

Key Stage 3 Curriculum Overview

At The Observatory School, we deliver a carefully sequenced curriculum specifically developed to meet the needs of our pupils. The overall purpose of our curriculum is to **prepare pupils for adulthood** through a positive and supportive framework that helps to develop:

- **Confident individuals** - who lead safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- **Successful learners** - who enjoy school, make great progress and achieve a range of qualifications
- **Responsible citizens** - who make productive contributions to society

To enable our pupils to be **confident and resilient individuals** we:

- Provide a specialist and highly personalised curriculum that promotes personal development through the phases
- Implement a focused PSHE & RSE Policy that equips pupils with the knowledge required to understand themselves physically, emotionally, socially and sexually
- Offer a wide range of interventions for those who require additional support
- Work with a different agencies to enhance the school offer and ensure that work extends beyond the school day

To enable our pupils to be **successful learners** we:

- Deliver quality first teaching, which removes barriers to learning
- Use a specialist teaching pedagogy combined with subject specific pedagogy
- Carefully sequence learning to support the acquisition of knowledge over time
- Operate a whole school emotional regulation strategy
- Actively engage with pupils' EHCPs

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To enable our pupils to be **responsible citizens** we:

- Plan activities that support the development of social skills and social communication
- Explicitly teach strategies that support self-regulation
- Employ the use of Restorative Practice to develop empathetic and caring pupils
- Raise aspirations and challenge stereotypes, particularly through our CEIAG Policy
- Develop knowledge and understanding of our local, national and international communities

OUR CURRICULUM MODEL

Our curriculum is carefully sequenced at three levels. First, Curriculum Maps set out the key areas that are covered in each subject as pupils progress through the school. Next, Schemes of Work set out the knowledge and skills pupils gain in each subject, every half term. Finally, teachers' planning details the specific plans for every lesson taking into account their different starting points. You can access our PCurriculum Maps on the main page of this section. If you require any further information, do not hesitate to contact us.

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