



Initiate (IN) Curriculum Overview:

Curriculum Area	Description
My Communication	The English curriculum for our Initiate learners is highly personalised and focuses on tailoring the learning experience to meet individual needs, strengths, and learning styles. This approach allows us to set personalised goals and provide adapted instruction and resources to support progress. Key aspects include individualised learning plans, targeted interventions, and ongoing assessment to track progress. The English curriculum employs a combination of structured learning activities with hands-on practical discovery and real-life experiences and there will be opportunities for promoting reading, writing and speaking and listening skills throughout the school day.
My World	In My World, learners on the Initiate pathway engage in play-based and practical activities that bring science, history and geography to life. The curriculum is designed to link directly to learners’ own experiences, fostering independence and life skills while building curiosity about the wider world. Through exploration, discovery and interaction, learners are encouraged to make connections and develop resilience for adulthood.
My Problem Solving	My Problem Solving at Redwood is designed to nurture curiosity, cognitive engagement, and develop each student’s ability to make sense of the world around them. Our learners will be offered experiences so that they can reason (verbally and non-verbally), think creatively, think systematically, and problem solve. The curriculum provides structured, accessible opportunities for learners to explore, reflect, and respond through a range of sensory, practical, and interactive experiences. The curriculum promotes self-determination, encouraging learners to express preferences, make choices, and actively participate in their own unique learning journey. By embedding thinking skills across all areas of the curriculum, we support the development of independence, communication, and emotional wellbeing, while recognising and celebrating each learner’s individual strengths and ways of learning. A key component of the Thinking Curriculum is the development of mathematical understanding. Learners are supported to build foundational maths skills such as number sense, pattern recognition, spatial awareness, and logical reasoning. These skills are taught through real-life, engaging contexts that encourage problem solving and critical thinking, helping learners to apply mathematical concepts in everyday situations. The subject area is then split into two key focuses: Mathematics and Thinking Skills, ensuring that learners have the opportunity to develop both practical and abstract thinking abilities in a way that is meaningful and relevant to them.
My Identity	Information coming soon.
My Health	Information coming soon.
My Creativity	In Initiate, Engage and Experiential, sessions are mostly taught by class leads with specialist resources created for them. They follow more semi-formal / informal learning environments with MADD accessed through thematic learning with a multi-sensory approach. All learners will have access to the specialist resources we have at Redwood, including the Music Studio, Performing Arts studio, lighting rig and arts resources. All learners throughout their 'My Creativity' journey here at Redwood will have the opportunity to work with professionals from across the sector, with opportunities including: live performances, workshops, festivals, local and national partners (including the Royal Exchange Theatre and Inspire Schools Partner) and LOTC. All learners are encouraged and enabled to work towards their individual EHCP targets by using 'My Creativity' as the vehicle for achievement.





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My Technology	At Redwood, we recognise how vital technology is—not only in supporting the Computing curriculum, but also in enriching the wider school curriculum, everyday life in our community, and, most importantly, the learning journey of each pupil. Our aim is to provide engaging, collaborative opportunities, access to high-quality content, and the chance to develop a strong understanding of online safety and new concepts in ways that meet the needs of all learners. Our Computing curriculum is closely connected with mathematics, science, and design & technology. We aim to deliver a broad and balanced programme that helps learners become both digitally literate and digitally resilient. As technology continues to evolve, our goal is to prepare learners to use, create, and express themselves with confidence through digital tools—skills that will support them throughout adulthood and enable them to be safe, active participants in a digital society. • Through our Computing curriculum, learners will: • Be responsible, confident, and creative users of technology. • Know how to stay safe online, protect themselves, and support others. • Use data and digital tools respectfully and responsibly. • Apply a range of technologies, including new or unfamiliar ones, to solve problems. • Build practical programming skills and apply computational thinking to real-world challenges. • Understand the core principles of computer science, such as logic, algorithms, and data. • Be digitally literate and actively engaged in the digital world. • Develop the confidence to use technology effectively throughout their lives. • Recognise the rules and responsibilities around how information is stored, shared, and managed. • Approach technology with curiosity, creativity, and a positive “can do” attitude. • Apply computational thinking beyond the Computing classroom. • Understand and follow SMART e-safety rules. • Know how online safety guidance applies to them and where to seek help when needed. • Transfer their digital learning to different contexts, including school, home, and beyond. At Redwood, technology is more than a subject—it is a foundation for learning, creativity, problem-solving, and safe, responsible participation in the digital world.
My Independence	My Independence is a personalised journey tailored to each learner, designed to support and feed directly into their Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) outcomes. This pathway is broken down into three key areas: Community Skills, Careers, and Food Preparation. In Community Skills, learners develop a wide range of essential life and social abilities that support their journey toward independence. This includes everything from making simple choices to managing conflict appropriately in social situations. Learners also build confidence in navigating their communities—developing travel skills, understanding budgeting, and learning how to access local services safely and independently. Social development is central to this area. Learners have opportunities to work on their social skills in a variety of contexts—whether that’s building tolerance for different environments, managing sensory or emotional responses, or learning how to interact appropriately with others. They explore how to form and maintain friendships, understand relationship boundaries, and navigate different types of social settings with increasing independence. This work also has strong cross-curricular links, particularly with ‘My Technology’, as learners explore what safe online relationships look like. They learn how to identify and respond to inappropriate behaviour, protect their privacy, and engage positively in digital spaces. If appropriate to the individual learners also work on their personal care and hygiene. Learners are supported to establish routines that promote health, wellbeing, and self-respect. These skills are taught in a way that encourages autonomy and dignity, helping learners feel confident in managing their own needs. The Careers strand offers immersive experiences across a variety of job roles, progressing to real-life work placements through our internship programme. We also welcome employers to deliver talks and workshops, opening up exciting opportunities and broadening horizons for our learners. If you could support us on our careers journey, please get in touch! Our Food Preparation Curriculum is designed to equip learners with the practical skills needed for independent living. It begins with tasting experiences, encouraging learners to explore new flavours and ingredients, and gradually builds confidence in following recipes and instructions—whether working individually or as part of a group. Learners are introduced to food safety and hygiene, including safe storage, handling, and preparation techniques. As they progress, they take on more responsibility, moving towards independent meal preparation. This includes planning weekly menus, budgeting for ingredients, and shopping independently—skills that are essential for living confidently and healthily on their own. Through hands-on learning and real-life application, learners gain the knowledge and experience to make informed food choices, manage their own nutrition, and enjoy cooking as part of their journey to independence. Together, these experiences empower learners to grow in confidence, capability, and independence as they prepare for adult life

