

Birch Wood Area Special school  
**Class 5CA**  
 Autumn (2021)  
 Curriculum Information



Dear Parents and Carers,

I want to warmly welcome you all back to school. For students and families that have already been part of Post 16 it will be great to have you back, and for all our new students and families, I can't wait to get to know you all and make you feel a part of the Post 16 community. I hope you have all had a wonderful summer holiday, are duly rested and ready to come back to school to learn new and exciting topics. I have put this curriculum synopsis together, to share with you the topics and units of work being covered by Post 16 (Class 5CA) this term. This will give you additional information to help you talk to your young person about their lessons and what they are doing at school. We are looking forward to an exciting and busy term and we hope that the students will enjoy it. This term we will be starting all the Annual Review meetings so I will get the chance to talk to you about next steps after Birch Wood School and what options are available for your young person's learning journey.

English	
<p>In English Narrative we will be studying Classic Literature and examine the book called Frankenstein by Mary Shelley. We will be focussing on retrieving information, reading the text together, identifying key features and finding the meaning of the words used in the text. We will be working on our individual Mastery skills to look at skills we need to practice throughout the book. Story sharing will continue and students will focus on key areas of discussion on a weekly basis, they will be set a focus each week and will have key targets to work on. If you can let me know weekly via email about any exciting events that happen at home that would be wonderful so that we can support our young learners to tell others the things that are important to them. Story sharing happens every Monday morning. Any information you send in helps us so much share our stories together. You could send in a photo, object or write down what happened and how it made your young person feel, it can be happy or sad. It can be about shopping or visiting family or friends. I will baseline all the students when they come into school and then we will work on our weekly targets for sharing a story.</p>	
Maths	
<p><b>Number Autumn 1</b>            -Number recognition            -Counting forwards <i>1s, 2's, 10s</i>            -Counting backwards <i>1s, 2's, 10s</i>            -Estimations            -Read/write numerals <i>up to 100</i>            -Place value <i>up to 3 digits</i>            -Missing number problems            -Introduce calculator</p>	<p><b>Shape Autumn 2</b>            -2D shape recognition            -Draw 2D shapes            -Describe 2D shape properties.            -Categorising shapes by properties            -Match 2D shapes to everyday shapes            -Shape patterns</p>
Post 16 Curriculum Science Art PSHE	
<p><b>Aim awards</b> – students will be working on AIM awards towards a Certificate or a Diploma in Personal and Social Development Skills. Entry Level 2.            In <b>Life skills</b> the student's will focus on domestic jobs such as using the washing machine, ironing, shopping and cooking using a symbolised list to help support their learning and understanding.  <b>Sensory programme</b> – this will include all 1:1 programs along with weekly hydro swimming, Tac Pack, MATP, Body Awareness, Write Dance, EYE GAZE, SALT and Rebound Therapy. Music Therapy will continue with selected students. I will send out a letter detailing more about swim days and what you need to bring into school. We will also offer Sensory hand massage, Intensive Interaction and modules from AIM awards such as Exploring Dance, Music and Art. This will go towards</p>	<p><b>Moving Together</b> will be continuing on a weekly basis working on weekly routines, keeping fit and working on a performance for the end of the year. In addition, this year we will have a weekly slot of <b>RHSE</b> working on age appropriate themes around Relationships, Health and Sex Education. This term we will be working on Post 16 expectations and personal well-being, consent, greeting people appropriately, appropriate touch, what you can do in public and private spaces, healthy eating and keeping clean, On a Friday, we will be re-introducing the <b>local community visits</b> as a class, accessing local interest community groups and attending a local coffee shop for a drink in the afternoon. Within these sessions, we will be practising skills role-played in class. These skills include using money, making choices, being independent, communication skills and learning about</p>

working on an Extended AIM Entry award in Personal and Social Development Skills. Sensory Cooking will also work in the class and cookery room alongside the Mastery group working through Sensory units.

**Work experience** will continue with an in-house offer. Work experience booklets will be filled in each week, photos of experiences gathered and a final report will be gained at the end of the termly placement. I am hoping to offer a work experience for all of my Year 14s before the end of the year in the surrounding areas of Melton Mowbray. This is subject to an approved Risk assessment and school and parents are satisfied that it is safe to do so.

**Art** - This year we will be receiving Art lessons from a qualified secondary Art Teacher. He will be delivering Art on a weekly basis. If there is enough interest a B-Tec in Art made be available for selected student's to work towards.

**Cooking for Life** skills will continue with shopping on a Monday in Sainsbury's then cooking an entire meal with minimal adult support on the Tuesday. Lists will be produced and your child will be sent home a shopping list the week before. More information about cooking and a letter will follow. The students will decide what they want to cook and this will be planned on a half termly basis.

appropriate behaviour when in public. A letter and Risk Assessment will be made available for you about how we plan to do local visits as part of our Post 16 offer. **Electric Umbrella**- will continue on a Wednesday afternoon. This is a music and movement group for young adults with special needs, it is fully inclusive and is co-run by disabled young people. This is a group that we joined in lockdown and have so much fun connecting to special schools all around the country. I will send out a permissions slip to ask if your child is allowed to be on camera.

AIM	Unit title	Brief synopsis/overview of plan
Rights and Responsibilities	Foundations for Learning and Life.	1.Know about their rights 2.Know about their responsibilities
Building Confidence and Self-Esteem	Foundations for Learning and Life.	1.Know about feelings of confidence and self esteem 2.Know about building confidence and self esteem
Personal Risk	Foundations for Learning and Life.	1.Be able to identify and respond to situations where there may be personal risk 2.Understand reasons for taking risks
Developing and Presenting Information Using ICT	Foundations for Learning and Life.	1.Be able to take part in entering information using ICT 2.Be able to take part in presenting information through ICT
Find Information Using ICT	Foundations for Learning and Life.	1.Know about ICT sources of information 2.Be able to take part in starting up and shutting down ICT devices 3.Be able to take part in using ICT devices to safely search for information
Preparing for the Future	Foundations for Learning and Life.	1.Know about potential work and living situations 2.Be able to express wishes for their future 3.Be able to apply themselves to developing relevant skill 4.Know about the changes that will take place when they progress
Beginning College	Foundations for Learning and Life.	1.Know how to locate facilities in the college 2.Be able to identify members of staff 3.Know the importance of beginning college 4.Be able to identify a health and safety hazard in college

**Things that you could do at home:**

When you read to your child or do any activity, encourage them to talk about what they are doing/what is happening/what they understand.

Helping with household jobs

Helping with the shopping and cooking

Making choices

Thinking about how you can help other people

In Post 16, we aim for your young person to have new and exciting opportunities, gaining readiness for their next learning journey. If you are unsure about anything in the curriculum on offer then please email me on [aduc@birchwoodschoo.co.uk](mailto:aduc@birchwoodschoo.co.uk).

I am always pleased to help you with any questions you may have about your child. Many thanks and we all look forward to an exciting term.