



# Esland North Limited

## ED0020S - Curriculum



### Introduction

At Esland Shropshire School, pupils are entitled to a curriculum which contributes to a well-balanced education, developing the abilities and life skills of individual pupils so that they may become valuable, positive and active in society. The entitlement is for all pupils regardless of age, gender, race, religion or disability.

Our objective is to provide an inspirational learning environment where pupils are encouraged to actively participate in all learning opportunities; where pupils will enjoy learning, celebrate achievement, and recognise the importance of education; and to nurture the qualities that will enable each pupil to become confident and competent members of society.

These objectives are central to our curriculum which focuses on pupils' well-being, learning and preparation for adulthood.

All children on roll at Esland Shropshire School are accessing their education via our Turning the Curve model of education. The pupils are placed at the school via Local Authority Commissioning Teams as they are unable to access formal learning environments with a school setting. Pupils will be on roll for relatively short periods where they will receive education whilst social & emotional and communication & interaction interventions are delivered by a therapeutically informed clinical and intervention team. Most pupils are working significantly below age related expectations due to significant absences from education along with social and emotional difficulties. Although pupils may not have cognitive disabilities, their global delay in development has resulted in the absence in learning of many of the building blocks for pupils which are taught at pre-key stage and primary schools.

### Aim

Our aspirations are that pupils leave with a range of academic qualifications and social skills that will stay with them throughout their adult life. Pupils' progress in these areas will form the foundation of future success in their employment, their independence and will enable them to become effective members of their local communities.

### Curriculum Vision/Values

- **Be Kind** – We treat everyone with respect, we are always **Kind!**
- **Be Bold** – Be brave, speak up. Be honest and be **Bold!**
- **Be Curious** – Curiosity is at the heart of what we do. Be **Curious!**
- **Be Fun** – Life at school shouldn't be dull; let's have and be **Fun!**

# The Curriculum Shall Demonstrate

## **Breadth**

Our pupils will be introduced to the elements of knowledge, learning, understanding, concepts, skills and attitudes, incorporating human, social and political, linguistic and literary, mathematical, moral and ethical, physical, scientific, spiritual, technological and creative aspects of the curriculum.

## **Balance**

All pupils will benefit from an appropriate whole school curriculum that can be tailored to suit the needs and abilities of individual pupils. Amendments to an individual pupil's curriculum will be done in consultation with the young person so they can help influence their own learning pathways.

## **Coherence**

Careful planning will ensure that pupils know how to progress and have the opportunity to maximise their potential and overall attainment.

## **Relevance**

The curriculum will be appropriate to pupils, providing opportunities to respond to changes in modern society and allowing reflection on previous experience.

## **Pedagogy**

We will always remain child focused. The needs of individual pupils will remain central to what we do. Pupils are encouraged to take an active role in their personal development, sharing with teachers how they learn and evaluating their progress.

## **Linguistic:**

Esland Shropshire School is relentless in its commitment to ensuring that, through its English curriculum, young people learn to communicate effectively whether this be when speaking and listening, reading, and writing with confidence, or in reading with fluency and understanding. We whole-heartedly believe that having an interest in books and reading for enjoyment gives young people a sense of identity, set within our social, political, cultural, and economic relationships. A growing vocabulary, in spoken and written forms, fires curiosity about our language and plays an essential part in preparing young people for living and working in the contemporary world. During their journey through our English curriculum, young people consider and understand a range of text types and genres, developing the confidence and skills to write in a variety of styles and forms appropriate to the situation. As they do this, pupils develop powers of imagination, inventiveness, and critical awareness. They see the diversity of human experience and understand more about themselves as individuals and members of society. What they learn can influence their decisions and personal choices, their attitudes, and values.

Our English curriculum aims to provide young people with the knowledge, skills, and aptitudes to access the broader curriculum, including developing an understanding of technical vocabulary so that they can communicate all that they know and have learnt.

Ultimately, our aim is to ensure that children become literate and develop the essential skills that allow them to communicate and function in society, both now and in the future.

'Our Schemes of Work (SoW) and examinations are:

- Bug Club Phonics for lower school early reading;
- That Reading Thing for upper school phonics;
- Accelerated Reader for reading
- White Rose for Maths (whole school) and lower school science (up to KS3)
- AQA unit awards
- Functional skills
- GCSEs

To ascertain reading levels or abilities upon entry to Esland Shropshire School, young people undertake a baseline reading and comprehension assessment. Texts in lessons are matched to abilities and then those young people who are identified as needing additional support in reading will be placed on an intervention such as phonics, 'That Reading Thing' or reading programme to increase their reading and comprehension age. These interventions are reviewed every 6 weeks and reading age assessments are completed twice a year. At Esland Shropshire School, pupils also have the opportunity to choose

books, comics or other reading material to encourage a love of reading. Teachers/staff are also encouraged to read aloud to pupils.

#### **Mathematical:**

We believe that every child and young person should be enabled to develop a sound understanding of Maths, equipping them with the skills of calculation, reasoning and problem solving that they need in life beyond the bounds of education. We strive to provide our children and young people with an engaging, exciting, and empowering curriculum that equips them for today AND tomorrow. We deliver lessons that are creative and engaging. We want children and young people to make rich connections across mathematical concepts, to develop fluency, mathematical reasoning, and competence in solving increasingly sophisticated problems. We intend for our pupils to be able to apply their mathematical knowledge to science and other subjects. Children and young people are encouraged to solve problems each day using concrete resources, pictorial representations and abstract thinking.

At Esland Shropshire School we follow the Schemes of Learning (SOL) set out by 'White Rose Maths'. 'White Rose Maths' is an organisation that provides maths resources for pupils of all ages, from early years to secondary school. The yearly frameworks break down what children need to learn during each week of each term to master the learning objectives laid out by the National Curriculum. At the heart of their resources and frameworks is the motto "Everyone Can Do Maths: Everyone Can!" We continue this approach until the end of Year 9 when pupils follow a pathway accredited by AQA; most frequently this will be Functional Skills Level 1/2 and, where appropriate, GCSE.

#### **Scientific:**

We believe that our young people deserve a broad and ambitious Science curriculum, rich in skills and knowledge, which ignites curiosity and prepares them well for future learning or employment.

Our science curriculum will give pupils the opportunity to develop practical skills by working scientifically, articulate scientific concepts clearly and precisely, address misconceptions and accurately read and interpret technical vocabulary. The science curriculum will help pupils to understand the nature, processes and methods of science whilst developing an understanding of the uses and implications of science today and for the future. Pupils will see connections between subject areas and become aware of the big ideas underpinning scientific knowledge and understanding. They will learn to challenge received wisdom by considering new evidence and ideas. Our science curriculum will provide pupils with the opportunity to use their developing problem-solving skills and numeracy within the realms of fascinating scientific concepts. Science is taught in all key stages.

#### **Technological:**

We recognise that computing is changing the lives of everyone. The use of computing is an integral part of the national curriculum and is a key skill for everyday life. Through teaching computing, we equip children and young people to participate in a rapidly changing world where work and leisure activities are increasingly transformed by technology. We enable them to find, explore, analyse, exchange and present information. We also focus on developing the skills necessary for pupils to be able to use information in a selective, safe and effective way. Computing skills are a major factor in enabling children and young people to be confident, creative, and independent pupils. Computing is used to enhance the learning power of young people at Esland Shropshire School through the application of their computing skills and knowledge to their learning in other areas. The aim of our computing curriculum is to equip young people with the confidence and capability to use computing throughout their later life, developing the understanding of how to use computing safely and responsibly.

Our core learning in Computing is e-safety which underpins everything we do. Students are taught about how to keep themselves safe online from: radicalisation, extremism, grooming etc.

#### **Human and Social:**

This area includes PSHE at all key stages, Employability and Enterprise study of the humanities throughout the 'Stepping Stones'. Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education is taught at all stages of a young person's educational journey at Esland Shropshire School.

PSHE is a subject through which pupils develop the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to manage their lives, both now and in the future. It helps children and young people to stay healthy and safe, while preparing them to make the most of life and work.

During key stage 2, our PSHE curriculum offers both explicit and implicit learning opportunities and experiences which reflect pupils' increasing independence and physical and social awareness, as they move through the primary phase. Children are supported to develop effective relationships, assume greater personal responsibility, and manage personal safety, including online.

PSHE education helps pupils to manage the physical and emotional changes at puberty, introduces them to a wider world and enables them to make an active contribution to their communities. At key stage 3, pupils build on the knowledge and understanding, skills, attributes, and values they have acquired and developed during the primary phase. PSHE education acknowledges and addresses the changes that young people experience, the challenges of adolescence and their increasing independence. It teaches the knowledge and skills which will equip them for the opportunities and challenges of life.

Pupils learn to manage diverse relationships, their online lives, and the increasing influence of peers and the media. At key stage 4, pupils deepen knowledge and understanding, extend and rehearse skills, and further explore attitudes, values and attributes acquired during key stage 3.

PSHE education reflects the fact that pupils are moving towards an independent role in adult life, taking on greater responsibility for themselves and others. By the end of key stage 5, many young people will leave home or be preparing to live independently. There is a balance throughout this Programme of Study between preparing pupils to manage their current lives and laying the foundations for managing future experiences.

As pupils' progress through the key stages, this balance shifts towards teaching related to young people's current experiences. At this stage, it is important to revisit and reinforce earlier learning through learning that 'connects' it to contexts that are relevant to this age group, such as the workplace. This key stage represents the last opportunity to ensure that pupils have the knowledge and understanding, skills, strategies, and attributes they need for independent living and the next stage in their education or career.

We follow the 2025 government guidelines on Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) and have created a curriculum to safeguard children against modern day risks, including misogyny and grooming.

#### **Physical:**

We believe that, through physical and sporting activities, young people can experience a greater sense of physical, mental health and wellbeing. Through the building of body-awareness and the skills associated with specific sports, a young person's knowledge of their body grows and this, in turn, inspires them and builds confidence. They can tap into their physical super-powers and excel in their chosen sport if that is what they wish to do. Our PE, Outdoor and Adventure Curriculum, aims to inspire and engage young people's interest in a broad range of physical, outdoor, and sporting activities. Through our curriculum we will foster children's interest in physical wellbeing and healthy lifestyles to establish long lasting lifestyle messages. PE and outdoor activities will also promote character strengths and personal values, encouraging young people to share, respect, support, trust and work together. We aim to ensure that our young people are physically active for sustained periods, try different activities to find ones in which they can excel and enjoy, enabling them to lead busy and active lives. This, in turn, impacts positively on mental health and emotional wellbeing. For these reasons, all our young people will take part in weekly PE and outdoor education sessions.

We also provide a range of offsite alternative sporting activities such as :

- Horse riding
- Rock climbing
- Orienteering

#### **Aesthetic and Creative:**

Pupils benefit greatly from immersion in the creative arts. It provides them with a new way of looking at and experiencing the world and provides them with a means of communicating creatively.

Throughout their time with us, we aim to provide young people with creative and artistic experiences through the Art and Design and/or music programmes that they study. Art and design provides visual, tactile, and sensory experiences and embodies some of the highest forms of human creativity.

Art and design education aims to engage, inspire, and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art, craft, and design. As pupils progress, they will be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of art and design. Pupils will have the opportunity to also know how art and design both reflect and shape our history, and contribute to the culture, creativity, and wealth of our nation.

We aim to ensure that all young people have the opportunity to produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences; become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft, and design techniques. Skills in evaluation and analysis of creative works using the language of art, craft, and design. In addition, they will develop knowledge about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.

Music education also provides a means of exploring, appreciating, and understanding the cultural and creative world in which we live and how it has evolved. Music explores the relationship between the Earth and its people through the study of place, space, and environment. It is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate young people. It is a vehicle for personal expression, and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables young people to better understand the world. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music plays an important part in helping young people to feel part of a community. We provide opportunities for all young people to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop skills and to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms.

Young people who have a specific talent and interest in the creative arts will be provided with additional opportunities to continue their journey in these curriculum areas (usually through peripatetic teachers).

Art is taught across all Key Stages. Music is offered on a weekly basis as either an additional lesson, or through music therapy sessions.

## Curriculum Intent

The Curriculum Intent was carefully devised to develop the skills and qualities that we consider to be essential for young people in order for them to become healthy and successful adults. Our curriculum has been developed to support each pupil's holistic development. The curriculum allows us to focus on academic achievement, personal wellbeing and relationships and recognises the core characteristics which we feel are essential to be developed if young people are to become successful adults. Our curriculum includes all elements of British values and SMSC and each subject has a curriculum which incorporates progress towards these elements.

## Implementation

In Esland Shropshire School, we work to a primary model. This means all students stay with one teacher all day, for every day of the school week. All lessons are taught by one teacher in one classroom. This happens from KS2 – KS4. However, there may be times when specialist teachers swap to teach their subjects in another class, e.g. music, language or art specialists or, in KS4 Maths and English specialists will share their expertise across classes. In year 10 and 11, Students will work towards chosen GCSEs. These will include English and Maths.

Vocational offers will provided and sourced according to the interests of students. Work experience will be sought and offered.

## Teaching and Learning

Our school, across each key stage, is based on the principles of 'nurture' with a clear focus on understanding behaviour, improving communication, building strong learning foundations and developing self-esteem. The school provides a safe and supportive space with key adults. As pupils move through the school, the level of independence expected increases and support offered becomes more tailored to the needs of each pupil.

Pupils at Esland Shropshire School can access Unit Award Schemes, ASDAN, GCSEs,

Project Qualifications, Functional Skills or Entry Levels dependent on their ability levels and aspirations. Subjects taught include; English, Mathematics, Science, PE, PSHE, Computing, Creative Arts, Humanities and Employability and Enterprise.

Pupils are encourage to contribute to the community in lots of ways to support them in understanding what it means to be an active British citizen. Extra-curricular activities enrich the pupils' experience and are an integral feature of the school's ethos. All pupils and adults are encouraged to participate in the many experiential learning opportunities and off-site learning experiences offered.

## Future

We encourage pupils and provide opportunities to focus on careers throughout their time at school with specific work targeted at Y9. During Y9, pupils have the opportunity to undertake vocational courses at college to prepare them for life after school. In terms of careers we work hard to ensure compliance with the 8 Gatsby benchmarks.

Our Curriculum includes a great deal of additional opportunities including those which are social, moral, spiritual and cultural. Pupils contribute to the community in lots of ways to support them in understanding what it means to be an active British citizen. We also ensure that pupils have accurate Sex and Relationships Education through PSHE. Extra-curricular activities enrich a pupil's experience and are an integral feature of the school's ethos. All pupils and teachers are encouraged to participate in the many experiential learning opportunities and off-site learning experiences offered.

## Planning

Each subject curriculum is designed to detail the progress pupils will make across their time at school in regard to the acquisition of knowledge and the development of core skills.

Curriculum Intent is identified in all subject planning.

At Esland Shropshire School the Curriculum Intent (learning Objectives) is identified in all pupil books and in classrooms. This is referred to throughout lessons. Wellbeing- all elements of our curriculum are therapeutic. Staff support pupils throughout the school day. We eat in family groups at lunch times and carefully structure break times. We also have more specific therapeutic opportunities which include Forest School, animal therapy, play therapy, resilience programmes and social-story time.

## Impact

The impact of our curriculum can be tracked in lots of ways focusing on academic and non-academic achievement.

We have a very strong sense of community, and we encourage pupils to consider the importance of contributing. We use photographic evidence to track some of the experiences which pupils have accessed, in addition to the curriculum, which have supported them to make progress against the Curriculum Intent. This also shows how we have supported pupils to develop in regard to SMSC and British Values.

At Esland Shropshire School, pupil progress is recorded at 3 points across the academic year (depending on provision) and learning is planned around their identified next steps. In lessons, pupils are encouraged to collaborate and support each other and are afforded opportunities to foster independent learning skills. The qualifications pupils achieve allow us to assess the impact of our provision. Simply sitting exams, when considering the lived experiences of many of our pupils, shows commitment to learning and, in some cases represents significant progress.

## Inclusion

All lessons at Esland Shropshire School are inclusive. Teachers have high expectations for all pupils in accordance with their stage and/or ability level. School staff will use appropriate assessment to set ambitious targets and plan challenging work for all groups, including more able pupils, pupils with low prior attainment, pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds and pupils with an identified SEN. Teachers will plan lessons so that pupils with SEN and/or disabilities can study every National Curriculum subject offered, wherever possible, and ensure that there are no barriers to pupil achievement.

Lessons will be planned so that teaching opportunities help pupils to develop their literacy skills, and to support pupils to take part in all subjects. Phonics training is provided for all staff so that reading can be effectively and consistently supported across key stages and subjects. Adaptive teaching is the delivery of custom learning experiences that address the unique needs of individuals through just-in-time feedback, pathways and resources. At Esland Shropshire School we ensure the provision of appropriate and personalised challenges to maximise the academic achievement of all. Each pupil should be sufficiently equipped to make informed and realistic decisions at each stage in their development so that they can take an active role in contributing to their progression.

## Assessment

Teachers use formative and summative assessment to inform lesson planning and to set appropriate targets each pupil. Teachers reflect on progress after each lesson and use this analysis to inform future lessons/planning to tailor the

learning to the needs of the pupils. A review of marking and feedback, assessments and planning are executed termly by the senior leadership team and used to aid whole school progress tracking. There will be regular communication with parents/carers, with updates provided each half term and also during bi-annual parent/carer information days. We have an SEMH tracker to assess the students' 'soft' skills. These assessments start when a child enters school and are revisited termly.

### Subject Leadership

English – TM (TBC)

Maths – TCB

Science – MF

Computing – MF

Humanities – AM

PE – AM

Creative Arts – JB

Career and Life Skills - MF

## Staff CPD

The curriculum is supported by appropriate INSET for teachers, and the school will make available appropriate resources to support effective teaching and learning.

Staff are encouraged to take risks and try new things in order to be innovative across all areas of the curriculum.

Subject co-ordination 2024-25	
Subject	Curriculum Co-Ordination
English	HT
Mathematics	DHT
Science	AHT
Computing	DHT
Humanities	AHT
Physical Education	DHT
Creative Arts	HT
PSHE	HT
Careers & Life Skills	DHT

## Accreditation

When pupils reach Key Stage 4, they begin to study for Functional Skills qualifications in mathematics and English however there are options for Entry Level if required. Some pupils may wish to work towards a GCSE in a variety of subjects.

Teachers often use close links with exams boards who run regular moderation and standardisation courses to ensure their individual accuracy.

We also offer access to courses from ASDAN, the AQA Project Qualification and AQA Unit Awards, which enable us to build a more practical and vocational timetable for some pupils. It is targeted at the 14–19 pupil population and can, therefore, be used as part of the Key stage 3 and 4 curriculum.

Attached to this are charity initiatives, which build both practical and life skills for the same group of pupils. Items made within this group are regularly sold at school events.

Access to outside agencies, providing suitable alternative courses, such as City and Guilds can be accessed when required. This is often provided through links with local colleges. As a school, we utilise a variety of examination boards, chosen by the subject coordinators to best match the style and content of the course with the profile of the pupils within each class.

## Resources

Resources are the responsibility of the subject co-ordinator and class teacher. As a school we are constantly expanding resources to meet basic subject needs and the wider implications of government initiatives. A yearly subject-specific audit is carried out by the curriculum co-ordinator. This audit provides an overview of the subject requirements over the coming year and provides a breakdown of costs and needs both essential and desirable. Where possible, those subjects taught in modular format are resourced on a termly basis linking to the specific programme of study.

## Documentation

Without effective planning, monitoring, reporting and assessment, the curriculum would be less effective. Planning is the method of ensuring lively, reflective delivery with appropriate pace and continuity, leading to a positive and rewarding learning experience for the pupil. The system of curriculum documentation at Esland Shropshire School is designed to streamline planning, assessment, and recording, whilst acting in itself as the basis for communication of progress between departments, parents and outside agencies.

Curriculum documentation at Esland Shropshire School forms the physical backbone of the planning for continuity and effective progress in education through Key Stages 1-4. It is a set of interlinked working documents that serve as tools for planning and differentiation and to inform the annual educational review. This, in turn, ensures correct target setting for each child into the forthcoming academic year.

It is broadly split into the following main areas:

- Annual Review documentation:
- Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP)
- Positive Support Plans (PSP), incorporating time-out procedures
- Personalised Learning Plans

### Curriculum planning

- Long-term plans based on 2014 National Curriculum and subject specific schemes
- Medium-term plans completed termly and detail objectives, activities, adaptive learning, outcomes, assessment opportunities, resources, and evaluation.
- Short-term plans are managed daily using medium term plans and within teacher planning.

### Assessment & recording

- From work completed and annotated in exercise books – marking and feedback, levelled by teachers to support teacher assessment
- From curriculum planning
- Formal testing; mock examinations; assessment activities; skill specific testing relating to reading and spelling

### Reports

- Academic end of term reports, including current attainment and comments on progress and next steps are sent to parents three times a year.

The progress tracking system enables teachers to plan and record pupil progress and assessment results together with evidence of teacher assessed levels. When possible, teachers will utilise each other's expertise to moderate levels given. The school tracks assessment termly using the IMS (Behaviour Watch). It also records results from Literacy assessments. These results are used, in conjunction with the teacher assessment to provide an 'expected level' that can be used to inform planning. Teachers can use this information to inform their planning.

## **Curriculum Documentation**

Most documentation pertaining to planning is kept on the school server, where it can be easily accessed, shared, and developed. Individual teachers have their own physical planning files, allowing them the flexibility to adapt medium- and short-term planning on a daily basis.

Teachers use PowerPoints for their individual lesson planning

Syllabus – Subject Specific

Subject Schemes of Learning

Programmes of Study (Long term plans) Termly planning (Medium term plans) Teacher Planning (Short term plans) and session records.

## **IEP, Assessment and Recording Documents**

Education, Health and Care Plan

Initial Screening e.g., literacy testing, OT and SALT assessments Review

Recommendations/targets

Personalised Learning Plans

## **Assessment Evidence in Exercise books**

Mock examinations

End of unit/year tests Pupil tracking

Assessment tasks

Collected into progress files

Bench Mark Grade Using the GL Assessment

End of term and Annual Review reports

Social communication programmes

Occupational Therapists/ Speech and Language Assessment

- Individual Assessments
- Individual Programmes
- Group Programmes
- SCERTS Assessments

## **Monitoring and Evaluating Practice**

The following will be monitored by the Senior Education Team:

- SMART PEP targets are in place and reviewed each term
- Subject teachers set individual targets for the subject area
- Long term, medium term and lesson planning is in place and fits the Scheme of Work
- Marking gives constructive feedback and guidance to attain at the next level
- Practice and provision is consistent throughout the school

Monitoring will include:

- Work scrutiny
- Planning scrutiny
- Marking scrutiny
- Learning walks
- Lesson observations