting and News are structured, repeated sessions which take place multiple times during the week. The sessions are immersing and purposeful for the students through song, visuals, and personalisation. We work on who is in each day, days of the week, what activities the students are participating in that day, and how they are feeling.</p>

Sensory Maths	Students in Dudson will have regular opportunities to partake in an informal, pre-Maths sessions, on a weekly basis. These sessions will involve games, songs and problem-solving activities, which will introduce the basic language and skills of Maths to students. Communication will again be a core aspect of our pre-Maths sessions, alongside opportunities to work on our gross and fine motor skills through engaging, and practical activities.
Home Cooking	<p>Students in Dudson will have the opportunity to partake in Home Cooking sessions, where they will be introduced to new flavours, textures, and smells. Students will use different utensils and equipment to expand their tolerance of trying new things.</p> <p>Students will be guided and supported by adults from the class, to support these skills linked to their Preparation for Adulthood outcomes.</p>
Sensory Play	Within Dudson, Sensory Play will have a weekly slot within the class timetable and will be an experience which is integral part of learning. This session will give the students time to explore a carousel of various sensory objects, toys, and activities to gain knowledge of their likes and dislikes, with various levels of support from a familiar adult – with the aim of encouraging as much independent exploration and engagement as possible.
Sensology, TacPac, Cosmo	<p>As part of our weekly timetable, students in Dudson will have the opportunity to take part in a range of sensory sessions, including Sensology, Tac Pac, and the Cosmo Switches. The aim of these sessions is to provide students with the opportunity for sensory exploration, and for the students to become more aware of their senses.</p> <p>This will be by a more relaxed Sensology session enjoyed as a whole class experience, and the more structured approach of Cosmo Switches and Tac Pac, linked to games, music, communication and their more intensive one-to-one interaction with a familiar adult.</p>
Sensory English	<p>Each week, students will be immersed in a sensory story, which will engage the students in a range of learning experiences to develop further their communication and interactive skills.</p> <p>The story chosen will link to the school anchor of ‘In the Beginning’, which will set the scene for our new academic year. The story will be told through a repeated, multi-sensory approach and within each session students will practise skills to allow them to follow and respond using different communication aids, and by using repetition they will develop recall skills, and anticipate patterns.</p>
Sensory Art	As our anchor this term is ‘In the Beginning’, Art will be focused on the first season of our year – Autumn. We will then follow the seasons throughout the year as a basis for our Art curriculum. We will record the changes of the season through different media and materials, exploring the textures, smells and sounds that the materials can make. Art will provide many opportunities for communication development and choice making, which are core skills for our students to work on.

Sensory PE
(AOC)

In the Autumn term, the Immersive Pathway will be concentration on the range of our PE concept abilities linked into our whole school anchor of 'In the Beginning'. We will continue the consistent theme of their Agility, Balance, Co-Ordination activities to maintain and develop transferable skills from PE to everyday life. We can then use the sensory activities to enhance their personal wellbeing, to feel good and function well. All activities are geared towards their personal EHCP and Preparation for Adulthood outcomes. Therapeutic activities will take place through Sensory Circuits and Rebound Therapy, so to cover our Personal, Physical, Social, Cognitive, Creative and Health abilities.

CLASS - DUDSON