Mulberry Class Rationale

Mulberry Class consists of 10 pupils ranging from Year 5 to Year 7. The pupils form an Upper Key Stage 2 cohort and follow the National Curriculum personalised to meet the needs of every pupil. Currently some pupils are non-subject specific learners, whose learning targets come from our own non subject specific framework. Some pupils have PBSPs to support them in their learning and activities throughout school. The children complete work in both classrooms that we have use of; a mixture of desk-based work and sensory sessions.

We have an exciting topic-based school curriculum, with a broad theme for every term that influences learning across different subjects. Afternoon lessons are grouped into subject value areas called; Community, Challenge, Individuality and Creativity. Our previous themes have included broad and exciting ideas such as Superstars, How Things Work and Celebrations. All these opportunities prepare pupils for the next step in their educational journey.

We use Evidence for Learning to record, track and assess pupil progress. Class teachers have access to their own iPads and take photographic evidence as well as written notes on learning taking place in the classroom. Each pupil has personal learning goals (PLGs), which they work towards in the mornings and on Wednesday afternoons. Pupils are on different pathways to support our school reading policy. These learning goals are linked to learning objectives on Evidence for Learning.

Many of our pupils are strong visual and tactile learners, so we use a variety of teaching resources to engage them, including Signalong, songs and videos, physical objects and learning through handling different materials in cooking/baking/making. Pupils’ communication needs are supported in individualised ways and can include – visual timetables/routines, communication books, PECS, symbols, photographs and traffic lights.

We access the school hall for P.E, as well as having smaller groups attending a communication group or our library. Some of our pupils also use the school’s hydrotherapy pool for swimming, this is provided in small groups on a rotation. When appropriate, we take learning activities outside to do outdoor maths, P.E or Challenge and Creativity activities such as planting seeds or collecting natural materials.

We have a reward system called The Proud Cloud in class and each pupil has their own photo that can move across the clouds and, if the reach the rainbow, they get to choose a song at home time as a reward.

Class teachers communicate with parents daily or weekly through home-school diaries, emails and phone calls. Teachers also post Facebook updates with photos to show the days learning.

The entire class staff team are vigilant about our pupils’ safeguarding needs and any concerns are promptly recorded on body maps, CPOMS or Iris and shared with the safeguarding lead. We work with a range of professionals/ multi agencies including SaLT, OT, Physiotherapists and Music therapists to support pupils and prepare them for the next stage of their development.