



Amberley Court School

Curriculum Intent, Implementation and Impact

2025/2026

OUR VISION

At Amberley Court School, our vision is to create a therapeutic, inclusive and ambitious curriculum where every pupil is nurtured to be ready to learn and inspired to achieve.

We believe that education must address the whole child: academic learning, personal growth, and emotional wellbeing.

Rooted in our values of **Compassion, Curiosity and Belonging**, our curriculum is designed to:

- **Unlock potential** by meeting pupils at their starting points and guiding them towards ambitious personal goals.
- **Provide safety and belonging** so pupils are emotionally secure, resilient, and confident in who they are.
- **Spark curiosity** through creative, engaging and relevant learning experiences.
- **Prepare for life beyond school** with the knowledge, skills and qualifications needed for further education, employment and independent living.

Our vision is that all pupils leave Amberley Court with a sense of pride, purpose and possibility – ready to shine in the next stage of their journey.

INTENT

Mission Statement – Amberley Court School A Place Where All Can Shine

At Amberley Court School, our intent is to ensure that every pupil feels safe, valued and included so that they are emotionally ready to learn. We aim for all pupils to develop resilience and self-regulation through our trauma-informed, Thrive-based approach, while accessing a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum that combines academic learning with personal, social and emotional growth. Our personalised learning pathways enable pupils to make progress from their individual starting points and celebrate achievement in all its forms. We are committed to preparing pupils for life beyond school by equipping them with functional skills, independence, enrichment opportunities and meaningful careers guidance.

Values we promote:
 COMPASSION CURIOSITY BELONGING
 The pupils will identify the others.

Knowledge	Life Skills	Leadership	Spirituality	Mental Health	Health	Emotional Skills
Morality	Social Skills	Culture	British Values	Community	Personal Skills	Independent

IMPLEMENTATION

At Amberley Court School, our curriculum is implemented through consistent, trauma-informed approaches to learning that recognise the individual needs of each pupil. We create safe, structured and nurturing environments where routines and trusted relationships enable pupils to feel secure and ready to engage. Teaching is carefully sequenced, multi-sensory and adapted, ensuring that lessons are accessible, engaging and ambitious for all learners. Staff use the Thrive Approach to support emotional regulation, and learning is continually adapted using assessment for learning and pupil voice. We place strong emphasis on experiential and practical learning opportunities, including outdoor education, creative arts, and therapeutic interventions, to spark curiosity and promote wellbeing. High expectations are combined with compassionate support so that every pupil can build knowledge, develop skills and experience success.

English	Maths	Science	History	Geography	Design
PSHE/RSE	Art	Music	P.E.	Computing	MFL

Needs of Pupils:
 ASD, SPLD, MLD, SLCN, ADHD, SEMH,
 Social Communication, Dyslexia,
 Attachment Disorder

Interventions: Mindfulness	SALT	Body Image	Social/Life skills	DROP	Outdoor Learning	Sensory
Emotional Literacy	Nurture	Problem Solving	Art/Play Therapy	Music Therapy	Gross/Fine Motor skills	Massage
Read, Write Inc	Thinking Skills	Book Buddies	Math Buddies	PRICE	Sensory Circuits	THRIVE

Specialist Roles:
 SALT Massage THRIVE
 Creative Therapies

Enrichment Days/Weeks: Science Week, STEM day, Reading Celebrations, Maths Day, End of topic open house, curriculum hook days, THRIVE Wellbeing Week

Community Links: Local businesses, schools, colleges, farms, community centres and projects are currently being approached to establish links

School Awards: Introducing THRIVE, TBC

Sports: Swimming, Daily Mile, Football

IMPACT

Standards: Pupils achieve in ways that are meaningful to them. Progress is measured from individual starting points, with EHCP outcomes guiding learning. We celebrate every step forward, whether that's academic progress, gaining functional skills, or achieving success in accreditation.

Social Communication: Pupils learn how to connect with others. They grow in confidence to use their voice, share ideas, and build positive relationships. Over time, they are able to take part more fully in lessons, friendships, and community life.

Personal Development: Pupils develop skills to manage their emotions. They begin to make positive choices, show resilience and build a sense of belonging. By the time they leave ACS, pupils are better prepared, confident, and ready for next steps.

Seadown Data	RWI Data	PIES Outcomes	Pupil Voice	Parent Survey	Self-Assessment	Observation
Learning Walks	Book Scrutiny	School Discussion	Functional Skills	Arbor Assessment	SALT reports	PRICE Debriefs

CORE SKILLS

We focus on literacy, numeracy, digital skills and communication as the foundations for learning and life. Pupils are supported to apply these across the curriculum while also developing the ability to think creatively and critically, building confidence, independence and readiness for adulthood.

Amberley Court School Curriculum

Our curriculum is carefully sequenced so that learning builds step by step, giving pupils the chance to revisit and deepen their knowledge and skills over time. We use a thematic approach, linking subjects together under meaningful topics that capture interest, spark curiosity and help pupils make connections across their learning.

All planning begins with pupils' EHCP outcomes, ensuring that individual needs and targets are at the centre of what we do. Pathways are flexible and personalised, so that each learner can make progress from their starting point and move towards ambitious, but achievable, goals.

Preparation for adulthood is embedded throughout the curriculum. From the earliest stages, pupils are supported to develop functional skills, independence and social confidence. As they move into the senior phase, they are offered opportunities for accreditation, vocational learning and careers education that equip them for further education, training and employment.

Wellbeing is not taught as a separate strand but is intertwined throughout the school day. The THRIVE Approach, therapeutic interventions and daily routines provide emotional regulation and security, enabling pupils to be ready to learn. Alongside this sits our behaviour curriculum, which explicitly teaches self-regulation, positive choices and social communication skills. These elements work together to remove barriers, support engagement and build resilience, so that pupils can thrive both academically and personally.

CORE Values

Our core values guide everything we do. Pupils are supported to show compassion for others, build a sense of belonging and stay curious about the world. These values shape learning, relationships and personal growth, helping pupils develop character and confidence for life beyond school.

OUR LEADERSHIP APPROACH

At Amberley Court, leadership creates a positive, aspirational culture where high expectations are balanced with trauma-informed practice. Leaders model reflective and compassionate practice, encouraging all staff to see themselves as leaders of learning and wellbeing.

OUR TEACHING APPROACH

Teaching is structured, engaging and adapted to individual needs. Staff model positive relationships and create safe, predictable routines that help pupils feel secure and ready to learn. Learning is practical, creative and purposeful, with high expectations balanced by compassion and support.

Intent

Implementation

Impact

Core

Our intent is for all pupils to develop secure foundations in literacy, numeracy, science and digital skills. These core subjects are taught in ways that are functional, engaging and accessible, ensuring pupils can apply their learning in real-life contexts. We want pupils to leave Amberley Court confident in their ability to use these skills for independence, further study and future employment.

Core subjects are taught through clear sequencing and practical application, with lessons adapted to individual needs and reinforced through cross-curricular links and daily routines. Staff use multi-sensory approaches, modelling and scaffolded practice to build confidence and independence. Targeted interventions such as literacy and numeracy support, Thrive-based sessions, and speech and language programmes are used to remove barriers to learning and ensure that pupils can make meaningful progress. Learning is continually monitored against EHCP outcomes so that teaching remains personalised and purposeful.

Pupils make progress from their starting points, with gaps in learning identified quickly and addressed through targeted interventions. Over time, they build secure foundations in literacy, numeracy, science and digital skills, applying these with increasing confidence in both school and real-life contexts. By closing barriers and filling gaps, pupils are better prepared for accreditation, further education and the practical demands of adulthood.

Values

Our intent is for pupils to grow in compassion, curiosity and belonging, developing the character and confidence they need to thrive in school and beyond. We want pupils to understand themselves, respect others and build positive relationships that prepare them for life in their communities.

Values are embedded through daily routines, the behaviour curriculum, PSHE, RSE and therapeutic approaches such as Thrive. Staff consistently model positive relationships and explicitly teach social and emotional skills. Pupils are supported to understand their own targets linked to EHCP outcomes and personal development goals, and success is celebrated as they achieve them. By learning to understand their own behaviour and emotions, pupils are better able to regulate, make positive choices and access learning. Opportunities for teamwork, reflection, outdoor learning and community engagement ensure that values are lived as well as taught.

Pupils show greater resilience, empathy and respect for others. They are able to make positive choices, communicate more effectively and contribute to a sense of belonging within the school. Over time, they carry these values into their families, friendships and future lives, leaving Amberley Court better prepared for adulthood.

Knowledge

Our intent is for pupils to build a broad base of knowledge about themselves, their community and the wider world. We want pupils to make connections across subjects, deepen their understanding over time and develop the confidence to apply what they know in different contexts.

Knowledge is taught through carefully sequenced, thematic topics that link learning across subjects. Lessons are adapted to pupils' needs, with key vocabulary, concepts and skills revisited regularly to strengthen retention. EHCP outcomes are woven into planning, ensuring that learning is purposeful and personalised. Interventions, enrichment and outdoor experiences further support knowledge-building by providing practical, real-life contexts.

Pupils retain and apply knowledge with increasing confidence, closing gaps in understanding and making connections across their learning. They gain a clearer sense of the world and their place within it, supported by improved communication and critical thinking skills. By the time they leave Amberley Court, pupils are equipped with the knowledge they need for further education, training, work and independent living.

HOW DO PUPILS ACCESS THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CURRICULUM?

<p>OUR CORE VISION & PURPOSE</p>	<p>CORE VALUES: Pupils will master character virtues such as bravery, perseverance, resilience, honesty & gratitude. Our nurturing approach helps to support pupils to reveal their character virtues.</p> <p>CORE SKILLS: Pupils will have confident & accomplished skills in English, Maths & Science as well as the ability to think creatively & critically, applying learning with confidence in school and life.</p> <p>KNOWLEDGE: Pupils will have a deep knowledge & understanding about our world. Our curriculum is carefully designed to prepare pupils to access further education and live independently in the wider world. We support pupils to focus on school routines & secure pupil/staff relationships, as these skills enable pupils to flourish academically and socially.</p>
<p>PERSONAL, EMOTIONAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT/RSE</p>	<p>We promote wellbeing, resilience and respect through a rights-respecting approach. Pupils learn about themselves, others and their role in society. E-safety, healthy relationships and British Values (democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance) are taught explicitly. The local authority RSE curriculum ensures pupils are equipped with the skills to form safe, positive and healthy relationships in the modern world. A strong focus is placed on emotional regulation, with pupils supported to recognise, understand and manage their feelings so they can engage positively with learning and daily life.</p>
<p>ENGLISH</p>	<p>English lies at the heart of our curriculum. We develop pupils' skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening through carefully chosen texts linked to our thematic topics. Phonics and early reading are taught through the Read, Write Inc programme, ensuring that every pupil builds a secure foundation. We promote a love of reading through daily shared stories, whole-school texts, and peer-led initiatives such as our Book Buddy scheme. Writing is taught with high expectations for progress but adapted to individual needs, with opportunities for creative, functional and purposeful writing. Communication is prioritised throughout the day, enabling pupils to find their voice and share their ideas confidently.</p>
<p>MATHS</p>	<p>We ensure that pupils have secure foundations in numeracy, problem-solving and mathematical reasoning. Through approaches such as Sumdog and supported practice, pupils gain fluency and a bank of strategies to apply in a range of contexts. Interventions and personalised support, including 1:1 tuition and peer-led Math Buddy schemes, help close gaps in learning and build confidence. We emphasise the use of maths in daily life, from handling money to measuring in cooking and outdoor activities — so that pupils see its relevance and value.</p>
<p>SCIENCE</p>	<p>Science is taught through hands-on enquiry, experimentation and discovery. Pupils are encouraged to explore, question and develop rational explanations, fostering curiosity about the natural world. Our thematic approach ensures that concepts are revisited and built upon over time, enabling pupils to make connections and deepen their understanding. Practical investigations give pupils opportunities to predict, test and evaluate ideas, building both scientific knowledge and critical thinking skills.</p>
<p>HISTORY</p>	<p>Our history curriculum helps pupils to develop a coherent understanding of Britain's past and the wider world. We inspire curiosity by asking questions such as "What was life like then?" and "How has this shaped the world today?" Key vocabulary and concepts are introduced through Knowledge Organisers, and learning is made meaningful through artefacts, visits and thematic links. Pupils build a sense of chronology, cultural awareness and an appreciation of how people's actions in the past influence our present.</p>

GEOGRAPHY	We aim to inspire in pupils a fascination with the world and its people. Pupils learn about physical and human geography, developing knowledge of environments, places and processes. Through thematic learning and practical experiences — such as outdoor education, mapping skills and local fieldwork — pupils begin to see how geography connects to their own lives. Knowledge Organisers and visual resources support retention, while discussions and projects encourage curiosity about global issues.
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	RE at Amberley Court provides pupils with opportunities to explore different beliefs, practices and traditions, fostering respect and understanding. Pupils learn about festivals, worship, rituals and ways of life, and are encouraged to reflect on the similarities and differences between faiths. This supports spiritual, moral, social and cultural development while strengthening community cohesion. Learning is discussion-rich, allowing pupils to ask questions and develop respect for diverse perspectives.
COMPUTING	We ensure that all pupils become digitally literate, able to use technology creatively and safely. Computing includes coding, digital communication, and the use of technology to express ideas and solve problems. Pupils are taught to make links between computing, maths, science and design technology. E-safety is embedded across the curriculum, helping pupils to navigate the digital world with confidence and responsibility.
LANGUAGES	Learning a modern foreign language gives pupils the chance to explore new ways of communicating and to develop curiosity about other cultures. At Amberley Court, MFL is introduced through practical, engaging activities that focus on listening, speaking and simple reading and writing. We emphasise functional language that pupils can use in real contexts, building confidence step by step. Beyond vocabulary, pupils gain an appreciation of cultural traditions, food, music and customs, helping them to develop respect and understanding of diversity in the wider world.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	We value physical activity as a vital part of health, wellbeing and personal growth. PE develops fitness, coordination and teamwork through a range of sports and activities, while outdoor learning provides opportunities for exploration, resilience and problem-solving. Pupils are encouraged to take positive risks, work collaboratively and develop a connection with nature. Swimming and other enrichment activities are provided to help pupils achieve confidence and success in physical skills that support lifelong wellbeing.
CREATIVE ARTS (Art, Music, Drama and Design)	Creative expression is central to our curriculum, giving pupils opportunities to explore ideas, emotions and identities in safe and inspiring ways. Art and design provide chances to experiment with materials and techniques, while music and drama help pupils develop confidence, communication and teamwork. Performances, exhibitions and shared projects celebrate achievement and build pride. Creative learning is also therapeutic, supporting emotional regulation and giving pupils an outlet for self-expression.
OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM LEARNING	We believe that learning does not stop at the classroom door. Pupils take part in a wide range of experiences that enrich the curriculum and bring learning to life. Local visits to museums, libraries, parks and community projects help pupils connect their learning to the real world, while trips further afield broaden horizons and create lasting memories. Forest School and outdoor learning are regular features, giving pupils opportunities to explore nature, build teamwork skills and take positive risks in a safe environment. These experiences support social communication, independence and resilience, while also deepening subject knowledge and sparking curiosity.
PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD/LIFE SKILLS	Preparation for adulthood is a thread running throughout our curriculum. From the earliest stages, pupils are supported to develop independence, social confidence and functional skills for everyday life. This includes communication, self-care, managing money, travel training and decision-making. Cooking is a key element of this strand, where pupils learn to prepare healthy meals, understand nutrition, practise food safety and develop budgeting skills. These lessons also build confidence, teamwork and independence, with practical skills pupils can use at home and in future life. As pupils progress through the school, they access accredited qualifications, vocational learning and work-related experiences that match their strengths and aspirations. Careers education, advice and guidance help pupils to plan their next steps into college, training or employment. Life skills sessions are practical and purposeful, giving pupils the confidence to apply what they learn beyond school. By the time they leave Amberley Court, pupils are better equipped for independent living, further education and participation in their communities.

ACCREDITATION AND QUALIFICATION PATHWAYS

At Amberley Court, we recognise the importance of pupils leaving school with recognised qualifications that reflect their achievements and open doors for their future. Our pathways are flexible and personalised, ensuring that every pupil can experience success and gain accreditation suited to their strengths and aspirations.

Pupils have opportunities to achieve:

- **Functional Skills exams** in English, maths and ICT, from Entry Level through to Level 2.
- **ASDAN programmes** that build life skills, personal development and independence.
- **Vocational awards** in areas such as food preparation, horticulture, design, sports leadership or creative arts.
- **Other accredited courses** that support individual EHCP outcomes and future pathways.

Assessment is ongoing and used to guide pupils onto the most suitable pathway, with qualifications introduced at the right time to ensure confidence and readiness. Success in these pathways enables pupils to move on to college courses, apprenticeships, training or supported employment, better prepared for independent adult life.



