

Year 9 Short Course in Child Development Curriculum Intent

What the curriculum is designed to do

Knowledge of child development is important in a variety of occupations outside of childcare and teaching, for example, in healthcare roles such as paediatricians, psychologists, occupational therapists, and speech and language therapists. The Year 9 short course in Child Development enables students to explore this sector in greater detail through studying a range of topics including Growth and Development and Importance of Play. Students will be equipped with the skills and knowledge in order to be a successful learner in KS4.

How we deliver the curriculum

The curriculum explores key content from the BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Child Development in order to give students a foundation of knowledge that they can build on when they commence the course in Year 10. A blended approach to learning will be adopted as part of the student journey to give our students the chance to explore sector specific theory, but also practically explore different sections of content. For example, students will complete a variety of research tasks as individuals and as part of groups and learn to present their information in a variety of ways. These include leaflets, presentations, posters, and extended writing tasks. However, to give students an insight of how real-life practitioners work on a daily basis, and this will include practical tasks, such as learning how to measure growth and development.

How we assess students

Students will complete at least one summative assessment per half-term, and these will be in a variety of formats that range from less formal tasks such as presentations and leaflets to more formal tasks such as responding to a brief with extended writing. The assessments aim to build students confidence, knowledge and writing techniques so they feel confident at drawing information from a provided vocational context and can produce an extended writing piece in the same format of a Pearson Set Assignment, their assessment method in Year 10.

How it benefits students learning and personal development

This short course will enable students to make more informed choice about their decision to choose Child Development as an option, as they will not have studied this course in previous years. Students will also develop key personal skills such as the ability to reflect on one's own performance, presentation techniques, compassion and empathy. These are all enhanced through the volunteering opportunities with our community links: care homes, food banks and doctors' surgeries.