



## **Little Rivers Curriculum**

### **Overview**

At Little Rivers, we enable children to develop the strategies they need to be successful in a mainstream school. As such our curriculum is designed to encompass the individual needs of our children. We have created a bespoke curriculum for the pupils of Little Rivers. The curriculum is planned and sequenced with an understanding of how our pupils learn and the knowledge and cultural capital they will need to succeed when they leave our school. The intent is organised around an accessible menu of core knowledge and skills that are taught through our topics and repeated and reinforced. Our curriculum is enhanced wherever possible through visits, visitors, and practical experiences. Our curriculum themes are driven by our pupils' interests and ideas as much as is possible.

### **Our plans**

Each unit will be built around the children's interests and their abilities. Each child will be assessed using the Boxhall profile and strengths and difficulties questionnaire on entry and exit. We will also run phonic screening and reading assessments to help provide information about the needs of the child and gaps in their learning. Planning is often "in the moment" and we encourage all staff to seize opportunities to achieve a sense of awe and wonder for children. Plans are stored on the team files for the Phoenix centre.

### **The National curriculum**

Our plans are constructed half termly and will be based on national curriculum outcomes at each key stage. These are modified for the children who are attending the centre at that time. The majority of the children that access Little Rivers do not come equipped with the skills to access the curriculum, but as we meet their SEMH needs they become better equipped to develop their learning enquiry. English and

Maths is taught via a cross curricula approach by teaching key skills in these subjects we hope to build foundations for other learning.

### **Reading**

The teaching of reading is given a high priority at Little Rivers, many of our children come to us with delayed reading skills or have developed a dislike for reading. Discrete Phonics teaching is via the Little Wandle scheme, a systematic, synthetic phonics programme. Children have access to a range of quality texts and we also share stories linked to our teaching topics.

### **Assessment**

All children are assessed using the assess plan review do cycle. Children will be assessed using SEMH tools such as Boxhall profile and Strength and difficulty questionnaires. Pupil passports are created for every child in conjunction with them. Targets are assessed every 4-6 weeks and new targets set appropriately. Review meetings will be held with children, parents, and schools on a half termly basis. Review documents will be shared, and a final report will be written at the end of the child's time with Little Rivers.