

BLACKFRIARS ACADEMY CURRICULUM PLAN

CLASS – ROYAL DOULTON

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 Questioning Pathway, we will focus upon resilience and developing our ability to reflect and move on.

Subject	Content to be covered
English	<p>Students will consider the anchor 'In the Beginning' across a range of- Fiction/Poetry /non-fiction linked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Autobiographical Writing – All About Me• Biographical Writing• Creative writing – The Quest• Instructional Writing• Greek Myths <p>They will consider how in the beginning myths and legends were used to explain natural events, such as fire, day and night, seasons of the year and good / evil.</p> <p>Students will recreate the effects identified through their reading in their own writing understanding the range of non-fiction text types including: writing to explain, instruct and persuade as well as writing creatively using alliteration, simile, metaphor and hyperbole as appropriate in their written work.</p> <p>Students will learn the importance of oral storytelling, key ancient manuscripts and the key changes brought about by invention of the printing press, through to the digital age.</p>

	<p>We are studying this to give our students an insight and experience of the literature and ideas that have shaped our past and inform our present. Underpinned by our anchor, 'In the Beginning' we will focus upon identifying in literature resilience as well as identifying the ability to reflect and move on in both non-fiction biographical texts and in fictional character.</p> <p>Key words to be taught include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resilience • Reflection • Emotion • Quest • Connection • Alliteration • Metaphor • Simile • Hyperbole <p>Key Questions asked include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ What do we mean by the term 'In the beginning'? ✓ What is a sequence? ✓ What is a time line?
<p>Maths</p>	<p>This unit of work will build upon students' knowledge of number operations and order, as well as developing functional maths skills in practical and written activities. For students working at level 1 and above this will also include increasing their knowledge of prime numbers, factors and roots.</p> <p>As part of our anchor 'In the Beginning', students will be considering the history of number, as well as being encouraged to reflect on their previous learning journey, considering lessons learned and how these 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 and will focus upon developing resilience and our ability to reflect and move on.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>Throughout Science this term, we will be using the school anchor of 'In the Beginning' to focus our learning on living organisms.</p> <p>The curriculum will build students' knowledge to learn about cells and their functions, such as through hands-on experiments using microscopes and interactive discussions where students can observe and compare plant and animal cells. This foundational knowledge prepares students to explore human and plant reproduction. Utilising the Land Based Studies area, students will engage in practical learning, where they are encouraged to explore first hand, conduct experiments and collect data.</p> <p>Studying the structure and function of living organisms provides insights into their origins and evolutionary history, shedding light on processes that have shaped life on Earth from its beginnings.</p>
<p>Art</p>	<p>Students in Royal Doulton will be asking the question of the many reasons of 'why we make art?'</p> <p>Art can be an expression of emotion but also a medium for communicating ideas. It can act as therapeutic relief, a conduit for self-expression, or simply a way to appreciate life's beauty. Through art we can chronicle history, embody societal values and comment on political or social events.</p>

	<p>They will focus on the human need for self-expression, and be shown examples of the different ways that some artists create self-portraits, sometimes incorporating comments, which will become the inspiration for their own mixed media work.</p>
Computer Science	<p>This unit of work will build upon students' knowledge of computer systems, including coding and computer language, working with Binary Code and creating simple programs. For students working at level 1/2 this will include learning different coding languages and vocabulary and applying these to create programs that interact with the user.</p> <p>As part of our anchor 'In the Beginning', students will be considering the origins of computer systems as well as being encouraged to reflect on their previous learning journey, considering lessons learned and how these 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 and will focus upon developing resilience and our ability to reflect and move on.</p>
Performing Arts	<p>This autumn term, Royal Doulton will focus on the theme 'In the Beginning', with a particular emphasis on the origins of rock and roll music. Students will explore the history of rock and roll, learning about its cultural impact and key figures in the genre.</p> <p>Students will also engage in practical music sessions, where they will learn how to play rock and roll music, developing their performance skills in rhythm, melody, and ensemble playing.</p>
Home Cooking	<p>As our anchor is 'In the Beginning' we will be focusing on cooking breakfast items as this is a really important life skill that will set students up for their day. They will be learning how to read and understand a recipe, to know what equipment is called and how to use it, to apply heat in different ways, measuring and weighing, using safe techniques when using equipment and preparing an array of meals.</p> <p>We will once again be learning about why it is important to wash our hands throughout the cooking process, understanding the dangers in the kitchen and how to be safe, understanding cross contamination and how to treat burns & cuts. Through all this students will gain valuable life skills, which will prepare them for adulthood.</p>
Humanities: RE and History	<p>RE learning will analyse and compare the evidence and arguments used when engaging with questions about the nature and existence of God focusing on the Bible story of Creation and then the Big Bang theory – can science and faith be reconciled?</p> <p>At the end of term, we will illuminate our dark winter with a Festival of Light, exploring Hannukah, Christmas and Diwali.</p> <p>In History students will go back to the chronological beginning of our curriculum and investigate what life was like in Roman Britain 43-410 AD. We will address the question: What have the Romans done for us?</p>
PE	<p>For the first half of the Autumn term the Questioning Pathway will be developing their Personal abilities. Physical literacy is fundamental to this term's anchor of 'In the Beginning'. Each student will be supported to develop an understanding of their strengths and also their areas of development,</p>

	<p>helping them to feel good and function well, supporting their personal well-being.</p> <p>We will begin the new academic year with a Multi skills unit. This allows us to assess their retained skills and guide us on their development towards their EHCP and Preparation for Adulthood targets.</p> <p>For the second half of the term we will concentrate on their cognitive abilities. We will use problem solving activities and thinking games to again maintain and develop physical skills that are transferable to everyday life.</p>
<p>Preparation for Adulthood (PFA) lessons</p>	<p>Life skills are taught across the school to enable our students to be prepared for life after Blackfriars. Initially the students will identify their goals and aspirations for the future. These goals and aspirations will then frame the PFA lessons to promote learning in the four key areas of the PFA curriculum: independent living, health, leisure time, community inclusion & making friends and employability/volunteering.</p> <p>We will focus on life skills during the two PHSE days this term; the first a self-awareness day with a focus of who we are, likes and dislikes, talents and interests and the second a self-care support and safety day looking at how we look after ourselves and stay safe.</p>

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