

Intent Document Personal Development



Intent Statement

At Inclusion College, our Personal Development Curriculum provides an inclusive and nurturing learning environment tailored to the specific needs of students with Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) challenges. Our intent is rooted in the belief that a supportive and engaging PD curriculum is essential for the holistic development of our students whilst preparing them for a successful and safe life beyond college and outside in the community.

1. Inclusive Curriculum Design

In Personal Development, students develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage their lives, now and in the future. Our curriculum design helps our students to stay healthy and safe, while preparing them to make the most of life and work.

At Inclusion College recognise the diverse needs of our students, designing a curriculum that is responsive to young people's current ability, assisting them to achieve to the best of their ability. Many of our students are working significantly below ARE (age related expectations) having previously being considered as EBSA (Emotionally Based School Avoiders), therefore resulting in significant gaps in learning and understanding. Not only does our curriculum progress our students' moving forwards, but it also plugs gaps in their knowledge, whilst addressing any misconceptions.

2. Personalised Learning Pathways

Understanding that every student has a unique learning journey, our intent is to provide personalised vocational pathways within the Personal Development curriculum. Through differentiated instruction, tailored resources, structured task plans and ongoing assessment, we aim to ensure that each student can progress at their own pace, building confidence and a sense of achievement—essential skills for navigating future challenges in work and in the community.

3. Assessment

At the heart of our Assessment and Reporting framework is an understanding of how Mental Health, ACE's (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and Trauma can impact learning. Combined with our PACE approach (Playful, Acceptance, Curiosity and Empathy), Inclusion College promotes secure attachments which enables our students to reflect on their thoughts, behaviours and learning without feeling judged. It is only once this has occurred; our learners progress and flourish.

4. Emphasis on social and emotional wellbeing

The whole team at Inclusion College is committed to promoting social and emotional wellbeing through providing a range of cultural capital opportunities throughout the academic year. Our intent is to create a 'curriculum for life' which prepares students for life and work in this changing world, helping to keep them safe, healthy and boosting their life chances. We aim to create a safe space where students can explore and express their emotions, thoughts, and experiences, fostering a sense of belonging and resilience that will serve them well in future personal and professional endeavours.

5. Integrated Support Service

Collaboration with support services is integral to our intent across the whole Curriculum at Inclusion College, we work closely with Mental Health Leads, Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Educational Psychologists to provide a comprehensive approach to the emotional and mental health needs of our students, preparing them to navigate the challenges of life beyond our College.

6. Engaging Pedagogy

Our teaching strategies are designed to be engaging, interactive, and responsive to the SEMH and EHCP needs of our students. At Inclusion College, we have developed our own approach to session structure and delivery which is known as 'The Inclusion Way'.

In every session, staff and students use our 'Golden Threads' support accessibility, progression and consistency. Research based pedagogy (EEF (Education Endowment Foundation)) is embedded within lesson planning, structure and marking which supports staff personalising and utilising a variety of teaching methods, including project-based learning, experiential activities, and technology integration.

As a college, our intent is to capture and sustain our students' interest in the society, whilst equipping them with skills for life, as well as boosting their wellbeing and improving their mental health.

Through these principles, the team at Inclusion College aims to empower our students with the skills, knowledge, and emotional resilience necessary for success in both academic and personal spheres, preparing them for a fulfilling and successful life beyond our College.

(If you wish to discuss our Intent in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact our Head of Education Services at julia.bray@inclusioneducation.org.uk)