



Nethergate Academy

Reconnection Curriculum

Summer 2021

Summer term 2021 will enable all of us to be together and to begin again. It will be a time to reconnect with each other and with learning. Our teachers, pupils and families have worked together to ensure that children have continued to learn and to share experiences whether at home or at school. Now we look forward to implementing a reconnection curriculum which will enable us enjoy the new school community and learn together.

Nethergate Academy Core Purpose

To enable every individual to achieve a place of value in society through education and the promotion of equality

Our Values

Compassion Aspiration Respect Equality Trust Kindness

The Reconnection Curriculum

Some of the ways we are supporting young people through the term.



Communication

Daily Story Time: Virtual whole school daily get together to say hello and listen.

Zones of Regulation: A curriculum to teach and support communication and emotional regulation.

Technology: The use of ICT to access remote learning means we now have additional ways to use to support communication in school and out.

Paired work and discussion: We are planning more interactive and small group sessions as restrictions begin to be lifted.

Individual needs: Staff have all benefitted from recent refresher training in Makaton. A whole school audit on communication support for every child is taking place. Autism and communication strategies are a school priority.

Shared experiences: Teachers are planning further practical learning opportunities. themes and activities to excite and engage pupils. Sensory activities, outdoor learning and the Arts. Communication Café.



Safety

Routines and expectations: Together with pupils we will be re-establishing how best to be safe and secure with each other and around school.

Community Links: We hope to be able to spend more time within the community, developing awareness of how we stay safe beyond school and home.

Rebuilding relationships and trust: Our pupils can't learn while they feel unsafe. They may worry that they have forgotten what to do or have fallen behind. Adults use emotion coaching and positive language with children. We have a culture of unconditional positive regard. Mistakes are a positive part of the learning process.

Understanding Covid 19: We are still following government guidelines and are restricted in some of the things we can do. We support children's understanding through social stories, role play, discussion and working with parents and carers.



Wellbeing

Relationships, Sex and Health

Education: (RSHE) Our policy has been reviewed and updated and is available on the website. Understanding ourselves and others and being able to make safe, informed decisions is the most important part of growing up.

Outdoor learning: We will be making the most of the improved weather, with our forest school sessions and our new outdoor classroom.

Enrichment: We are unable to go on residential trips but we are planning some day trips and opportunities for visitors to come and work with our pupils again soon.

Arts: Making, creating, exploring and expressing. Engaging with the world and each other.

Physical Activities: Outdoor sports, movement breaks, team challenges and a new trim trail at school are all part of the plan this summer term.

Sensory: All staff have recently received bespoke sensory integration training to help us to further understand and support our pupils. Many people have kindly donated to our fitness fund raising event and raffle to raise money for specialist equipment.



Independence

Life Skills: More food and life skills lessons can happen now. Sixth form will reintroduce 'Let's Do Lunch'

Confidence: More freedom to move around the school site (within guidelines) will help pupils regain their confidence and sense of community.

Vocational Learning: We hope that later this term students will return to college courses and work experience may be able to begin.

Revisit and Strengthen Learning: The curriculum will enable pupils to revisit the subject areas they have had less access to and to regain knowledge and confidence in core subjects such as Maths and English. All pupils are being re-baselined to determine their strengths and those areas we need to develop.

Accreditations: Our students have continued to access learning either at school or remotely but for some their accreditation pathway may need to be adjusted. Any changes are discussed with parents and carers. Targeted interventions will be put in place where appropriate.

School Council: Pupils are electing a new school council representative for every class.

Government guidance for schools

Kevan Collins, the government's Education Recovery Commissioner identifies five key areas when planning the curriculum for the summer term now that all schools are fully open. The areas are outlined below, with how they will relate to Nethergate.



Supporting anxiety and promoting readiness for learning.

Language to avoid	Language to use
Catch-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Move forward, reconnect, recover
Lost learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Master or strengthen prior learning• Map where we are currently at
Make up for lost time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revisit to strengthen
Fallen behind	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building upon
Speed up	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Challenge ourselves• Work smart• Develop