**Context:** In the autism centre our classes in KS3 and KS4 are grouped according to a mixture of academic ability and social need. Some pupils will remain in the same class for a few years at a time, others will move class each year. We recognise, due to the way our pupils with autism learn, they need a lot of opportunities to repeat learning, in order to gain mastery of information, a lot of our pupils have working memory issues and pupils with autism can struggle to generalise information to new situations, therefore we try to contextualise learning as much as possible. Staff work on a highly individualised curriculum within each class, and this flexible approach allows staff to respond to the needs of the pupils. Some classes might have a mixture of pupils form the informal and semi-formal pathway and again, staff would be expected to differentiate the learning as appropriate.

**Intent:** It is our intention to provide a curriculum model that is primarily focussed on Preparation for Adulthood and preparing pupils for their next steps, whether that is the next stage of their development, or for their subsequent steps in life. We intend to give the pupils access to a broad range of subjects, in a meaningful way, with opportunities for overlearning and real-life experiences. We will work in a cross-curricular way wherever possible, to allow pupils to make links between concepts. The use of the rolling programme between years 7-11 means pupils have the opportunity to build on prior knowledge and master previous skills if appropriate. The curriculum aim is for pupils to acquire more knowledge, as well as greater ability to communicate and regulate.

**Implementation:** The curriculum has an overall theme each half term, which have been chosen to allow pupils to have access to a broad range of experience and activities. It is then expected each class teacher will adapt this, based on the needs and interests of the pupils in their class. Our key priorities are communication, independence and emotional regulation, these are built into every lesson and addressed at all opportunities across the day, as we recognise that these will allow our pupils to access other learning. Pupils cover the areas described below and teachers will plan sequences of work based on bsquared assessments, EHCP targets and learning plans or working towards units in accreditation, such as NOCN. Classes access reading via group texts, which will form the basis of Literacy lessons, as well as 1:1 or small group story time and pupils will access listening skills activities or phonics work, including reading books at their appropriate level. Pupils have access to a careers curriculum, as appropriate to their stage of development, including access to do daily “jobs” to develop organisation skills, in school visitors, external visits, supported work experience or enterprise projects. RSE and PHSE are delivered through a cycle of topics being covered across the year, then additional topics are covered with individual classes as needed through social stories, 1:1 work or small group intervention

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| **Term/HT** | **Autumn 1** | **Autumn 2** | **Spring 1** | **Spring 2** | **Summer 1** | **Summer 2** |
| **Year 1** | Getting to know you/ Kings and Queens | Christmas | Staying at home (our local area) | Judaism | Romans | Oceans and beaches |
| **Year 2**  **(2023-2024)** | Getting to know you/  Space | Christmas | China | Islam | Art/Music through the decades | World events-  will depend on what is happening each year |
| **Year 3**  **(2024-2025)** | Getting to know you/  Keeping safe | Christmas | Leaders | Hinduism | Planting trees | North East castles |
| SUGGESTED **Special dates &**  **Focus days / weeks**  **Compulsory coverage** | **October –** Black history month  **4-10 Oct** – Space week  5- October- National Poetry Day  **10 Oct** – Mental health day  **16-22 Oct** – Recycle week | **5 Nov** - Bonfire Night  **Nov** - Childrens book week  **Nov** - Remembrance Day  **Nov** - World Kindness Day  **Nov** - Anti-Bullying Week  **10 Nov** - Road Safety Week  **Nov** - Children In Need  **Dec** - Christmas Jumper Day  **25 Dec** - Christmas | **Jan** – Chinese New Year  **Jan** – Holocaust Memorial Day  **Jan** -LGBTQ+ month  **Feb** – Safer Internet Day  **Feb** - Childrens Mental Health Week  **Feb** – Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) | **Mar** – World Book Day  **Mar** – Careers Week  **Mar** – International Womens Day  **Mar** – Sports Relief  – Science Week  – Red Nose Day  – Mother's Day  Autism Awareness Week  **Apr** - Easter | **Apr –** End of Ramadan  **Apr** – Earth Day  **8 May** – VE Day  **May** – Mental Health Awareness Week | **Jun** – Healthy Eating Week  **Jun** – Water Safety Week  – Father's Day |

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