



The Key Service

Curriculum Intent

At The Key, we recognise that children learn best when they feel safe, valued, understood and connected. Our curriculum is designed to meet the social, emotional and mental health needs of pupils through a therapeutic, trauma-informed and attachment-aware approach that enables them to engage successfully in learning and prepare for reintegration into school and the wider community.

We believe that behaviour is a form of communication and that positive relationships are at the heart of successful learning. Our curriculum promotes emotional wellbeing, resilience, self-regulation and independence, helping pupils to understand themselves, develop confidence and recognise their strengths and potential.

Protective Behaviours principles are embedded throughout our curriculum and wider provision. We teach pupils that they have the right to feel safe all of the time and support them to develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to recognise, communicate and respond to their feelings, build healthy relationships and identify trusted sources of support.

Through personalised learning, therapeutic interventions and meaningful experiences, we aim to develop pupils who are emotionally literate, resilient and reflective; able to manage challenge, make positive choices and participate successfully in their school communities and beyond.

Pupils access an educational curriculum that is designed to centre around their individual learning journey, emphasising the development of core skills through a broad and adaptive curriculum. A primary focus is on identifying and addressing learning gaps early to ensure a solid educational foundation. Structured school days are maintained to facilitate a smooth transition back to their 'home' schools, and the curriculum prioritises development based on the child's stage rather than their chronological age.

Our curriculum equips pupils with the academic, social and emotional skills needed to thrive, fostering a sense of belonging, safety and achievement that supports positive long-term outcomes.