



Communication

At Rigby Hall Special School
Valuing Every Achievement



Intent

- To develop communication skills, despite barriers to learning
- To be inclusive to all, regardless of age, stage or ability
- To be a total communication approach school
- To promote good communication
- To design and provide a curriculum to meet the needs and interests of pupils whilst promoting all children's learning.
- To allocate specialist curriculum time for Communication to best meet the children's needs.
- To reward and celebrate pupils' achievements.
- To assess the need for specialist equipment or external agency support where needed
- To monitor and evaluate pupils' progress and the quality of the outcomes they achieve.

Baselining & Target Setting: All children have a Pupil Profile that takes into account all the possible obstacles/barriers/interventions that might be effecting the child's education. This profile is then reviewed on a termly basis against their progress within Communication and adjusted as necessary.

Implementation

Accessibility: At Rigby Hall accessibility to learning regardless of learning difficulty is key to our practice. Staff have a wealth of knowledge and expertise around specialist communication, and also have access to Worcestershire Speech and Language Therapy/Therapists for help and support. Staff use 'Communicate in Print' (symbol based computer programme) to support learning in all lessons. At Rigby Hall, signing is a huge part of communication and understanding for our pupils, and all staff will be undertaking Signalong Introductory/Foundation stage course to support their signing with pupils.

Teaching Approaches: As a school we are aware that pupils are individuals and that they have a variety of different ways of accessing their learning and retaining knowledge. We endeavour to use a range of approaches in our teaching which we hope will maximise all pupil's ability to learn. At Rigby Hall we use photos and videos of pupils learning to assess the subject.

Pupil Challenge: All pupils receive the optimal amount of challenge within the Communication sessions.

Peer & Self Assessment: Pupils are constantly evaluating their own and others performances which pinpoints improvements that they need to make to consolidate previous skills.

Impact

- Pupil progress is continuously monitored and levels of attainment will be assessed at intervals throughout each Key Stage using SOLAR.
- Key Performance Indicators for each Key Stage and for each pathway ensure our pupils have the necessary skills to enable them to progress.
- Students have the opportunity to work towards external qualifications such as a BTEC, Entry level and Signalong Qualifications.

