

iCollege Curriculum Intention

At iCollege, we aim to provide an inclusive education service which offers learners opportunities that at least equal or better those available in local mainstream schools, and members of staff with appropriate and sustained opportunities for professional development. iCollege recognises the value of each learner and member of staff as an individual and promotes an ethos of teamwork, where each is of equal worth. Therefore, tolerance, respect for others, flexibility and readiness to support and care for each other are of paramount importance. iCollege is an aspirational environment where expectations of all are high. There are four under-pinning principles:

- Achievement (progress and attainment) of learners
- Outcomes: academic, social, emotional and physical
- Holistic development of individuals
- Successful transition post primary and post 16.

We aim to provide a curriculum which offers:

- the skills, knowledge and understanding to ensure academic success, encourage creativity and foster resilience;
- flexibility, inclusivity and offers continuity, coherence and progression;
- spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepares all young people for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life;
- a balanced, accessible and relevant range of learning experiences;
- a learner-centred approach, using our knowledge and understanding of our young people - their strengths, interests and needs – to make the best possible personalised offer to them
- the opportunities for our young people to develop as learners, such that they are confident and prepared for their next stage of education and/ or are able to develop and sustain positive, meaningful and relevant post 16 destinations
- the most up to date information, advice and guidance on opportunities available post 16

i-College designs its curriculum offer to support:

- the skills of literacy, numeracy and ICT.
- creative approaches to motivate pupils to learn.
- development in a range of subject areas.
- a comprehensive PSHE programme, including social and emotional wellbeing and resilience
- reintegration through good links to the National Curriculum and mainstream school offer.
- enriched links with partners and external providers

As a result, our aim is that our learners demonstrate:

- curiosity about their learning
- creativity when approaching tasks
- co-operation when faced with challenges

- commitment to all areas of their learning
- consistency in their approach to learning

Staff at iCollege are committed to supporting these values and ethos within a respectful environment where expectations of all are consistently high, systems are embedded and self-evaluation is the motivator for continued progress and development.

Inspiration KS1 and 2

At **Inspiration** iCollege we are committed to providing a broad and balanced curriculum which builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills of all children, whatever their starting points. Our curriculum incorporates the statutory requirements of the new National Curriculum 2014 and a wealth of other experiences and opportunities which best meet the learning and developmental needs of the pupils in our school.

Our core curriculum includes English, Maths and Science. We also provide a more extended and enriched curriculum where we aim to reignite a passion for learning and bring it to life. Inside this curriculum we provide ICT, PE, French, RE, Music, Art, Design and Technology as well as History and Geography which are delivered through Topic teaching. Many of these subjects are taught using specialist teachers.

At **Inspiration** we place a heavy emphasis on PSHE and have trained ELSA staff who are further supported by staff from Emotional Health Academy. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils and their understanding of the core values of our society are woven through the curriculum. We have a strong focus on teaching British Values and particularly encourage mutual respect and tolerance of others from different faiths and backgrounds.

Within our curriculum we aim to reteach children why and how they learn. We do this by using 'The Learning Gem,' reward system which helps the children identify when they have for example asked questions to help their understanding, ignored a monster distraction or learnt from their mistakes. Ultimately we aim to help every child to re-engage into a school suitable for them by offering high quality learning experiences, making learning fun and exciting.

The majority of our learners work better outside the classroom and we use Trailblazer activities including using offsite providers to maximise their learning potential where the children use the curriculum to discover, explore and care for the wider world. Within these Trailblazing sessions children benefit from greater enjoyment and motivation, improved health and fitness which ultimately boosts their self-confidence and self-esteem. These activities also improve their Literacy and Numeracy as well as develop and apply their thinking skills which help them become more independent.

The outdoor environment and the local community are considered an opportunity for active learning for all our pupils. We aim to develop their independence and motivation as learners and their sense of responsibility as future citizens is at the heart of all our teaching and learning.

Our students are also introduced to careers through 'Careers Planet' resources, group Adviza sessions and presenters from the world of work.

Integration KS3 and 4

Integration is a unit providing a broad and balanced curriculum for KS3 and KS4 students who are on short-term placements and unable to access mainstream education. As the young people attending **Integration** have been permanently excluded from mainstream schools or are at risk of exclusion/disaffection, the school aims, therefore, to balance the teaching of National Curriculum subjects with other work to support young people in their personal, social and emotional development. We provide individually planned packages for each student to assist them to achieve their potential academically, vocationally, physically and emotionally.

At **Integration** our current curriculum includes the core subjects of Maths, English, Science and Art up to GCSE level. In addition, students study:

Humanities
Food
PSE
Practical skills
PE
Outdoor Academy
Careers

Students can acquire OCR Functional skills awards (Level 1 and Level 2) in English and Maths as well as OCR Entry Level Geography and History. Students can also secure AQA unit awards.

Students can achieve further accreditations in kayaking and canoeing. A full time placement at **Integration** amounts to 25 hours. **Integration** also provides opportunities for bespoke packages alongside access to regular ADVIZA provision. Such packages may include: access to the Madjeski Stadium through Reading Football Academy Community Trust.

Our careers programme meets Gatsby directives and includes the offer of work experience, mentoring, enterprise challenges, trips, presenters, encounters with employers and 1:1 advice and guidance sessions.

At **Integration**, we place a strong emphasis on supporting our young people's mental health and well-being and have trained ELSA staff who are further supported by staff from Emotional Health Academy. In addition to this, i-College has its own family support worker along with a qualified counsellor who can be accessed via referral.

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils and their understanding of the core values of our society are woven through the curriculum; we have a strong focus on teaching British Values. Our committed staff strive to enable students to achieve and develop into productive citizens of the future.

Intervention Years 9 and 10

Intervention is a unit which provides a broad and balanced curriculum for students in years 9 and 10 who are unable to access mainstream education. Key to our work is the individual assessments carried out with each student at the beginning of the academic year. Having established levels in numeracy and literacy, individually planned packages for each learner assists them to achieve their potential academically, vocationally, physically and emotionally.

At **Intervention** our curriculum allows students to study the core subjects of Mathematics, English, Science and Art and Design up to GCSE level. In addition we offer qualifications in:

AQA Functional Skills English and maths at : Entry Level, Levels 1 and 2

AQA Science: Entry Level

AQA Functional skills in ICT: Entry Level and Level 1

BTech Level 1 Food

BTech Childcare

PSE

World Views

Practical skills

Careers

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver awards

Bespoke SEN support

Students can achieve further accreditations in kayaking and canoeing. A full time placement at Intervention amounts to 25 hours.

An appreciation and respect for the community and diversity of society is fostered throughout the pupils' time with us. At Integration, our aim is also to encourage learners to achieve and develop into productive citizens of the future. To that end, we also offer :PSE, Religious Education/World Views, Tenner Challenge and Practical skills. iCollege includes work experience placements, and a regular meeting with the iCollege's appointed ADVIZA IPA

At Intervention, we place a strong emphasis on supporting our young people's mental health and well-being and have trained ELSA staff who are further supported by staff from Emotional Health Academy. In addition to this, iCollege has its own family support worker along with a qualified counsellor who can be accessed via referral.

Independence

Independence is a unit which provides a broad and balanced curriculum for Key Stage 4 and 5 learners but is adapted to cater for students who arrive with very different abilities and aptitudes. As its name suggests, **Independence's** aim is to motivate all learners so that they progress successfully to the next stage of education, employment or training: ultimately towards 'independence.'

In addition to **Independence's** core curriculum, opportunities for extension and enrichment are also available in subjects such as food, creative writing, art and PE. Although homework is not compulsory it is always available and pupils are encouraged to take it home in order to develop their independent study skills and to help them make faster progress in their learning.

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils and their understanding of the core

values of our society are woven through the curriculum. We have a strong focus on teaching British Values and our committed staff strive to enable students to achieve and develop into productive citizens of the future. To this end, and with the aim of developing work and life-skills, **Independence** places a great deal of importance on work experience placements which are proving very popular with students.

At **Independence**, we place a strong emphasis on supporting our young people's mental health and well-being and have trained ELSA staff who are further supported by staff from Emotional Health Academy. In addition to this, iCollege has its own family support worker along with a qualified counsellor who can be accessed via referral.

KS4

Each student has a timetable based on individual needs, and are offered at least 8 'learning opportunities'.

- The core subjects of Maths, Science and English are taught by specialist subject teachers and subject tutors.
- Learners are entered for Functional Skills Level 1 and level 2 in Maths, English and ICT.
- GCSE English, Maths, Science (Biology) and Art and Design
- B-Tech Catering Level 1 and 2
- On-line courses are available including Food Hygiene
- In addition, students are offered PE Award as an option. (Short course)
- KS4 pupils work towards Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver awards.

- In addition, students are expected to attend enrichment opportunities which include: PSE, Food, PE, Art, French conversation and English Literature as well as supported Independent Study.

- Bespoke packages include access to: additional GCSEs in English Literature, PSE and Photography; Outdoor Academy; Auto skills; Community Furniture Project; Reading Football Club, Growing2Gether, and Path Hill.

- In accordance with Gatsby Benchmarks, iCollege offers an extensive careers programme where students work closely with our Careers lead, along with Adviza to ensure that a smooth transition is made into their future career pathways.

- Work experience placements are actively developed to meet the needs of iCollege students to help students gain a better understanding of the world of work and the implications of different career choices on their futures.

- Over the year, students have the opportunity to visit various educational establishments including further education colleges, sixth form schools and universities.

- Opportunities are also available for students to visit places of employment such as Sovereign Housing, The Watermill Theatre and Thatcham Research centre. Students are also encouraged to attend skills exhibitions such as 'The Skills Show' and 'The Big Bang' show, which provide inspirational experiences for future careers.

- All students are offered access to an extensive 'Presenter Programme', where visiting experts deliver talks and workshops on a broad range of topics. These information sessions have been developed as an integral part of the PSHE programme.

KS5

This is a provision for very vulnerable students to continue their education into Key Stage 5 in a safe, nurturing environment where young people feel valued and can begin to trust enough to engage in further academic work, along with enhancing their self-worth. Its purpose is:

- to provide a logical extension of KS4 curriculum and provision
- to encourage those who cannot and will not benefit from FE provision immediately post 16
- for students who would otherwise be NEET
- an opportunity to gain further skills and qualifications to improve employability opportunities

Independence believes in providing all KS5 students with an appropriate academic, vocational and self-confidence- building package to suit their specific needs and aspirations.

KS5 students at Independence will be offered the opportunity to study up to 11 GCSE or equivalent qualifications via bespoke timetables which are individually designed to allow students to choose a combination of GCSE, Functional Skills Level 1 and 2 courses, vocational courses and an option to gain a Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Each learner will also have the opportunity to develop social skills and self-confidence with a 'Personalised Learning Path'. Such a path, could include attending 'Life-skills' lessons, 'Outdoor Academy' sessions and, a new addition to the curriculum this year, the opportunity of completing a driving theory test when the student turns 17.

Independence's KS5 curriculum includes:

GCSEs in:

English Language and Literature, Maths, Art and Design, Photography and Science (Biology)

Other Qualifications include:

Functional Skills Maths, English and ICT Level 1 and Level 2.

B-Tech Catering Level 1 and 2

Award in PE and PSE

Enrichment:

All KS5 students are offered the chance to take part in a Work Experience placement, attend Outdoor Academy, participate in PE / sports activities, Creative Writing, Life Skills and Driving Theory, Food

Hygiene and French conversation.

KS5 students are able to obtain their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Careers advice:

- Students are offered termly 1:1 careers advice and guidance mentor sessions and parents and students are also offered regular communication and meetings with our Careers Lead. Support is available with initial visits, applications, interviews, taster days and enrolment, as required. Over the year, students have the opportunity to visit various educational establishments including further education colleges, sixth form schools and universities.
- Students also have access to an extensive range of trips and presenters which aim to give them a better understanding of the world of work and provide inspirational experience for their future careers.

Outreach

Outreach is a service offered by the iCollege to mainstream schools. Outreach supports pupils in mainstream schools who are at risk of permanent exclusion. Support may include direct 1:1 work with the pupil, staff training and consultancy advice. The aims of the service are to reduce the risk of exclusion through carefully implemented and reviewed behaviour programmes. These programmes enable schools to deliver personalised support, enabling young people to learn to better manage their behaviour and regulate their emotions.

Outreach also offers support to pupils who are returning to mainstream education following a period of exclusion or inreach. Transition programmes are tailored to meet individual needs.