Birch Wood Area Special School Class The Nook Autumn 2025 Curriculum Newsletter









Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to The Nook! We are so pleased to have our students back with us and it's wonderful to see everyone starting the term so positively. You've made a great start already and we are excited for all the learning, creativity and achievements ahead. This year is full of opportunities and we're confident it's going to be a fantastic one!

Our class are following the Aspire Pathway. This means they are learning subject specific content which is personalised to their strengths and needs. The table below gives an outline of topics, content, knowledge and skills that we will be looking at over the next term.

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Maths		
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	
GCSE Students: Statistics and Probability Entry Level	GCSE Students: Enterprise: Rickshaw Challenge Algebra and	
Students: Statistics and Number	Ratio Entry Level Students: Enterprise: Rickshaw Challenge	
	Money and Time	
Engl	ish	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	
Topic: Charities.	Topic: Hobbies.	
Retrieval, inference, transactional and persuasive writing.	Retrieval, inference, transactional and persuasive writing.	
Entry Level and GCSE (reading) skills.	Entry Level and GCSE (reading) skills.	
	Spoken Language – Presentations	
PSI	lE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	
Managing pressure.	Public and Private	
	Gambling.	
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Reac	ling	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	
KS4 Fluency	Pathway:	
Words of t		
Guided r	_	
Own choice, le Non-fiction		
NOTI-IICLIOI	Tarticles.	
Scie	nce	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	
Microscopy.	Atomic structure and the Periodic table.	
Scientific enquiry – Effects of insulation.	Scientific enquiry – Investigating speed.	
Forces in action.	Chemical reactions and energy changes.	
Conservation and dissipation of energy.	Mock exams (1).	

## R.E. Autumn Term 1 Autumn Term 2

### Year 10

### **ASDAN Beliefs and Values**

### Module 1: Values, beliefs and decision making

To develop an understanding of personal qualities, values and beliefs, and the role they play in decision making. It provides opportunities to learn about how these values contribute to our diverse a multicultural society.

# Year 11 ASDAN Beliefs and Values Module 2: Environment

To develop an understanding of the significant impact that we have on the environment and how we take responsibility for our actions. It provides opportunities to learn about issues such as sustainability, animal rights and renewable energy.

Explore religious views on environments.

# ICT Autumn Term 1 Autumn Term 2

#### **File and Folder Management**

Develop understanding and organisation skills. Students to create their folders for the new academic year (lesson 1).

### <u>The Learning Machine - IT User Skills Qualification</u> Unit 13 – Using Email

Students will complete a range of activities that will allow them to develop skills in using Microsoft Outlook (email program).

Core PE		
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	
<u>Functional Movement</u> (Team Building or HRF)	Invasion Games/ Kinball	
Initial movement assessment made by teacher. Establishing rules and routines. Teaching Fundamental movement (gross and fine motor movement) and communication skills. Develop knowledge of how the body works and the importance of exercise for health.	Ball skills (Throwing, catching, rolling etc). Negotiating space and embedding rules and analysing performance. Developing communication for team games.	
Functional Movement (Indoor Athletics Prep)  Teaching Fundamental movement skills (e.g. movement through space, jump, throw, balance and co-ordination).		
Sport and Leisure		
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	

### **Unit 3: Coaching Principles**

Knowledge of the skills and responsibilities of a sports coach; understanding the coaching process; how to coach; review coaching performance; preparation for and completing controlled practical assessment.

### Starting Unit 2: Improving Sporting performance.

Factors affecting sports performance; analysis of sporting performance; preparation for and completing controlled practical assessment.

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Design		
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	
Following the GCSE Design Yr. 10 & Yr. 11 LTP for 2025/26.	Following the GCSE Design Yr. 10 & Yr. 11 LTP for 2025/26.	
Drama		
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	
Level ½ vocational award in performing arts  ■ Unit 1.	Level ½ vocational award in performing arts  ■ Unit 1.	

Photography	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Y10- Photography Component 1:     Project 1 – Portraits  Students to explore portrait photography and work in the style of a range of photographers.  Y11- Photography Component 1:     Project 2 - Portraits  Students to explore portrait photography and work in the style of a range of photographers.	Y10- Photography Component 1:     Project 1 – Portraits  Students to explore portrait photography and work in the style of a range of photographers.  Y11- Photography Component 1:     Project 2 - Portraits  Students to explore portrait photography and work in the style of a range of photographers.
Autumn Term 1	t Autumn Term 2
Y 10- Art Component 1: Project 1 – Natural Form  Explore the theme 'skulls' and natural form in Fine Art, using drawing painting and other media.  Y 11- Art Component 1: Project 2 – Natural Form  Explore the theme 'skulls' and natural form in Fine Art, using drawing painting and other media	Y 10- Art Component 1: Project 1 – Natural Form Explore the theme 'skulls' and natural form in Fine Art, using drawing painting and other media.  Y 11- Art Component 1: Project 2 – Natural Form Explore the theme 'skulls' and natural form in Fine Art, using drawing painting and other media

Hospitality		
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	

### Y 10- Practical: Unit 2

2.3.1 How to prepare and make dishes: prepare techniques/knives skills/cooking techniques.
2.3.3 Food safety Practices.
2.1.1 Understanding the importance of nutrition.
2.1.2 How cooking methods can impact on nutritional value.

### Y 11- Practical:

2.3.1 How to prepare and make dishes: prepare techniques/knives skills/cooking techniques. Building preparation and cooking skills and learning through practice covering elements from 1.4.1 and 1.4.3.

### Controlled assessment task could be undertaken

If you are unsure about anything, please email me on <u>Nixa@birchwoodschool.co.uk</u>. I am always happy to help you with any questions you may have about your child.

Thank you for your continued support,

Alison Nix

The Den class teacher Curriculum Lead for PE