



Bank View School

Key Stage 3 Base Curriculum

Believe, Value, Succeed

Key Stage 3 Base Curriculum Intent

A robust curriculum using a thematic approach. A curriculum that is adaptive and personalised to the needs of all learners. A thematic curriculum provides a holistic approach that immerses the learner across a range of subjects. A Base curriculum that provides learning for all pupils, across all areas of needs. Thematic learning not only enhances understanding but also promotes personal growth by nurturing skills like collaboration, empathy, and adaptability. A curriculum that reflects a variety of learning styles.

Key Stage 3 Base Curriculum Implementation

The Key Stage 3 Base Department consists of four classes on the Long Lane site and eight classes on the Speke site.

Most classes include a mixed age range of pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9. The Base provision is flexible and responsive to individual needs. Some pupils access the Base provision for a short period before successfully reintegrating into the wider school environment, while others remain within Base throughout Key Stage 3. Where appropriate, pupils may also access lessons within the main school for specific subjects.

Pupils follow a thematic curriculum delivered through a three-year cycle, with themes changing termly. Foundation subjects, Life Skills, Science and much of the English curriculum are delivered through each theme, alongside weekly intervention and EHCP outcomes lessons. Teaching staff plan an adaptive curriculum can be personalised to each class and adapted to the individual learner. Medium-term plans may include multiple pathways and differentiated learning outcomes to ensure all pupils can achieve success.

Learning is delivered through a multi-sensory approach that reflects individual learning styles. The curriculum is enriched through regular outdoor learning opportunities linked to curriculum themes and the development of personal, social and independence skills. Pupils within the SLD provision also access weekly rebound therapy sessions.

A key priority within Base is supporting both academic achievement and personal development. Opportunities to work towards pupils' EHCP outcomes are embedded throughout the curriculum, with progress regularly monitored and tracked through targeted interventions and personalised provision.

Planning ensures that, regardless of starting point, learning remains age-appropriate and provides a pathway towards Key Stage 3 programmes of study where appropriate. Through our bespoke curriculum, pupils access all Key Stage 3 National Curriculum subjects.

Strong Foundations

Alongside the thematic curriculum, pupils access personalised, evidence-based intervention sessions designed to address learning gaps from their individual starting points. Using targeted programmes like Monster Phonics, Letter-join, and White Rose Maths, these sessions help pupils acquire, secure, and apply foundational knowledge in communication, literacy, numeracy, independence, and social interaction.

To reinforce this targeted support, regular reading and communication sessions are embedded alongside regular, curriculum-wide opportunities for handwriting practice, communication development, and functional skills. This structured approach builds confidence and strengthens the core knowledge pupils need to develop strong foundations for success in school and beyond.

Cultural Capital and Careers

In Base, we recognise that Cultural Capital and Careers are a vital part of our student's education. Within each planned unit there are identified opportunities for Cultural Capital and Careers. These opportunities are consolidated and revisited as a golden thread across the three-year cycle.

Below are the chosen themes for the three-year cycle, alongside them are examples of some of the foundation subject domains and how we intend to fit them into the main topic.

	Autumn			Spring			Summer	
Cycle 1 (2025-26)	City Skylines			On the Move			Shipwrecked	
	James and the Giant Peach			Non-fiction texts Informative Writing			The Tempest	
	Cities – Location and Features			World maps			Weather and Climate	
	Industrial Revolution			USA in the 20 th Century			Elizabethan Britain and its Explorers	
	Chemistry – Changing Materials and their Properties			Physics – Earth and Beyond			Biology – Keeping Healthy	
	Architecture – Zaha Hadid Junk Modelling			Planets Art Chalks			Weather and Elizabethan (Tudor) Tall Ships Art Paints	
	My House and My City			Transport and Vehicles			The Weather	
	Religious Buildings			Pilgrimage			Words of wisdom	
	What is Money?			The UK in World Affairs - Refugees			Being a Good Citizen.	
Cycle 2 (2026-27)	Around the World			In The Hills of Great Britain			Port of Liverpool	
	Around the World in 80 Days			Wind in the willows			Non-Fiction/ Transactional Writing Liverpool Poets	
	Africa (inc Deserts)			Ordnance Survey Maps			Changing Landscapes (Environments and Coastlines) Rocks, Weathering and Soils	
	Britain's Involvement in The Slave Trade			Henry VIII (Reformation)			Local Study – Liverpool Docks and Ships (inc Titanic)	
	Physics – Electricity and Magnetism			Biology – Living things, Variation and Classification)			Chemistry – Grouping and Classifying Materials and their Properties	
	African Sculpture and Masks			British Artists and landscapes			Black and White Photography Sketching	
	Colours, Greetings and Myself and My family			Food and Drink			My Free Time and My School	
	African Art			Life After Death			Festivals	
	People Power and different religions			The History of the UK Political System			Law and Order	
Cycle 3 (2027-28)	Fantastic Lands			A New Age			A Troubled World	
	Alice in Wonderland			Midsummer Night's Dream			Friend of Foe	
	Asia (China and India)						Volcanoes and Earthquakes	
				Iron Age			WWII	
	Chemistry – Separating Materials and their Properties			Physics – Light, Sound, Forces and Motion			Green Plants	
	Textiles-Asian Art			Iron Age (Celtic) Art Swirls, circles, knots and crosses			Expressionism and Vincent Van Gogh	
	Holidays and Jobs			Clothes			Healthy Lifestyle and Being Ill	
	Creation			New Issues			Suffering-The Holocaust	
	Democracy Beyond the UK/Global Citizen			Human Rights			Elections and Political Parties	
Key:	English Reader	Geography	History	Science	Art	MFL	World Views	Citizenship
		Maths, Computing, and DT are theme related for certain elements. PHSEE and PE follow a Bespoke Curriculum						

Maths - At Key Stage 3 Maths is taught through practical investigations, White Rose Maths and Complete Maths schemes, real world mathematical application and other resources. Where possible investigations and activities either will be theme related or reflect the theme. Please see Bank View Maths Curriculum page for more information.

Computing - Where possible Computing will follow the themes, alongside a bespoke curriculum

PE - PE follows a bespoke curriculum. Please see termly theme webs or main subject PE for more details.

PSHEE - Students are taught in National Curriculum year groups for this subject. For more information see main subject PSHEE.

Music - Where possible Music will follow the themes, alongside a bespoke curriculum. Please see link to music curriculum

Lifeskills lessons- Lifeskills lessons are aimed at developing student's personal and social development, whilst promoting their independence. Pupil's EHCP outcomes related to key areas of need are be planned for when teaching, to ensure that steps towards meeting outcomes are incorporated into the activities. Curriculum Trips linked to the focus and EHCP areas of need will be planned for in the MT planning.

Assessment in Base (KS3)

Assessment in Base is subject dependent. Teachers complete start of topic assessments and end of topic assessments. This allows for teacher's planning to be adapted accordingly. Teachers complete individual assessments against the learning objective throughout lessons. In addition to this, regular assessment takes place of student's individual outcomes from their Educational Healthcare Plans.

Key Stage 3 Base Curriculum Impact

The Base curriculum in Key Stage 3 ensures that all learners make progress academically and socially, and that their sensory needs are met. The impact of their learning will feed directly into their EHCP targets.

The outcomes of each subject will be assessed at the end of each topic, following the school's assessment policy. Base curriculum will be progressive and sequential across the Key Stage.

The impact of this curriculum will have students who are ready to learn, have their individual needs met, will make progress and develop life skills and independence for future learning into Key Stage 4.

English

Class Text: Around the World in 80 days (Jules Verne) – Classic starts retelling

Pupils will:

- Explore stories and characters
- Communicate ideas
- Develop reading skills
- Develop writing skills
- Use phonics and punctuation
- Build literacy skills appropriate to their needs

Domains:

- Imaginative Writing
- Descriptive Writing
- Structuring Writing

Science

Electricity and Magnetism

- Complete and make simple series and parallel circuits
- Conductors and insulators
- Household appliances that use electricity
- Magnetism

Working scientifically:

- Predicting and testing predictions
- Making observations and measurements and presenting these and grouping according to results.

Humanities

Geography - Africa

- Continents on a World map
- Countries and cities in Africa
- African landmarks, including environmental, physical and human features
- Population, distribution and density
- Rural and urban areas of Africa, including urbanisation
- The social impact of African climate

History – Britain's Involvement in the Slave Trade

- The transatlantic slave triangle
- The boats of the Transatlantic Slave Route
- Olaudah Equiano
- William Wilberforce
- Martin Luther King

MFL

Nouns, verbs and sentences

- Colour
- Greetings
- Numbers
- Myself
- My Family

Cycle 2: Autumn Term

Theme: Around The World

Domains in colour boxes are taught through the theme

Music

Exploring the people of the Transatlantic Slave Trade through music:

- Call & response African song singing
- The Blues.

Art

African Art

- To explore African masks, their designs and their cultural significance.
- To understand that colours have meanings in African Art.
- To explore different printing techniques.
- To explore the work of an African Artist.
- To explore their own ideas to

DT

Food Technology

- Foods from around the world
- Chopping and mixing skills

DT

- Designing and Making models
- Clay

PE

- Fundamental movement skills
- A range of activities based around, jumping running, dodging, throwing and catching.
- Invasion Games
- Basketball

Maths

- Place Value

PHSEE

Year 7

- Transition and Safety
- Developing Skills and Aspirations

Year 8

- Drugs and Alcohol
- Community and Careers

Year 9

- Peer Influence, Substance use and

*English

SPAG and Vocabulary development activities.

Reading and comprehension activities

Fiction: The Wind in the Willows

Non-fiction Reading Texts

Non-Fiction: Informative and Transactional Writing

- Information texts
- Letter writing
- Diary entries

Reading

-Opportunities for regular reading and phonics work for those students who require it.

How to help your child at home:

- Lexiacore5.com (All pupils have a login)
- Reading and sharing stories
- Listen to your child read

Science

Biology – Living things. Variation and Classification)

- Habitat and environment variations
- animal adaptations
- Food chains - animal adaptations as predators and prey.
- Variation within individual members of the same species
- Similarities and differences between individuals of the same species.
- Sorting and classifying organisms into groups according to observable features.
- Animal and plant cells.

How to help your child at home:

- Going into nature/zoo/safari park to look at animals in different habitats. Look at different dog/cat breeds to see

*Humanities

Geography – Ordnance Survey Maps

- Explore the local area (Merseyside and Lancashire) using Ordnance Survey Maps
- Explore OS Maps, symbols and grid references
- Use OS maps to find locations
- Experience a fieldwork visit to points of interest on an OS map in the local area
- History – Henry VIII (Reformation)
- Find out about Henry VIII (who was he, family tree, timeline, portrait)
- Explore the wives of Henry VIII
- Explore how and why Henry VIII began the reformation in Britain
- Explore the impact of the reformation in Britain
- Visit the Walker Art Gallery (Portrait of Henry VIII)
- How to help your child at home:
- Play map games (eg worldie.teuteuf.fr)
- Look at our local area a map.
- Find out about Henry VIII

MFL

Food and Drink

How to help your child at home:
-Explore Spanish language apps

Cycle 2: Spring Term Theme: In The Hills of Great Britain

Domains in colour boxes are taught through the theme

Music

Exploring Classical Music

- Baroque and renaissance
- Orchestra layout
- Playing a Baroque piece together on tuned instruments.

How to help your child at home:

- Listen to examples of classical music.

*Art

British Art (David Hockney and Terry Cuneo)

- Explore pictures and photos of the local British countryside
- Explore the artists David Hockney and Terry Cuneo and recreate, evaluate and describe their styles.
- Visit a viewing point in Lancashire to take pictures and observe the hills in GB
- Draw, paint or create pictures of the hills and transport from the photos taken
- Explore pictures and photos of trains old and new.

How to help your child at home:

- Research/look at British Art
- Research Artists
- Look at British Transport Art

*DT

- Research transport with wheels
- Design a model of their own
- Make a model with moving wheels
- Evaluate the process verbally/written
- How to help your child at home:
- Practice cutting skills
- Research and find pictures of transport

PE

Net Wall Games

- Badminton
- Short Tennis
- Volleyball
- Kinnball

Gymnastics

- Trampolining

How to help your child at home:

Encourage your child to lead an active lifestyle.

PHSEE

Year 7- Diversity

Year 8- Discrimination

Year 9- Respectful Relationships

For more detail, please see PSHE Curriculum

How to help your child at home:

-Talk to your child about the topics they are learning about.
For useful website links to support with this, please see the PSHE termly overview.

Maths

- Fractions
- Time
- Statistics
- Position & direction

Maths is taught through practical investigations, White Rose Maths Scheme, Maths in the real world and other resources.

Where possible investigations and activities will be theme related.

How to help your child at home:

- Complete Maths (All pupils have a login)
- Look for numbers in and outside the home
- Practice number names and writing

Citizenship

The History of the UK Political System

- What is democracy?
- Political parties
- The Reformation
- Suffragettes

How to help your child at home:

- Encourage your child to take an interest in the world around them, particularly in relation to politics.

Computing

Computational thinking and Computer games

- Explore what happens in computer games and use logical reasoning to make predictions of what a program will do. We will be using scratch coding games.

How to help your child at home:

- Scratch is a free resource. Encourage your child to explore and familiarise themselves with this.

World Views

Life After Death

-Beliefs about life after death in the Muslim, Hindu and Christian religion.

-Reflecting on the journey of life and their own ideas about life after death.

How to help your child at home:

- Talk to your child about what their religion believes about life.

*English

SPAG and Vocabulary development activities.
Reading and comprehension activities

Non-fiction Reading Texts

Non-Fiction: Informative and Transactional Writing

- Information texts
- Letter writing
- Diary entries

Reading

- Opportunities for regular reading and phonics work for those students who require it.

How to help your child at home:

- Lexiacore5.com (All pupils have a login)
- Reading and sharing stories
- Listen to your child read

Science

Materials and their properties

- Experience a range of materials in solid, liquid and gas form.
- Identify and classify different materials.
- Recognise differences in solid, liquid and gases on a particle level.
- Changing state
- Dissolving
- Saturation

How to help your child at home:

- Examples of solids, liquids and gases at home. Look at how different materials can change state.
- BBC bitesize has some good examples of activities which can be used to support this topic.

*Humanities

Geography

- Changing Landscapes,
- Rocks,
- Weathering and Soils

History

- Changes to Liverpool docks, including boats and ships.
- How the docks influenced Liverpool economy and society.

How to help your child at home:

- Play map games (eg worldle.teuteuf.fr)
- Look at where Liverpool is on a map.
- Research the Liverpool docks

MFL

Likes and dislikes for leisure activities. My school.

How to help your child at home:
- Explore Spanish language apps

*DT

Photo Frames

- Designing photo frames.
- Making photo frames.

Food Technology

- Food & Cooking
- Food Origins / Provenance
- Understanding Nutrition & Health

How to help your child at home:

- Research and find images of Liverpool to decorate photo frames.
- Talk about healthy eating.

Cycle 2: Summer Term

Theme: Port of Liverpool

Domains in colour boxes are taught through the theme

*Art

- Looking at the work of photographer Ansel Adams.
- Using a range of techniques and media to record their observations i.e. photography
- Analyzing and evaluating their own work to strengthen the visual impact or application of their work.
- Understanding history of art including styles i.e. black and white photography

How to help your child at home:

- Use iPads or phones to take photos of the local area and Liverpool docks.

Music

Beatles and the history of Liverpool music, including Skiffle and Merseybeat

- Beat and rhythm skills
- Singing and playing percussion
- Building repertoire

How to help your child at home:

- Listen to examples of music from Liverpool artists.

Computing

Communicating safely on the internet.

- Develop a basic understanding of how email works.
- Gain skills in using email.
- Be aware of broader issues surrounding email, including e-safety.
- Experience video conferencing.

How to help your child at home:

- Talk to your child about how they can stay safe on the internet.

PE

Outdoor Adventurous activities

- Rock Climbing

Striking and Fielding Games

- Cricket

How to help your child at home:

- Encourage your child to lead an active lifestyle.

PSHEE

Year 7-

Year 8-

Year 9-

For more detail, please see PSHEE Curriculum

How to help your child at home:

- Talk to your child about the topics they are learning about.
- For useful website links to support with this, please see the PSHEE termly overview.

Maths

- Fractions
- Time
- Statistics
- Position & direction

Maths is taught through practical investigations, White Rose Maths Scheme, Maths in the real world and other resources.

Where possible investigations and activities will be theme related.

How to help your child at home:

- Complete Maths (All pupils have a login)
- Look for numbers in and outside the home
- Practice numbers (mental and written)

Citizenship

Law and Order

- Rules within society
- Difference between rules and law.
- Role of a police officer in making sure people keep laws.

How to help your child at home:

- Talk to your child about rules, laws, and the role of a police officer.

World Views

Festivals

- Religious celebration festivals.
- Similarities and differences between how Worldviews celebrate festivals.
- Stories behind the different religious festivals.

How to help your child at home:

- Talk to your child about what they have learnt during school.