

Communication

Communication is a priority area for all of the children. This may take many forms ranging from touch cues and objects of reference, to choice making and symbol use, right up to communication using CCS books and VOCAs.

SMSC

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development

Exploring beliefs, respecting faiths, learning about ourselves and others, understanding consequences, being encouraged to participate with others, respecting one another and respecting diversity.

PSHE

Personal, social, health and economic education

PSHE for our students is tailored to their particular needs. Being able to communicate thoughts, feelings and problems are given a high priority.

Early Years

The Early Years class is where children are welcomed and settled into our school. We work closely with parents supporting them to feel confident to leave their children in our care.



Alexander and his mummy

Tac Pac

Sensory stimuli programme particularly valuable for students with MSI/PMLD. Children learn to make associations between sounds and sensory experiences, and are encouraged to anticipate and to communicate their likes and dislikes.



Sensory Stories

Stories are brought to life using a variety of tactile and sensory resources. These may include, sounds and smells as well as objects to look at and feel.



Sensology

A program developed by Flo Longhorn, designed to stimulate and awaken the senses.



Sherborne

A movement based approach, which is rooted in the observation of how children play and move in the normal course of their development, and focusses on inputting movement experiences to children whose disabilities may have limited their opportunities to have those experiences.



Physical Activities

Every child has the opportunity to do at least one physical activity every day. These are incorporated into each pupil's individual timetable, and may include hydrotherapy, hippotherapy, rebound therapy, bike riding, walkers, standing slings, box sitting or personal physio programmes.



Rebound

This provides opportunities to feel their bodies move in different ways and feel the effects of their own independent movements, develop core strength and balance.



Aquatics

All children have a hydrotherapy programme, devised and monitored by the physio & aquatics team. All children, even those who need a ventilator, are supported to swim



Riding

Hippotherapy literally means 'treatment with the help of the horse'
It uses the movement of the horse to replicate the sensory and motor output of the human pelvis in walking. It helps to develop balance and posture as well as co-ordinate and control responses to the animal.



Workshops and Enrichment activities

Each term there are several workshops and enrichment activities which take place in school but are often led by outside visitors. These have included drumming workshops, multicultural storytellers, animals such as reptiles to touch and explore, and visiting artists leading art



Visitors from the local community

We have regular visits from Pets as Therapy PAT dogs and we also have visits from the local police, ambulance and fire services.



Trips and Visits

Each class has regular trips out ranging from adventure activities such as skiing, visits which tie in with topics such as exploring animals at the zoo, or outings aimed at developing life skills and interaction with the real world – such as children choosing and buying Christmas presents for their families.



Celebrations

Children are given the opportunity to learn about and participate in a variety of celebrations (both from our culture and from other cultures) including Diwali, Harvest Festival, Christmas and personal celebrations such as birthdays. We also have an annual celebration day, which has a focus on celebrating pupil achievements.



Messy Play

Messy play stimulates the senses and encourages active touch and exploration. It helps develop concepts of materials (e.g. wet, soft, etc.) and understanding of what objects are. Messy play can help children to overcome tactile defensiveness, as well as encouraging fine motor skills and independent hand movements.



Sensory Art and Craft

Art and craft offers a means for children to express themselves creatively, as well as providing opportunities for choice making and sensory experiences. Children can also make progress towards their Next Steps through creative art and craft activities. We have regular whole department creative art workshops.



Cookery

Cookery isn't about the finished product, it's about learning through the process. During a cooking session each child will be working on their own individual next steps and may, for example, be using fine motor skills, making choices or engaging in sensory play with the ingredients.



Music

Weekly music sessions led by our music teacher include creative, multi-sensory experiences and encourage freedom of expression.



Subject Specific Learning

More able students, where appropriate, work on numeracy literacy skills and other subject specific skills such as science. Activities are tailored to each child's specific learning needs, with a focus on developing functional skills such as use of money, telling the time and reading. E safety is taught to all pupils who can access the internet independently.



Sensory Studio

This environment allows children to develop their sensory awareness and explore using all of their senses. For children with sensory impairment it provides an opportunity to further develop and improve their sensory skills. Students can choose from a variety of sensory stimuli activities.



Driving

All pupils have the opportunity to explore powered driving using powered bases or our specially made powered platforms, which allow children to experience powered driving whilst still seated in their manual wheelchairs. Powered mobility for some is an important cause and effect activity, whilst for others it may lead to independent mobility.



Patchwork Farm

Children visit the farm once a week. They might learn to notice the animals, touch them gently and to feed them, with the activities depending on their individual learning needs.



Super Star Sid

We celebrate individual pupil's success and progress with a visit from Superstar Sid during our half-termly whole department assemblies.

Therapies

Integrated multidisciplinary therapy happens within each class which includes SaLT, OT and physiotherapy. Therapists carry out hands on therapy sessions with children and also help to ensure the skills learned in these sessions can be integrated into pupil's whole timetable.

Access Technology (inc Eye gaze technology)

Children use a range of methods to access computers and other resources, including switches and eye gaze technology, depending on their individual needs.
e-safety is taught to pupils who can access the internet

