Curriculum Policy 2026-2027

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Vision

The School's Mission Statement is that:

"We strive to achieve a happy, caring, safe and nurturing environment where children can grow and develop to their full potential whilst following individual education programmes and study in beautiful surroundings, with staff who care very much about their safety, wellbeing, and progress.

We take the time to get to know our children well – aided by small group sizes, often 1:1. We endeavour to equip children with the skills they need to be successful in the outside world, whilst making them feel valued.

Our students have experienced difficulties of some kind that have left them emotionally vulnerable within mainstream schools and they are often 'switched off' from learning, due to a trauma response from past incidences. By placing each student at the heart of their learning experience, we enable focused academic, social and emotional development, designed around each student's interests and needs.

Students are taught within small groups, dependent upon ability. Interventions will be timetabled to support specific needs and may be delivered on a one-to-one basis, for example speech and language, Dyslexia, and counselling.

Some students may be taught on a one-to-one basis, if they are the only one taking a particular subject, this may change if new students enter the school. A request can be made for one-to-one tuition; however, this will incur an extra charge (please note that where funding is from a Local Authority, this may not be possible and is also subject to staff availability).

Curriculum Intent

Coherence and personalisations are key concept of the school's curriculum. Students are offered a programme that is tailored to their needs/interests, both academic and social and emotional, taking account of their starting points and their long-term aspirations.

Programmes are designed so that all students can participate, achieve, and make progress. For some students' progression may be lateral, representing a broadening, generalisation, or consolidation of skills.

Key Stage 3 Students are offered a broad range of subjects, based on the national curriculum. Key Stage 4 Students benefit from a more bespoke timetable which allows them to specialise, to obtain qualifications and skills which will enable them to progress to their given pathway.

We believe that our curriculum is one that is broad and balanced and is ambitious for all. It is relevant, meaningful and responds to the needs of the individuals within our learning community, enabling them to shine academically and flourish socially, emotionally, morally and culturally, delivered by well qualified and experienced practitioners.

Our curriculum is designed to be a planned learning experience, including formal learning opportunities as well as events, routines and enrichment activities that take place outside the classroom.

Northleigh's curriculum allows each one of our students to:

- Achieve the best possible academic standards, whatever their ability.
- Develop skills and personal qualifications for lifelong learning, preparing children to make an active contribution to society.
- Explore real world experiences so that the students can see the relevance their learning has in the real world.
- Work with their Wellbeing Mentor to become mentally and emotionally resilient.

Curriculum Implementation

Northleigh Timetable

The school day is as follows:

09.15 – 09.30 am	**Arrival/Registration**
09.30 – 10.25 am	**Period 1**
10.25 – 11.20 am	**Period 2**
11.20 – 11.35 am	**Break**
11.35 – 12.30 pm	**Period 3**
12.30 – 13.10 pm	**Lunch**
13.10 – 13.15 pm	**Registration**
13.15 – 14.05 pm	**Period 4**
14.05 – 14.55 pm	**Period 5**
14.55 – 15.00 pm	**Assemble/Departure**

Curriculum Aims

The School offers a curriculum that:

- is relevant, appropriate, engages and motivates students.
- offers breadth, balance, coherence, relevance, differentiation, and progression.
- permits continuity within and across the key stages.
- provides equality and opportunity for all students promoting the development of inclusive learning opportunities for all.
- provides an opportunity to celebrate and recognise achievement and success.

- promotes students' spiritual, moral, cultural, and social development.
- helps to develop an understanding of issues and involves learning about drugs, relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity, and personal identity.
- enables students to develop knowledge, skills, and vocabulary in a broad range of sporting activities, as well as developing values and transferrable life skills such as fairness and respect.
- helps each student gain a sense of self-worth, achieve self-reliance, independence of thought and develop a questioning approach, which challenges prejudice.
- continues to develop the role of citizenship within the curriculum and the wider context of the school.
- aims to develop students as flexible and independent learners.
- provides the opportunity for students to widen and develop their ICT skills.
- provides careers advice and guidance.
- prepares students for transitions.
- ensures the provision of numeracy and literacy across the curriculum.
- enables all students to meet their full academic potential.

The Principles of Curriculum Delivery are that:

- Sufficient resources are provided to ensure challenge and engagement.
- If specified on Educational Health Care Plan students will follow the full range of National Curriculum subjects.
- The School will endeavour to meet the requests of all students; however, at times this may not be feasible, due to constraints of the timetable and their ability.
- KS3 and KS4 students are currently offered a variety of subjects.
- At KS5 the School offers some subjects, please request information directly from the School Director or the Curriculum and Learning Co-ordinator. The school will endeavour to meet the requests of all students; however, at times this may not be feasible, due to the constraints of the timetable and availability of teaching staff.
- The provision of subjects in all Key Stages is reviewed regularly.
- At KS3 and KS4 students will also follow a programme of personal, social and health education, including relationship sex education. Each student has a wellbeing mentor and takes part in a weekly personal development group.
- KS4 students can chose options for examinations and curriculum enhancement from Year 10 onwards. The school has developed a way of ensuring that students are able to obtain qualifications where possible and looks towards providing courses which are flexible to enable this to take place. As well as teaching GCSE, and limited A/S and A Level course, this includes Cambridge Nationals, Cambridge Technicals, Functional Skills in English, Maths, and IT, Asdan and Entry Level Certificates.
- We also endeavour to organise some form of work experience for our leavers, preferably that coincides with their career pathway.

Key Stage 3 Subjects Available

Art	Careers	Creative Crafts	Cooking
Digital Skills	Dance	Drama	English
Gardening	Learning Journey	Literacy Support	Mathematics
Music	Numeracy Support	PSHE	PE
Science	SLC	Textiles	Woodwork

Key Stage 4 Subjects Available

Animal Care	Art	Biology	Business
Careers	Chemistry	Computer Science	Digital Media
English Language	English Literature	Expressive Arts	Foodwise
Geography	Health Social Care	History	IT
Life Skills	Mathematics	Outdoor Adventure	PE
PSHE	Photography	Physics	Psychology

Educational Trips and Visits
The School offers a full programme of both curricular and extra-curricular visits for both educational and recreational.

Ingredients and Materials
Parents/carers may be asked to contribute towards ingredients and materials. Parents/carers would be notified of any costs in advance.

Supplementary Learning Materials
Voluntary purchases of materials helpful to study can often be made through the school at advantageous prices, e.g. calculators, revision guides; each subject teacher is responsible for purchasing and for providing appropriate guidance to parents/carers and students.

Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance
See CEIAG Policy on the school website.

Impact of Our Curriculum

We would expect the impact to be:

- Students show kindness, compassion, empathy, and courage.
- Students demonstrate a passion and thirst for learning.
- Students achieve well – all making good progress from their starting points.
- Students have access to a wide and varied curriculum, enabling each of them to excel as individuals and be the best they can be.
- Students have high aspirations for the future and know that these can be realised with hard work and determination.
- Students are mentally and emotionally happy and resilient learners.
- We encourage families to work in partnership with us to ensure their child's journey at Northleigh is a positive one and prepares them to contribute to the world in which they live.

Approved by Trustees and to be reviewed in September 2027