

# **Arbour Vale School**

## **Post 16 Department Guide**



## Post 16 Department

*Welcome to the Post 16 Department. This booklet is intended as a general guide to the Post 16 provision at Arbour Vale School.*

### Aims

The aims of the department are as follows

- To promote independence
- To promote self-confidence and self-esteem
- To gain experience of the wider world in preparation for moving on
- To develop life skill and vocational skills appropriate to the individual
- To gain accreditation in relevant courses at an appropriate level

### How are class groups organised?

- Each class group has a teacher, who is responsible for the pastoral welfare and academic progress of the students, and at least two STAs.
- The classes are arranged so that each class works on courses and accreditation appropriate for that group
- The form teacher is the initial point of contact if you have any questions or want to pass on any information.

### What will students study in Post 16?

The curriculum covers these key areas

- Core skills (literacy and numeracy)
- Life skills
- Vocational Courses
- Art/Creativity
- Careers education
- Work Experience
- College link courses



### **What Accreditation do students work towards?**

Students follow one of three accreditation pathways, depending on level of ability. All accreditation is based on coursework and student portfolios of work. There are no final exams. Each accreditation covers a wide range of life skills, vocational skills and personal and social skills.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Course/Accreditation</b>
Henley	ASDAN Employability/ASDAN Life Skills Challenges
Marlow	ASDAN PSD/ASDAN Workright
Eton	ASDAN PSD/ASDAN Workright
Taplow	ASDAN Diploma in Life Skills
Cookham	ASDAN Towards Independence
Farnham	ASDAN Towards Independence
Ascot	ASDAN Towards Independence

### **How is student progress measured?**

#### ***Target Booklets***

Each student has a target booklet which shows the targets the student is working towards at their level. The targets cover literacy and numeracy.

The target books are used across all the subjects.

The targets are from the Adult Core Curriculum (for students working at entry level, level 1 or level 2) or the Adult Pre-Entry Core Curriculum for students working at milestone level.

Student progress within there accredited courses is tracked throughout the year.

#### ***Literacy and Numeracy Assessments***

Students undertake a formal literacy and numeracy assessment twice during the academic year.

### **What learning takes place offsite?**

A range of learning activities takes place off site. This is to give students a wide range of experiences and to put learning into a real life context.

#### ***Life Skills Lessons***

Students visit a range of venues in the local community, such as supermarkets, leisure facilities, job centre, bank, library, bus station.



#### ***College Link Courses***

The aim is to give students an awareness and understanding of local college facilities. The link course is held at East Berkshire College, Langley Campus. The course offers an introduction and experience of college life. The link course runs for one term.

The course is taught by college tutors. Students are escorted and supported by Post 16 Department staff. The students spend the morning in lessons. They then have their lunch in the college canteen before returning to school.

#### ***Work Experience***

Depending on ability, some students attend work experience placements offsite at a range of venues.

#### ***Pitstop***

This is a car mechanics placement run by Haybrook College. It takes place one morning each week. Students can choose to



take part if they wish. Students are escorted and supported at Pitstop by Post 16 staff.

### ***Montem Leisure Centre***

Students have the opportunity to use the swimming pool at Montem Leisure Centre, under the guidance of Post 16 staff.

### ***Other Trips***

There are also specially arranged visits and trips, such as at the end of term



### **Work Experience**

There is a range of work experience opportunities available for students, depending on their ability

- Café: Post 16 has its own café, which opens three days each week and is open to school staff. It is run by students under with support from Post 16 staff
- Recycling: Students collect the recycling from around the school.
- Administration: Students are involved in administration and office tasks within the department.
- School office and Primary Department: Individual students may be involved in weekly work experience around the school.
- Verdon Court Residential Home
- Pitstop (mentioned in a previous section)
- External work experience placements: students may participate in work experience in the local community if it is appropriate ( charity shops, gyms)



## **Transition**

The transition process is supported, moving from year 11 to Post 16 and moving on from Post 16 to an external placement. The majority of students move on to a local college after leaving Post 16.

We have a careers advisor from the careers serviced 'Adviza', supporting students with transition.

## **Leavers Ball**

There is an annual leavers' ball held in the second half of the summer term.



## **Do students wear school uniform?**

Students in Post 16 are able to wear their own clothes. There is no school uniform for Post 16.

## **Homework**

Students may be given a small amount of homework in some subjects. Students can also be given additional homework by arrangement with the class teacher

Homework is not compulsory and is not enforced.

## **Mobile Phones**

Students are allowed to bring their mobile phone to school, but we ask students to keep their phones in their bag or pocket and not to use the phone during the school day.

## **How long do students stay in Post 16?**

Students can stay in Post 16 for three years and leave at the end of year 14. However, students can leave earlier.

### **Friday Options**

On Friday afternoon, the students can choose to attend the following options:

- IT
- Board games
- Music
- Spanish
- Sports

### **Further Information**

If you have any questions or would like more information on any aspect of Post 16, please contact the department:

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