

Work Experience

Rationale

The opportunity to develop and apply learning within and about the workplace is important so that students will be enabled to generalise previously taught skills and learn new skills within meaningful workplace contexts. This will combine work experience placements alongside work related and work based skills work. For our more able students work experience also helps to address the transfer from educational provision to adult services and the move towards finding meaningful, supported employment

During the programme students develop the following Personal, Learning and Thinking skills:

- Independent enquiry
- Self-management
- Reflective learning
- Effective participation
- Creative thinking
- Team working
- Applying English, maths and ICT to real world contexts.

Accreditation

Students work experience can contribute to both AQA Unit Awards and ASDAN Towards Independence modules.

Key concepts and Processes

1: **WORK RELATED**

Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of skills necessary to operate effectively within the workplace. This will include opportunities to explore subjects such as appropriate dress for a variety of working environments, the importance of time keeping and effective social interaction at work. It is expected that this aspect of the curriculum will be approached from the perspective of integrating functional skills as well as the students own interests and aspirations.

2: **WORK BASED PLACEMENTS**

Students will be provided with a variety of opportunities to experience the working environment, both within school and within the wider community. The

expectation is that for some students this will be focussed on exploring the sensory stimuli on offer in the workplace, whilst for others it may involve regular visits to long term placements. As with all aspects of provision the emphasis will be on ensuring that the individual student's needs are met in a meaningful and relevant way, including the level of support needed from staff on the placement.

CURRICULUM LINKS

PSHE

Economic Wellbeing and Financial Capability

Work experience allows students to develop their economic understanding and financial capability.

Personal Wellbeing

Work experience raises students' aspirations and develops their ability to reflect on their own strengths and achievements. They gain practical experience of decision making, managing risk, negotiating and working with others.

ENGLISH

Speaking and Listening

Students have the opportunity to speak and listen in different contexts. They speak, listen and respond to other students, workplace staff and the general public.

Reading

Students may read a variety of non-fiction texts in the process of researching for their placement.

Writing

Students write in a variety of different contexts including taking notes, filling in forms and completing their work experience logs.

MATHEMATICS

Applications and Implications of Mathematics

Students will apply their mathematical skills to 'real' situations.

ICT

Capability

Students may use a wide range of ICT skills in the workplace.