

An Alternative Provision Curriculum Approach

Rationale

Alternative provision can provide multiple ways to support students; if they are struggling, and help them achieve their educational goals.

Students can benefit from using alternative provision as part of a more suitable curriculum as it provides a more holistic educational pathway to their specific needs that mainstream school may not, and cannot always provide to them.

The latest government thinking is placing more evidence around students' needs being met at the right time, in the right place giving the right support. The implementation of the Green Paper and other forms of legalisation around SEND and Alternative Provision is ongoing with more clarity expected by 2025. However, as a school we feel we need to adjust our SEND provision and Curriculum model to meet the needs of our students and be on the 'front-foot' of meeting the needs of every student.

In the last three years, the likelihood of young people having a mental health problem has increased by 50%. Now, five children in a classroom of 30 are likely to have a mental health problem." (Children Society). Student's mental health has become an increasingly important issue as many face depression, anxiety and other disorders that can affect their school life. Alternative provision can play a key role in improving student's confidence and mental health as it allows a more relaxed approach to education and children can work at their own pace.

Alternative provision ensures that whatever circumstance a student finds themselves in, they can continue with their education in a comfortable and familiar setting. This allows them to be fully focused resulting in their standard of work improving.

Here at Barnwood Park we recognise the impact that a bespoke curriculum can have on meeting the needs of students whether that is through Alternative Provision and/or accessing online tutoring as part of a more personalised curriculum. We source, co-ordinate, and commission a tailored Alternative Provision Package working in partnership with providers to support our students. Our Alternative Provision varies from support with SEMH, accessing learning in a smaller environment, online learning, and even pre-college placement opportunities.

Alternative provisions should be places of personal development and prioritise positive reintegration and should not be looked at as permanent destinations. We create a plan around why, how long, and reintegration plans around every student that accesses Alternative Provision from Barnwood Park.

HOW ONLINE LEARNING CAN HELP SEND STUDENTS SUCCEED IN ENGLISH, MATHS AND SCIENCE

Students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can face several challenges in the traditional classroom setting. These challenges can include difficulty paying attention, following instructions, and understanding complex concepts.

However, when appropriate measures are implemented, online learning can provide several benefits for SEND students. Their core subject knowledge can be enhanced when their specific needs are accommodated.

SUPPORT WITH ENGLISH

English requires an adaptive and dynamic learning style and online education can provide a sense of flexibility to SEND students. Students can work at their own pace and in a quiet environment that is free from distractions.

SEND students can also remain engaged when they learn online as they can constantly refine their writing skills with less fear of getting things wrong or peer pressure.

SUPPORT WITH MATHS

SEND students may require a particular level of pathway to suit their ability in maths. They can be assigned lessons that they will be able to understand. Online learning can allow students to get the individualised attention they need from their teachers. Teachers can provide active live regular feedback and support to help students stay on track.

Continuous assessment through online learning can also be very beneficial. Students can keep practising methods around a certain equation or formulae and develop their knowledge visually.

SUPPORT WITH SCIENCE

Online learning can also offer a variety of visual resources, such as videos, animations, and interactive activities in science.

Overall, online learning can be a valuable way for SEND students to succeed in English, maths and science. Here at Barnwood Park we offer 1:1 online lessons where students have more individualised support, and where online learning can help students reach their full potential.

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