

Subject name: Travel Training with communication KS5

General Statement of Intent

The aim of Travel Training is to help develop pupils' confidence, knowledge, and understanding of a variety of skills in preparation for being able to travel to places for work and pleasure as independently as possible.

This session includes elements of communication skills, where students learn how to ask for help, direction and matters regarding their journey. In addition, more able students practice further communication skills in real life social situations whilst out in the community, e.g. if travelling to the nearest swimming pool, students would practice asking for opening times, swimming lessons, prices and events.

The curriculum matches the needs of our learners by highlighting essential skills needed to become an independent and confident traveller. We support pupils that often have no experience of using public transport as well as navigating their way around or leaving their local area for other reasons than coming to school. Furthermore, students we support, often have little or no skills in advocating for themselves and being confident in speaking to unfamiliar people.

Students' travelling ability is assessed on an individual basis and groups are formed accordingly so that each individual is given the maximum opportunity for progress in this area.

General skills that pupils are learning through travel training are communication, navigation/ direction, solving problems, extracting information from texts and timetables, reasoning and safety.

Pupils often learn in small groups and have opportunities to share their experiences, collaborate and draw upon each other's strengths.

Travel training sessions are run at different ability levels. The lowest is where pupils practice navigating their way around the school environment, including locating rooms and people, that are familiar and unfamiliar to them.

This can progress to pedestrian skills outside of school, including traffic lights and safely crossing the road, then to using public transport.

Depending on students' needs, all of the above have appropriate level of support depending of students' abilities and confidence levels.

Firstly, pupils practice navigating to a familiar destination, such as home or work experience placements. Once they are able to do this, they then travel to an unfamiliar place, up until being ready to plan and go to an unfamiliar destination.

Part of the training also covers safety, including being able to give personal information, including full name, address and phone number, being safe when crossing roads and developing telephone skills. Additionally, students are supported to find Safe Places in the local area should they ever need support when out in the community.

Cross- curricular Maths topics covered are: direction, money and time skills, e.g: budgeting, using money to buy tickets, using digital payment methods, reading and managing time.

Assessment strategies including external examinations

Against EHCP targets on Earwig assessment software.

Through observations and pupils' self-assessment form.

Any additional notes

Oct 2023