

Communication and Interaction

- 'Total Communication' approach used across the timetable
- Develop expressive and receptive communication skills
- Opportunity to make progress against individual communication targets given at least 5 times per day - communicating preferences, making requests, making choices, responding to simple questions
- Moving from informal means of communication (gestures, facial expressions etc) to developing formal means of communication (use of signs, PECS, symbols/ALBs, vocalisations)
- Input from SALT team.

Attention Autism develops natural and spontaneous communication through highly motivating activities and the "offer of an irresistible invitation to learn"! Students develop skills to attend to adult led activities for fleeting and extended periods, share attention with others, take turns and shift their attention.

TACPAC - A sensory communication resource using touch and music.

Cognition and Learning

Maths - music and movement (Wed PM)

Number knowledge: Join in simple number games using numbers 1-20. Experience rote counting to 5, 10, 15, 20. Counting forwards and backwards. Mathematical concepts, action songs!

SS&M: Finds pairs of objects which are the same

Sorts according to perceptual qualities such as colour, shape, size

Completes a range of simple inset puzzles

Hears and uses shape language

Reading and phonics

Sensory stories - Topic related

Students to develop their attention and listening skills, these are pre-requisites for the development of their speech, language, and communication skills.

Phonics: focusing on developing children's listening skills, creating opportunities to explore sounds. Students will be immersed in non-going multi-sensory experiences to foster emergent literacy skills and awareness through all aspects of their daily routines and work.

Reading for enjoyment - during morning work and choosing time.

ICT - switch club (Fri AM) with the speech therapist and OT.

Use of touch screen devices (IWB, iPad, immersive room) and switches (switch club weekly in collaboration with OT)

ICT skills - cause and effect, targeting, drag and drop, developing accuracy, mouse skills - right and left click, moving the mouse accurately.

Developing fine and gross motor skills.

3CL AUTUMN 2026

Topic (term 1): All about me

Topic (term 2): Winter Lights Theme

Social and Emotional

- Opportunities for inclusion and social activities in class, college and community contexts - break times, special events, whole college trips
- Weekly pathway celebration assembly
- Daily circle time - how are you feeling?
- Use of zones of regulation

RSHE (Wed PM)

Getting to know a group, group games and social games, linked to 'all about me' and my class topic.

Later in the term, the curriculum will cover hand washing, keeping clean and healthy during fun and interactive sessions!

Community visits, Independence, Life Skills

QUEST community visits (Tue and Wed AM)

Community inclusion opportunity, gaining confidence and social skills in the community delivered once or twice per week.

Using individual communication system in a community context with unknown, trusted adults

Quest trips linked to the current topic with challenges and individual targets to complete within a community context!

Independence

Dressing and undressing with increasing independence
Developing independence during personal care routines
Developing self-occupation during leisure time.

Science

Sensology - There will be lots of opportunities to use the 5 senses to feel, taste, smell, look and listen and the opportunity for communicating likes or dislikes.

Trips

- Parks/Gardens/National Trusts
- Shops/Garden centres
- Library
- Swimming/Leisure facilities
- Cafes
- Cinema
- Theatre
- Supermarkets

Creative Skills

DT (Tue AM)

Inclusive design and technology with our specialist teacher.

Art

Topic related creative projects to develop fine motor skills, creativity, independence and sensory exploration

'Under the Sea/Winter' - Term starts with some baseline exercises and exploring the art room. Pupils will investigate different materials and art-making through two projects: Under the Sea, related to Winter Lights, and a Winter/Christmas motif theme.

Music

Making music with iPads, instruments and switches.

Physical and Sensory

PE (Mon AM)

Sensory Football: Part of the Sense Virtual Sensory Sport Programme

- Maintaining and/or developing physical skills within a motivating context.
- Development of gross motor skills
- Supporting muscle control
- Using different parts of the body and different forces to work on kicking and striking skills
- Students will also work on coordination skills to connect with different objects, body parts

THERAPIES:

Rebound (Mon AM) - working on individual rebound targets on the trampoline

Swimming/Hydrotherapy (Thur AM/Fri AM) - working on individual rebound targets on the trampoline

Pet therapy (Mon AM): group sessions with Rocky the school therapy dog

Physiotherapy and OT: Working on individual physio/mobility targets and working with physios/OT as required.

Cycling: Using specialist bikes to access and enjoy cycling.