Play Curriculum

Curriculum Intent (why do we do it)

Play is part of our curriculum in every pathway in Key Stage 3 and 4. This is because we believe strongly that play is a learning tool that improves the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional well-being of our young people. It is also the precursor to skills needed for adulthood such as self-occupying and working with others and understanding the word around them

At Priory School, many of our student's play skills are still in the early stages of development. We believe that play offers opportunities within the curriculum and unstructured time for students to explore their interests and motivators. It also allows learning to be student led.

Through following the 6 stages of play development and the 9 areas of Schema play, we believe it allows teachers to build an understanding of how our students learn and memorise the world and new skills. This can then inform delivery of lessons across the curriculum. The different stages of play are important for our students in developing communication skills, tolerating others and building relationships. We are aware that our students are also developing into young adults and so the intent for us is to build play skills using areas of motivation but alongside this look at ways this could also be transferred into hobbies or interest they could enjoy as an adult. This can then lead to skills being generalised and also develop further areas of learning such as problem solving and exploring their feelings.

Curriculum Implementation (how do we do it)

Play is implemented across all Pathways within Key Stage 3 and 4 and is delivered once a week throughout the year. Our Play offer is based on student led development through the 6 main areas of play and through using the nine areas of Play Schema's. Across all Pathways, play is delivered throughout the year through a different focus each term and this varies depending on each Pathway Curriculum Map.

The termly themes are vehicles to develop play skills as identified in the curriculum components

Curriculum components support teachers with teaching and learning and

Curriculum	enable us to ensure progression.			
Components				
	There are 5 learning levels in play and students will be assessed as to which level			
(how do we break	they are in:			
the learning down)	Solitary Play Manipulates and explore objects			
		Joins in peek a boo games		
		Claps when prompted		
	Completes repetitive actions such as putting things			
	and out of a box			
	Dance to music			
	Responds to cause and effect activities			
		Interact with push and pull activities		
		Look for hidden objects		
		Spontaneously perform one action with an object		
	Spectator / Onlooker	Tolerates others in space while playing		
		Build towers out of blocks		
	Throws a ball			
	Turns doorknobs and lids			

	Performs two or more actions with the same object
Parallel	Be creative with objects in play such as a stick
- Graner	becoming a sword
	Express emotions through toys ie the doll is sad
	Climbs on playground structures safely
	Throws, kick and catch balls
	Take turns with peers
	Sings or joins in a song
	Combines objects based on physical similarity
Associate	Follow games with simple rules
	Can engage in imaginary play Is pretend to be someone else
	Engages in play themes they have never experienced
	Exchange objects whilst interacting with others
	Self -occupy with others around
	Imitate gestures of others
Co-operative	Works with peers alongside them on the same task
	Negotiates during activities with peers
	Interacts in small groups in unstructured time
	Makes up games with simple rules
	Plays co-operative games with others
	Copes with losing
	Plays board games with others Shares with peers
Schemas: Schematic pla	y is when students repeat the same actions, concepts
	se repeated actions can be identified as schemas, and
they give us interesting insights into student's passions, interests and how	
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	c play is especially valuable for students working at pre- s. Understanding these play schemas help engage
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Curriculum Impact	Qualitative data in relation to individual student's progress is recorded through face to face meeting with parents and an end of year report. These are also
(How do we	used to input into annual review meetings and EHCP's.
measure how	Some student have a termly target linked to play as part of their personalised learning.
successful the	

curriculum is and
how students'
progress within it?

A Play profile will be developed for each student and this will be used to measure impact both within the play stands and other identified strands within the curriculum.

As a leadership team we monitor where all students are on the components of play level to ensure the offer remains challenging for all.

Whole School Implementation Planner

Pathway 1 and 4 - Key Stage 3 - 3 year cycle

Autumn	Spring	Summer	Progress Map
Year One			
Sand	Dramatic	Water Play	Students main areas of development will be within:
Year Two			Parallel Play Associate Play
Dough	Table Top	Small World	Co-Operative Play
Year Three			Students will have a higher level of play input at this key stage to focus on a variety of play experiences and
Construction	Self- Directed	Creative Play	discovery/ embedding of skills through play

Pathway 1 and 4 - Key Stage 4 - 2 year cycle

Autumn	Spring	Summer	Progress Map
	Year One		
Table Top	Construction	Creative Play	Students main areas of development will be within:
Year Two			Parallel Play Associate Play
Competitive Play	Dramatic Play	Self -Directed Play	Co-Operative Play Students will have more focused session in Key Stage 4 to build resilience and problem solving skills

Pathway 2 - Key Stage 3 and 4. Spiral Curriculum

Autumn	Spring	Summer	Progress Map
Sand Play Water Play Dough Play	Table top games Construction Play	Dramatic Play Musical Play Small World Play	Students main areas of development will be within: Spectator/ Onlooker Parallel Play Associate Play Students will have a spiral approach to learning play skills that build year on year to build on play skills in all areas as well as using play schema's to support learning across the whole curriculum

Pathway 3 – 3 year cycle

Autumn	Spring	Summer	Progress Map
	Year 1		
Indoor Games	Making Play Dough	Outside Play	Students main areas of
Year 2			development will be within:
Exploring Material	Cause and Effect	Sand and Water	Solitary Play Spectator/ Onlooker
Year 3		Students will have play embedded	
Creative Play	Dough and Clay	Outside Play	into the delivery across the curriculum with discreet lessons taught alongside. Students will be focusing on small steps within the two main areas through sensory approaches.

Pathway 5 - 3 year cycle

Autumn	Spring	Summer	Progress Map
	Year 1		
Dough and Clay	Creative	Constructive	Students main areas of development will be within:
Year 2			Solitary Play Spectator/ Onlooker
Indoor Games	Dramatic	Creative	Parallel Play
Year 3			Students will have play embedded into the delivery across the
Dramatic	Construction	Sand and Water	curriculum with discreet lessons taught alongside. Students will be focusing on small steps within the three main areas through self-regulation activities.

Underpinning learning through play across all pathways and curriculums

Forest School – Schema approach and assessment of skills Turn Taking, Sharing and Co-Operating Planned activities during unstructured time