



## **The Link Secondary School**

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**2020/21**

**Post 16**

## The Post 16 Curriculum

Our Post 16 curriculum continues to develop the vision of the school offered from age 11 – 16.

Our vision is for all of our students to become happy, healthy, empowered and included adults, who participate in, and contribute towards society. To enable our students to be happy and active citizens we have created a curriculum underpinned by our four areas for development:

- Wellbeing - physical, social, and emotional
- Achievement
- Communication
- Independence

Achievement	Wellbeing
<p><b>We believe...</b></p> <p>All students should do their very best through a love of learning inspired by quality teaching.</p> <p>All students will achieve meaningful outcomes by building and developing upon their individual strengths and talents.</p>	<p><b>We believe...</b></p> <p>All students have the right to be happy and safe in school. Good emotional, physical and social wellbeing promote achievement.</p> <p>Our values promote in our students respect for themselves, others and the environment.</p> <p>All students should behave exceptionally well and care for all members of our community.</p>
Communication	Independence
<p><b>We believe...</b></p> <p>All students should be able to communicate effectively with a range of audiences confidently and responsibly.</p> <p>All students learn, develop and make progress through the targeted support of our professional Therapy Team.</p>	<p><b>We believe...</b></p> <p>All students are valued members of the community and our work enables them to become independent, responsible and active citizens.</p> <p>All students have the ability and right to be supported into the most appropriate college, training or employment opportunities when they leave school.</p>

Curriculum content is differentiated to meet the needs of all our students. Classes are small and always supported by a Special Support Assistant in addition to the Teacher. Our Post 16 curriculum continues to promote academic progress but with a renewed emphasis on preparing students for life after The Link School.

At the start of every half term all medium terms plans detailing what the students will be studying will be uploaded to the website for parents to view.

### **Pathways – Key Stage 5 : Post 16**

In Key Stage 5, the curriculum for our post 16 students will be centred on two components:

<u>College</u> College for two days	<u>In school</u> Three days a week in school
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	College	In school	Total
Johnson (Post 16)	12	18	30

### **The “college” curriculum**

For two mornings students will attend Nescot to experience a range of taster courses provided by the college. They will be supported by our staff for their time off site. Students will have lunch at the college.

Following lunch:-

- On one afternoon, students will travel back with staff on public transport
- On one afternoon, students will remain at college to complete study skills work in the library and return to school on the mini bus.



### **The “in-school” curriculum**

#### **Careers and Enterprise**

Our Careers and Enterprise course places learning at the heart of personal development and achievement, helping students to build the skills required for learning and for life.

The course develops learning skills, self-esteem and confidence by focusing specifically on team, reflective, independent and creative learning. Students will work through selected ASDAN accredited short courses to develop their skills for independent living. There will be lots of opportunities for off-site trips and experience to aid learning.

### English/Maths

Students will either follow a curriculum working towards further external qualifications or a more practical application for either subject.

### Life Skills

Covering PHSE and RSE.

### Character – Commando Joe’s

Central to the vision of our school is preparing young people to have the knowledge but also the skills to be independent in life after they move on. We are developing an innovative weekly programme, run nationally by “Commando Joe’s”, where Post 16 students develop their core attributes; communication skills, leadership skills, working with others and developing self.

	English	Maths	PE	ICT	Life Skills	DT	Commando Joe’s	Skills for Independence and Work	Access	Total
Johnson (Post 16)	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	4	2	18



## Work Experience

All students complete a week long work experience placement. Our students have worked in a range of settings; shops, cafes, nurseries, agricultural centres, schools, and with animals. We believe this is an important part of their careers education as a whole, which is threaded through so many of their everyday subjects and discussions. We comply with the statutory Gatsby Benchmarks on careers education throughout all key stages. Students will also have opportunities to work on more extensive work placements throughout the year, or integrate into new colleges as part of preparing them for their future options.



## Values

Every day school life and routines are reinforced with high expectations and aspirations for our students.

Daily we aim to develop, recognise and celebrate six key values in our young people, as an outward-facing school we name our teaching groups after inspirational role models within our local community who we believe represent each of these values. Our Post 16 group form **Johnson** class. Our classes and values are:

- Courage, *Johnson class*
- Success, *Weir class*
- Kindness, *Wood class*
- Resilience, *Rowsell class*
- Charity, *Tomlin class*
- Positivity, *Fuller class*
- Fairness, *Yates class*

**Amy Johnson** represents courage. She was a pioneering English aviator who was the first female pilot to fly alone from Britain to Australia. Johnson set out on this flight from Croydon Airport. She set numerous long-distance records during the 1930s and flew in the Second World War as a part of the Air Transport Auxiliary.

**David Weir** represents the value of success. He is a British Paralympian from Wallington. He has won a total of six gold medals in wheelchair races at the 2008 and 2012 Paralympic Games, and has won the [London Marathon](#) on eight occasions. He was born with a [spinal cord](#) transection that left him unable to use his legs.

**Wilfred Wood** represents kindness. He was [Bishop of Croydon](#) from 1985 to 2003, the first black bishop in the [Church of England](#). He came second in the "100 Great Black Britons" list in 2004. He has spent his lifetime serving others and is a dedicated campaigner for racial justice.

**Joanna Rowsell** represents resilience. She is a retired member of the Great Britain Cycling Team from the London Borough of Sutton. She is recognisable because of her hair loss caused by alopecia but never wanted this to define her. She has displayed great determination to achieve gold medals in the women's team pursuit at the 2012 London Olympics and the 2016 Rio Olympics, as well as five World Championship titles, four in the team pursuit (2008, 2009, 2012 and 2014) plus one in the individual pursuit at the 2014 World Championships.

**Françoise Tomlin** represents charity. She is the founder of The Link Schools and was a woman with foresight and vision, when in 1963 she founded The Link Primary School, providing an educational provision for children whose needs could not be met in other settings. With the aid of the Quakers, she purchased 138 Croydon Road and 'The Link' was born. The Link Secondary School was then opened in



1976 to enable pupils to transition to a secondary education, based on the same ethos. The Link Day Schools, as the group become known, are now a highly-respected much sought after provision.

**Ernie Fuller** represents positivity. He was Headteacher of The Link Secondary School for over twenty years and held a great fondness for the staff and students. He believed that anything and everything was possible. He believed in the potential of all and the power of the human spirit.

**Rose Yates** represents fairness. She was an English social campaigner and suffragette, born in Lambeth. Together with her lawyer husband she worked for female suffrage from 1908 and during the First World War, and was willing to suffer arrest and incarceration for her beliefs. After the war she was elected to the London County Council, where she campaigned for equal pay for men and women, better public housing, and the provision of nursery education.

As a school we celebrate the school values as an integral part of our Positive Behaviour Policy. Postcards are sent home when a student displays one of our values and we record, then report on this, every half term.

Commented [KH1]: Every term?

### **Therapy**

We are very fortunate at The Link to have an onsite team of professional therapists including; four speech and language therapists, two occupational therapists, a drama therapist, a school counsellor and therapeutic canine assisted learning.

All of our Post 16 students have access to this provision as part of their EHCP entitlement however our entire therapy team are a real presence in school, supporting students in their learning, collaborating with teachers and SSAs and helping us to prepare our students for things outside of the everyday school routine such as work experience, trips, health and safety drills and general wellbeing or concerns students may have.

### **Enrichment**

Our Post 16 participate in a full range of enrichment opportunities which are offered throughout the school. Each term all students go on a whole-school trip, as well as many other trips and dynamic learning opportunities throughout the year. Some of these may be to encourage enterprise such as our World of Work week, or to visit local art galleries and museums. Our Post 16 students, having gained experience with being off site and often using public transport, set a fine example for our younger students to look towards in their own attitudes and behaviour for learning.