

KS3 Additional Needs Overview

Prior to entry into KS3, students will have completed a period of transition to establish their needs and personal requirements and to enable them to settle into school life at Walton Hall.

Throughout the Additional Needs groups at KS3 our main aim is to 'learn by doing.' Every opportunity is exploited to develop students' knowledge, understanding and practise their skills by getting involved in a physical way and having fun. We **act** out our poems, we **do** experiments in science and we **use** objects and **undertake** field trips in maths.

Curriculum

Students in our Additional Needs groups complete specific English, maths and science lessons. Topics are adapted for concrete/kinaesthetic learning which underpins our ethos- 'learning by doing.' In addition, Maths Dance is delivered to encourage proprioceptive and vestibular sensory development along with listening and comprehension skills.

Communication and language development skills are embedded throughout the curriculum, linking with the students' statement targets, to develop understanding, attention, listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.



Alongside the core subjects, students participate in regular lessons in ICT, geography, history, cookery, D & T, Art, RE and PSE which are taught as integrated topics, including stand alone lessons where appropriate. PE is taught through swimming, inclusive Key Stage PE sessions, horse riding, dance and individual physiotherapy programmes. Opportunities to develop independence and life skills are promoted within daily routines including lunch time, outdoor learning trails, horticulture, small animal care and educational visits. Music and drama is delivered by specialist teachers.

Inclusion

Students have opportunities to learn alongside students across the school through participation within the school choir; "Shine", with regular performances being scheduled throughout the school year both within the school and the wider community. The additional needs students in KS3 also have weekly opportunities to visit the Post 16 café to socialise with others and develop their independence, communication skills and ability to handle money within a safe environment.

Individual Needs

We currently offer two classes at KS3 for students with complex and additional needs, these classes are grouped according to level of need and increased staffing ratios reflect the level of support required.

Students are taught by experienced staff using Makaton signing, PECs and Communication in Print according to the students' ability. Individual programmes for physiotherapy are delivered within PE lessons and students have input from Speech and Language Therapists and other outside professionals where necessary.

