Birch Wood Area Special school Class BWCN Summer 2025 Curriculum Newsletter









Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to share with you the topics and units of work we will cover throughout the upcoming summer term. We are excited about the term ahead and hope that your young person will continue to enjoy learning at Birch Wood College. Our class follows the Aspire Pathway, and we have outlined the topics, content, knowledge, and skills we will cover over the next term in the table below. We will also provide opportunities for your young person to develop important life skills and work-related experiences both within Birch Wood College and offsite at a range of different venues. These experiences aim to prepare your young person for their transition into adulthood.

Maths			
Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2		
GCSE Maths Students:	GCSE Maths Students:		
Number and Revision	Revision		
Entry Level Students:	Enterprise and Budgeting		
Fractions	Entry Level Students:		
	Measure		
	Enterprise and Budgeting		
Engl	English		
Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2		
GCSE and Entry Level skills – reading, writing,	GCSE and Entry Level skills – reading, writing,		
inference.	inference.		
Final revision for those completing the GCSE exam.	Final revision for those completing the exam.		
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time.	Reading skills using articles from The Day.		
Reading skills using articles from The Day.	Study of a novel – dependent on student interests –		
ASDAN English – module 5 and final completion of	Fahrenheit 451 or The Curious Incident of the Dog in		
paperwork.	the Night-Time.		
PSHE			
Summer Term 1			
	Summer Term 2		
Building and maintaining relationships	Personal Safety		
Consent	Independence and keeping safe		
Assertive communication	Travel		
Positive relationships and recognising abuse	First aid		
Strategies for managing dangerous situations or	Substance use		
relationships			
Reading			
Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2		
Word of the week			
Own choice – levelled reading book			
Non-fiction articles			
Whole class reading for comprehension and discussion			

Personal and Social Development		
Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2	
Health and Wellbeing	Food Safety	
Students will examine both healthy and unhealthy	This unit explores the importance of handling food	
activities. Consider the aspects of people's life that are	safely and introduces students to the basic elements of	
healthy and unhealthy, including alcohol	food hygiene.	
consumption, diet, drug use, sleeping habits, personal		
hygiene, relationships, physical activity, and safer sex		
practices.		
Employability/Enterprise		
Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2	
Working with others	Preparation for work	
Students will focus on respecting others and building	Interview techniques/ CV writing and job application	
workplace relationships. They will also develop	tasks. How to approach businesses to apply for jobs.	
teamwork skills through engaging workshops and		
practical work placements.		

Ontion Subjects

Option Subjects		
Food		
Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2	
Demonstrate understanding of cooking terms and	Seasonal cooking	
equipment		
Understand health and safety guidelines		
Practical cooking assessments direct from own choice		
of recipes		
DofE		
Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2	
Plan, train for, and complete a one-night expedition.	Plan, train for, and complete a one-night expedition.	
Using a compass and map to navigate a route, Produce	Using a compass and map to navigate a route,	
and follow a pre- planned route	Produce and follow a pre- planned route	
Outdoor cooking	Outdoor cooking	
Camp skills (e.g. putting up tents).	Camp skills (e.g. putting up tents).	
Expressive Arts		
Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2	
The Expressive Arts class will be working through further tasks within their ASDAN, having already gained credits across the first 3 modules, they will move onto working within their last module and will complete 3 challenges		

in section A and 2 challenges in section B for a further 2 credits.

If you have any queries or questions, please feel free to send me an email at hemenss@birchwoodschool.co.uk. I am always happy to help you with any queries about your young person. Thank you for your continuous support.

Best regards, Stephanie Hemens **BWCN Class Teacher**