Extended Curriculum

Rationale

It is our belief at Petherton Park School that, when learning outside the classroom, our Pupils attain higher levels of knowledge and skills, improve their physical health and increase their motor abilities, socialise and interact in new and different ways with their peers and adults, show improved attention and enhanced self-esteem and mental health and change their environmental behaviours and their values and attitudes.

Our wonderful school provides space and freedom for a type of learning that is difficult to replicate inside a classroom. Petherton Park School encourages Pupils to become involved in outdoor learning projects that use our natural environment. We offer gardening projects which link closely to many areas of the curriculum including science, Design and Technology and speaking and listening skills as well as activities such as natural craft and woodwork.

We also provide off site outdoor and sporting activities, ranging from horse riding to assault courses, which assist in developing self-confidence and increasing self-image. Our Outdoor and Experiential learning programme and access to off site and extra-curricular activities will give learners the opportunity to explore and learn beyond the classroom. This will allow them to build their life skills and develop a wide variety of activity specific skills and knowledge.

Through the Outdoor Learning curriculum and the access to group activities, we aim to provide Pupils with a wide variety of positive experiences that will not only help to build their self-esteem and social skills but also provide them with memories they can cherish for the rest of their lives. Our outdoor learning and experiential learning programme encourage personal growth by supporting learners in challenging and unfamiliar activities, environments, and situations. Pupils can work towards building their personal development in terms of courage, leadership, teamwork and raising self-esteem.

Little Oaks

'Little Oaks' is a 1:1 intervention specifically designed to support Pupils who show academic promise or have specific interests that can be nurtured these sessions are delivered face to face and or virtually and delivered by a subject specialist.

At Petherton Park we believe that every Pupil should access a curriculum that is linked to their career trajectory or interests that allows them to develop their understanding of the world around them. 'Little Oaks' is available to all Pupils who are working above age related expectations in core subjects and/or would like to explore subject specific knowledge.