



Birch Wood Area  
Special school



**3JD Shine Class Curriculum**  
Information Autumn term 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

We want to share with you the topics and activities your child may be involved in over this term. To begin with we will be operating a recovery curriculum to enable your child to settle back into the environment, programmes and routine of school. We hope your child will enjoy being enriched by all of the activities we have planned for them this term and we look forward to working with them.

### My Communication

Within this curriculum area, we work on developing your child's communication and interaction skills. We encourage a total communication environment throughout the school day, using the methods most appropriate to the pupils. These include speech, Makaton, body signing, eye pointing, Eye Gaze, Picture Exchange Communication, use of symbols, Colourful Semantics, AAC devices (e.g. Talkers and switches) Songs of reference, Objects of Reference and smells of the day.

Our communication targets are focused on each of the student's individual SALT and EHCP targets (with additional targets for any other conditions e.g. Visual Impairment, Hearing Impairment and ASD). These are worked on through the vehicle of our variety of topics that change each term (see below). Other activities linked to the topics include art, role play, music, and singing, Story Massage, Intensive Interaction, Tac- Pac and Write Dance. Our literacy topic is explored through sensory stories with props, smells and music and movement to engage the children. Students work in small groups on their communication targets and on a one to one basis on their individual targets.

### My Thinking

These sessions are delivered through activities that help to develop your child's engagement and thinking skills. The sessions include:

- Sensology - these activities are designed to awaken the senses and to help the young people to make choices and decisions. The young people are encouraged to develop a preference and begin to gain an understanding of the world around them.
- Multisensory room cause and effect activities - Using equipment such as the colour-changing cube, interactive floor mat.
- The Fun with Food Programme to promote tolerating a wider range of foods
- Augmentative and Alternative Communication - Eye Gaze, switch toy work, cause and effect games on the interactive whiteboard and programmable Beebots.

Some pupils will work in small groups to carry out activities related to number, space, shape and measure along with one to one work. These involve number songs, sensory and interactive activities designed to engage and motivate your child.

### My Movement

Students have weekly sessions of MATP (Motor Activity Training Programme) during PE along with Hydrotherapy and Rebound therapy sessions. These are based on individual targets designed to build on your child's physical development skills. We also include sensori-motor activities throughout the curriculum on various themes. These activities encourage sensory integration.

Students have regular breaks outside throughout the day according to their needs and benefit from fresh air, moving around, using playground equipment including the swings, roundabout, trampoline and trim track circuits (if appropriate).



Birch Wood Area  
Special school



**3JD Shine Class Curriculum**  
Information Autumn term 2021



Students who have a physiotherapy programme will work on these targets as outlined in their programme. We will follow the physiotherapy activities and postural management programmes as prescribed by physiotherapists and occupational therapists. Music and movement is also used across the curriculum including songs of reference and topic related songs. The hydrotherapy pool is used twice weekly for movement, enjoyment and communication activities.

**Myself**

We use any available opportunity to encourage independence skills according to each child's ability. Where appropriate some students with ASD are taught using the TEACCH programme, this is a visual and structured teaching approach to learning. These students have work stations, which encourage independence, choice making and communications skills. Some students also use PECS to make requests, communicate choices and respond to questions. Students have communication folders and use symbols or words to build sentences. They are encouraged to request the toilet when it is needed and to cooperate with their personal care routine including working towards being toilet trained where appropriate. Some students are able to request and select their own snack and to tidy things away afterwards. Students are regularly involved in different personal care activities such as teeth brushing, getting dressed, brushing our hair or washing our hands. Students with physical difficulties are encouraged and supported to cooperate with their routine and to make choices.

Topics:

**Knowledge of the world around us: learn about the skin through touch (autumn themed activities)**

**Dance write**

**Personal and social activities**

**Literacy Stories**

**Number songs**

- Students will take part in induction activities to get to know each other, establish their class group/whole class identity and gently transition back to school
- Students will explore jungle animal, touch and autumn themes through music, songs, rhymes, art, craft and movement activities.
- Students will explore solids, liquids and gases through their senses as appropriate.
- Students will take part in an autumn themed sensorimotor activity session.
- During our 'Fun with Food' programme students will experience the smells, tastes and different textures of food to support the progress of those who are at a pre-feeding stage or who have food aversion needs. This will move from dry to increasingly moist foods. Other activities will include the sensory experience of different processes and everyday materials.
- Mark making & other fine motor movements using different materials to music, songs & chants
- This will involve foot and hand massages, keeping clean and playing and sharing activities with friends.
- Story massage, sensory stories, dance massage, body awareness and songs.



Birch Wood Area  
Special school



**3JD Shine Class Curriculum**  
Information Autumn term 2021



- Communication activities and sensory stories including drama and musical themes from the books: 'Shine', 'The Tiger who came to Tea' and 'The Lion Inside'.
- Communication activities using number songs, story and objects

**Things that you could do at home:**

Encourage signing perhaps beginning with 'hello', 'goodbye', 'more', 'finish' and 'thank you'. If you are unsure of any signs please visit the Makaton website address below. Use cause and effect games on an iPad or tablet such as Switcher (see below). Intensive interaction sessions are great at promoting enjoyment of interaction and communication (please ask if you are interested and we can signpost you to resources). Play games and sing songs that encourage your child to anticipate and share attention with you. Use a wide variety of materials to make marks with hands or tools, e.g. with water, paint, sand, foam, play dough or marks in flour. Encourage your child to notice changes in the environment e.g. lights, sounds and the textures of different materials. Enjoy themed arts and crafts e.g. making animal puppets, face masks, musical shakers etc...

Here are a few website that may help to support your child's learning:

[www.makaton.org](http://www.makaton.org) Switcher programme - [www.ianbean.co.uk](http://www.ianbean.co.uk)  
[www.helpkidzlearn.com](http://www.helpkidzlearn.com), [www.cbeebies.co.uk](http://www.cbeebies.co.uk), [www.bbc.co.uk/schools](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools), [www.senictsoftware.com](http://www.senictsoftware.com).  
[www.priorywoods.middlesbrough.sch.uk/page/?title=resources&pid=3](http://www.priorywoods.middlesbrough.sch.uk/page/?title=resources&pid=3)