

Alternative Provision

The Alternative Provision curriculum is designed to facilitate engagement and success for students who have found accessing the mainstream curriculum a significant challenge. Within the curriculum the aim is to build success with small steps so that we develop our young people to take responsibility for their learning and their future choices.

We aim to maximise opportunities for our students by utilising a range of learning and alternative activities across our curriculum.

How is the curriculum planned?

The curriculum is planned to reflect the core offer in English, Maths and Science; alongside additional opportunities for study of other subject areas such as Art and Food Tech. The curriculum is also planned to incorporate those soft skills such as emotional literacy and personal development via 1:1 sessions, small group work and other related activities.

All students also have the opportunity to study Prince's Trust which allows the development of various skills across a variety of areas.

Within the curriculum there is also opportunity to develop skills and confidence through access to a range of activities including but not exclusively sailing, residentials, music learning and PE. In a number of these activities we engage with outside providers such as Portsmouth Sailing Centre and Portsmouth Football Club (Pompey in the Community).

Life skills and regulating emotions are key aspects of work that underpin the above curriculum and are fundamental to student success. As a further branch of our wider opportunities on offer, we encourage engagement in a range of off-site activities and trips during our Personal Development days.

How is the curriculum delivered/taught?

Our curriculum is delivered using a range of methods. Students are supported in their core subject learning by specific lead sessions from key mainstream subject specialists in Maths, English and Science.

This work is further developed via follow-up learning led by our Alternative Provision staff, facilitating bespoke programmes of study and timetables which can be adapted to each student depending on their individual needs and targets.

Further programmes such as the Prince's Trust are led and delivered exclusively by our Alternative Provision staff in line with guidance and support from course moderators and advisors. We engage widely with further outside providers in our local community to offer specialist support in specialist activities such as sailing and PE opportunities.

The range of events and activities on offer through our Personal Development days are delivered via Alternative Provision staff or specialist teachers depending on the activity.

Throughout the curriculum offer for our Alternative Provision students we ensure a close consistency of key staff to support the trusting relationships which are fundamental to the success of our students.

How is the curriculum assessed?

Assessment is supported by all staff involved in the delivery and support of our curriculum.

Specialist subject teachers take responsibility for marking, feedback and tracking of progress in line with our usual mainstream processes. External assessment and examinations are completed towards qualifications for students including Functional Skills opportunities in English and Maths alongside GCSE qualifications and other available opportunities.

Additional feedback regarding progress and wider, more holistic engagement is provided via half-termly progress review meetings for each student, with subsequent targets agreed by students, parents and staff. These review meetings, along with continued and consistent communication with parents, are key to ensuring that opportunities to build success and sustained progress are maximised throughout.