



## Portland Academy – Sixth Form Centre

### **Mission Statement:**

*To create a highly-effective learning community that nurtures and develops students' potential, guiding them on their journey to adulthood.*

### **Values & Vision**

- *To value and respect individuality*
- *To offer a functional curriculum which delivers accredited and non-accredited courses and opportunities*
- *To promote independence and community inclusion*
- *To improve health and well-being*
- *To provide relevant, age-appropriate opportunities within an appropriate setting*
- *To show care and support in a safe, enriching environment*
- *To celebrate success and promote aspiration*
- *To believe in student voice*

Programmes of study are designed to provide all students with a structured and challenging curriculum that supports their development and progression in line with their abilities, plans and aspirations.

Accredited courses and non-accredited modules and activities complement the provision offer, which is linked to prior attainment and tailored to future goals.

All students leave with a completed **Passport for Life**, which has been developed throughout his or her time at Portland.

Impartial advice and guidance is offered to all students and their families throughout the 16-19 programme.



## Pathway 1

This is a **3-year** programme of study for students on the Entry level 1 continuum and who benefit from a sensory-based learning environment. The timetable offers qualifications on a continuum and combines this with enterprise experience opportunities and enrichment modules. Students work in tutor groups and share options, celebrations and assemblies with other sixth formers throughout the year.

The Qualifications Pathway 1 students study include:

- Award, Certificate and Diploma in Life and Living Skills
- The Arts Award
- In-house certificates

We promote a holistic approach; the students access rebound therapy, hydrotherapy, Bowen therapy and massage according to need. Specialist support is available for students requiring speech and language therapy, occupational therapy and physiotherapy, through referral.

Preparation for adulthood outcomes are addressed through the curriculum: meeting new people and becoming familiar with the roles of those around us; promoting self-help and choice-making skills; being part of groups and accessing community facilities, and meeting health and emotional well-being needs.

Consideration of how individual students communicate is extremely important. We will seek out opinions of adults who know students well so there is independent advocacy for young people to support choice and decision-making.

All students contribute to their EHCP and this may be in the form of a presentation or video, demonstrating situations and contexts where they have shown a preference.

Small steps of progress are captured using our bespoke Footsteps assessment, and targets are set for further progress into adulthood.



## Pathway 2

This is a **3-year** programme of study for students working towards Entry level 1 and who may require high structure and low stimulus within the learning environment. The timetable offers qualifications at entry level 1 on a continuum and combines this with work-related learning opportunities and enrichment modules. Many lessons are taught in static tutor groupings, with daily integration opportunities offered.

The Qualifications Pathway 2 students study include:

- Award, Certificate and Diploma in Life and Living Skills
- John Muir Award
- The Arts Award
- In-house certificates

Students on this pathway gain experience and knowledge of the work place through in-house work experience and lessons covering employability skills. They will also have encounters with employers both in school and on off-site visits.

All aspects of the curriculum reflect the **Preparation for Adulthood** outcomes: *Employment, Independence, Friends, Relationships and Community and Good Health*. Next steps advice and guidance is available through the curriculum and external, impartial providers and organisations.

Specialist support is available for students requiring speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, educational psychology and physiotherapy through referral. Many students on this pathway follow a SCERTS programme.

Student voice is highly valued and sought through module options, 1-1 tutorials, student council and participation in the EHCP process.



### Pathway 3

This is a **3-year** programme of study for students who are working from entry level from E1 upwards. The timetable offers qualifications from entry level 1 to level 2 and combines this with vocational opportunities and enrichment modules which develop students' character, skills and confidence. Functional numeracy and literacy lessons are taught discretely, with opportunities for skills application across the curriculum. All students will access external work placements which students are involved in planning.

The Qualifications Pathway 3 students study include:

- Diploma in Life and Living Skills (including entry level literacy, entry level numeracy, PSD)
- Functional Skills
- Duke of Edinburgh Award at levels Bronze, Silver, Gold
- The Arts Award
- Independent Traveller
- In-house certificates

All aspects of the curriculum reflect the **Preparation for Adulthood** outcomes: *Employment, Independence, Friends, Relationships and Community and Good Health*. Next steps advice and guidance is available through the curriculum and external, impartial providers and organisations.

Students are in tutor groups where they access mentoring and guidance, with the opportunity to reflect and comment on their learning and aspirations.

Specialist support is available for students requiring speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, educational psychology and physiotherapy through referral.

Student voice is highly valued and sought through module options, 1-1 tutorials, student council and participation in the EHCP process.

## Residential

We highly value residential visits and we offer a range of trips away throughout the provision:

- Duke of Edinburgh residential and expeditions in the Lake District
- Beadnell, Northumberland
- Calvert Trust, Kielder
- Skiing in Italy

