

Horizons Aspire **Curriculum Newsletter** **Autumn Term 2026**



Our Values...
Welcoming Teamwork
Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!

Curriculum Enrichment

Curriculum Day: Sensory Impairment
Awareness – 13th October

Enterprise Day – 18th November

Festivals of the Month

September – Yom Kippur
October – Navaratri
November – Guru Nanak Gurpurab
December - Christmas

Maths

Maths lessons will be taught by Miss Brown and Mrs Taylor. Students will work towards Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills at Entry Levels 1–3, developing practical Maths skills for everyday life. This term will focus on number, shape and data handling.

Students working towards Entry Levels 1 and 2 will be working towards recognising and using numbers, simple addition and subtraction, money, measures, larger numbers and data handling.

Students working towards Entry Level 3 and Level 1 will be focusing on using common measure, shape and space and applying these skills to everyday situations.

Students require a clear pencil case, pencil, pen, rubber and ruler.

The Functional Skills Maths exams will take place in the summer term; dates of these will be sent out when confirmed.

English

Mrs. Shah and Mrs Chapman Palmer will be teaching English lessons. Students will be working towards Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills, Entry Levels 2 and 3 and Level 1. This term students will be working on reading skills.

Students working towards Entry Level 2 and 3 will focus on recognising key words, understanding the main points in a text, and using clues such as headings, pictures, and captions to help them find information. They will also practise using strategies like dictionaries and spell-checkers to understand new words and check spelling.

Students working towards Entry Level 3 and Level 1 will build on these skills by identifying key ideas and purposes in different types of texts. They will also use strategies such as context clues to identify fact vs opinions and compare information across sources.

Students will work towards taking the externally set Pearson/Edexcel Functional Skills reading exam at the end of the Autumn Term.

Healthy Living

During the Autumn term, students will participate in fitness activities such as Boxercise and Body Toning.

Students should wear appropriate footwear and clothes in order to take part in their fitness sessions on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Vocational Learning

Students will be focussing on 'Planning my Future'. Students will be developing skills needed for the world of work and exploring future options including taking part in Business Enterprise week, where they will experience carrying out routine tasks at work. The curriculum is supported by OCR Life and Living Skills at Entry Levels 2 and 3.

Independent Living Skills

Students will complete work towards the OCR Life and Living Skills Units 'Following a simple recipe' or 'Basic Food Preparation'. These units of work aim to develop students' abilities to follow a simple recipe and to understand the importance of basic safety and hygiene rules in the kitchen as well as introducing students to preparing food for cold presentation or for cooking safely and hygienically.

Community

Students will complete work towards the Life and Living Skills Units 'Individual responsibilities in the community' or 'Increasing community involvement'. The class will have the opportunity to go out into the community on a variety of trips.

Self-Development

Computing

Students will work towards a range of AQA qualifications, covering areas from basic ICT skills to spreadsheets. They will develop their confidence and computer literacy while exploring how to use technology to complete a variety of practical tasks. Students will have opportunities to build their independence, develop new digital skills and apply their learning in meaningful, real-life contexts.

Construction

The students will be working towards an AQA Unit Award in 'Making a Model'. They will learn about the different materials that can be used, design and construct a working model, then test and evaluate what they have made. The students will develop their fine motor skills, thinking skills and teamwork whilst working on this unit.

Gardening

Students will work towards the AQA unit 'Basic Gardening Skills'. They will demonstrate the ability to prepare soil for planting, weed an area of the garden, plant and water seeds and show a knowledge of garden tools and suitable clothing for gardening.

RSE

Students will develop important skills and knowledge to support their transition into adult life, including exploring a wide range of personal relationships and considering where they can go for help and support. They will also learn about recognising situations of risk and explore safe and appropriate ways of responding to them.

Work Experience

Students will be working on an Enterprise project, planning, designing and making a product to be sold at the sale in November. Students will develop their thinking, organisation and communication skills as well improving confidence and money skills.

How is my child's progress being recorded?

Students will be following the Preparing for Adulthood Framework and will be assessed against their accredited course criteria. Your child will also follow a personalised Individual Education Plan with their own set targets.