

**SUBJECT:** Skills Based Curriculum

**YEAR:** 7

**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT:** Mr M Merriman

**GROUPING POLICY:** Mixed Ability

All students have the appropriate support and challenge to access the full course content.

**COURSE CONTENT:**

Skills for learning and success will be developed through a focus on key competences over the year based on six themes.

Term	Competence	Theme
1	Learning	Who am I?
2	Intrapersonal	Where Do I Live?
3	Organisation	Journeys
4	Information	The World Today
5	Creativity	Chaos
6	Communication	The Olympics

**What will my child learn?**

The programme of study is designed to give students the experience of techniques and build habits to allow them to become effective lifelong learners. Therefore challenging them to achieve their full potential by the time they leave Rednock, to go on to lead confident, healthy and responsible lives as individuals and members of society.

The skills curriculum has strong links to the life skills programme which covers areas of learning that promote students spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

**What will homework look like?**

Students will complete a range of activities published on Show My Homework with support resources, as necessary.

The activities are designed to support the development of literacy skills, promote reading, consolidate the work in class, promote independence and decision making, provide challenge and help the students reflect on their progress as well as respond to feedback.

There is a combination of compulsory and choice tasks. Deadlines are set and verbal guidance is given to students to plan and complete the work.

Differentiated materials are available and a homework club at lunchtime provides students with space to work, have access to laptops and support if they want it. The Learning Resource Centre is also open daily until 4pm for students to use.

**What enrichment opportunities are available?**

- A range of learning challenges in and out of school allows the students to pursue areas of interest and experience with different ways of doing things;

- Competitions in a range of activities;
- Students have the opportunity to take responsibilities and lead;
- Students STEM and cross-curricular projects and challenges;
- Students are able to share information and access their work using the school network and internet;
- Appropriate enrichment opportunities including trips are offered to support the cohort and specific groups. These have included the Bloodhound experience, a range of visiting speakers and the London visit.

### ASSESSMENT

#### How will my child's work be assessed?

Students are assessed at regular intervals by the skills curriculum team, against the criteria set down for each of 3 levels – Developing, Processing and Mastering. A level descriptor outlines their skills at the end of each term. Evidence of the students' competence with each of the skills will be reported for each of the terms to give an overview of the students' skills for learning in each of our competences. The students are expected to be active participants in their learning self/peer assessing and evaluating progress at regular intervals to identify targets and strategies for improvement.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### How can I support my child in this subject?

- Discuss your child's learning in all aspects of the school. Can they explain what they are doing in their classes and why?
- Planning is important it makes for a better outcome. Encourage your child to plan work; they should submit the plans and evidence of investigation to show how they reached the outcome. Remember a simple outcome has often got a great deal of thinking and investigation behind it. We want to see this process.
- Proof read work to help your child with literacy. Look particularly at use of things like capital letters and full stops.
- Encourage your child to read regularly both for information and for pleasure. Reading promotes confidence, wider knowledge, understanding of literacy structures and conventions, grammar, is good exam preparation and develops vocabulary. (Research indicates students should be confidently reading 120 words per minute to be successful in the management and access to information.)
- When using the internet encourage your child to use a range of websites to ensure reliable information. Printed work should show evidence it has been read. Highlighting key points or writing a short summary is always a good way of doing demonstrating understanding.
- Encourage them to use information effectively, ensure it has been adapted for their task not just copied and pasted. Summarising and using their own words shows a far greater understanding than just selecting information about a topic.
- Encourage them to try different things and be creative. We learn a lot when we don't just do the same thing all the time. If you have a camera at home why not encourage them to film some work or record an interview on their mobile phone.
- Challenge them to try a different / more challenging activity where choice is given.
- Encourage your child to use the success criteria for a task to decide what they will do and check they have done it.