

## EMERALD CURRICULUM

**Subject:** English

**Teacher Responsible for Curriculum:** Georgia L

### Intent Statement

At Oak Tree School, our Emerald Pathway is designed to **develop our students' engagement** with reading, writing and oracy to develop the **necessary skills for adulthood and the world of work**. Our curriculum is **broad yet accessible for all** and we aim for **our students to feel confident** in their understanding and application of **workplace-based** English skills. Our enthusiastic teachers strive to achieve this outcome by **nurturing each child's potential** through explicit teaching of reading, writing and oracy skills within a therapeutic and Total Communication environment.

### Implementation

By **explicitly teaching phonics and using visual teaching aids**, such as colourful semantics, we aim to support our students' development of reading and writing skills. By **explicitly teaching oracy skills**, we are equipping students with the communication skills and cultural capital they need to make progress in school and **interact within the community outside of school**. All pupils are encouraged to **communicate with staff** in every lesson, whether this be verbally or written. To ensure that all students **develop an interest and tolerance of others**, we offer a wide selection of texts to broaden their understanding of different cultures, countries and societies. Whilst each Scheme of Work is designed around a Class Reader, as students transition from KS4 to KS4 there is a heavier weighting on non-fiction texts to ensure that **skills for work and life are prioritised**.

### Impact

Students on the Emerald Pathway leave Oak Tree feeling **confident** in their understanding and application reading, writing and oracy skills:

- Students will consistently engage with English lessons
- Students will make progress as shown through internal tracking on Earwig
- Students will have the skills to critically examine a non-fiction text
- Students can write for different types of text (e.g. creative writing and non-fiction, real-life examples)
- Students will have developed their vocabulary and are confident using this in both their verbal and written responses
- With minimal adult support, students can contribute to different formats of conversation such as discussion and debate
- Students will gain externally accredited qualifications such as ELC and Functional Skills Level 1 & 2
- Parents and carers have a good understanding of the importance of developing reading, writing and oracy skills as well as how to support these skills at home.