



Ormiston  
**Meridian** Academy

# The Arch

**Our Vision** - Engage, encourage and inspire using a range of inclusive programmes to meet the needs of every individual.

**Shaping Lives**  
**Building Ambition**  
**Igniting Futures**

## **The Arch**

The Arch is a friendly, non-judgemental department within our academy having two dedicated staff who share a range of different knowledge and skills. We offer support to our students through inclusive programmes in meeting the health and well-being needs of our academy community. These programmes can be bespoke to individual students, as we realise that life challenges can make us vulnerable at times and may need social and emotional support.

## **Transition**

Working closely with primary schools we identify students that may benefit from enhanced transition packages. Initially we will visit the students identified at their Primary school, introduce ourselves and we will have a Q&A time with the students. We will then organise visits to the academy. These come in a variety of ways from groups to individual's visits. Included in this students meet key members of staff, tours of the building, activities to familiarise them with the lay out of the classrooms and activities to support their transition. Introducing some of the academy rules and expectations before they join the academy community in September.

## **Learning Curve**

The Learning curve (nurture group) supports the transition into Year 7 by building the confidence, self-esteem and social skills of the students through the sessions delivered. These are small groups of approximately 12 students. We promote positive behaviour by providing a flexible resource to young people. By modelling good inter-personnel skills we encourage improvements in self-esteem and develop confidence, enabling student to build close trusting relationships. Uses strategies that are pro-active and re-active to build resilience in young people.

## **Breakfast Club**

We offer free Breakfast Club each morning before the start of school, in a relaxed atmosphere, giving them a positive start to the day, and the opportunity to address any issues they may. This is mainly offered to

Year 7 students but is available to any student that may benefit from this for a variety of reasons. Also sharing time with both peers and staff in a social environment.

## **Emotional regulation**

The Emotional regulation programme is designed to provide young people with the opportunity to discuss, analyse and describe what triggers anger and conflict in our lives.

We provide young people with an insight into the skills and strategies needed to positively help resolve any issues and conflicts.

Give young people the opportunity to discuss and compare issues in relation to conflict and anger in a safe environment in a positive and co-operative way.

This is a 6 week programme for 6-8 students for 1 hour a week. However this may also be delivered on a one to one basis if required.

## **Self Esteem**

Through this programme will aim to raise the self-esteem and build confidence of the students, building trusting relationships enabling the student to approach staff and peers if needed.

Using the activities, discussions worksheets and art crafts we aim to promote their self-esteem, which in turn will have an impact on their achievements both in and out of the academy.

This is a 6 week programme for 6-8 students for 1 hour a week.

## **Art Therapy**

Art therapy is a form of expressive therapy using creative process of art to improve emotional, physical and mental wellbeing in a safe, relaxed area, working at the pace of the student. Art therapy can be used to relieve stress and relax the mind and body.

Staff training. Foundation to Drawing and talking therapy.

## **Physical Impairment support**

We support any students with physical impairment by making reasonable adjustments needed for each student, working with outside agencies to provide the best support and provisions for each individual student.

Provide personalised timetables if required, taking into account extra access or equipment that may be necessary.

## **Mental wellbeing support**

Working in the academy we have Mr Dawson from North Staff Minds one day each week. Working on a one to one basis with identified students.

## **Initial counselling service**

### **Bereavement support**

We are investing in training staff to complete initial counselling skills.

Cache level 2 Certificate in understanding children and young people's mental health.

Staff working towards Certificate in counselling Level 3

We are investing in training staff to complete initial counselling skills.

As an academy we are part of The Mental Health Trailblazer.

## **Dog behaviour therapy**

Angus is a highly trained behavioural dog who works with some of our most vulnerable students. Students are selected from those at risk of permanent exclusion and have been internally isolated. The overall goal is to give these students long term solutions to their barriers to education in order to lay a strong foundation for a positive future.

To achieve this the aims of the programme is to improve academic achievement, calm behaviour, increase self-esteem, social skills, confidence. Also thought this teach responsibility and respect to all life and can motivate those that have disconnected with education.

## **Princes Trust Achieve programme**

The Prince's Trust Achieve programme helps 11 to 19 year old develop the skill and confidence they need to reach their goals, through relevant, engaging and informal learning. Using flexible, modular structure to improve young people's attendance, behaviour and attainment.

## **Life skills**

For some of academy student's regular school routines are harder to achieve. To re-engage these students in education we build positive relationships with staff and peers offering a structured time in The Arch working on Life skills, introducing topics such as healthy eating and diet using 1-1 time learning about nutrition, preparation of food and producing types of food. This will link into the schemes of work for the Design and technology department.

## **New admissions**

New admissions to the academy will come to complete baseline test enabling the student to be placed in the correct classes. These also highlight ant additional support that may be required.

Before attending lessons students will be given a tour of the building, introduced to key members of staff, daily academy routines and academy rules will be explained enabling students to have a positive introduction to their new academy.

By adapting and using the schemes of work from the Design and technology department, we will introduce students that are disengaged in education to expanding their life skills, in turn building their confidence and trust.

Staff Mrs D Corbishley Learning Support Co-ordinator

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