



EDGEWOOD ACADEMY

Connected World Curriculum Rationale

Edgewood Academy's Connected World curriculum is a bespoke, integrated programme designed to link and enrich all foundation subjects—excluding PE, Science, Maths, English, PSHE, and RSE—within a cohesive thematic framework. This curriculum is carefully crafted to meet the National Curriculum requirements by ensuring breadth, balance, and progression across subjects such as History, Geography, Art, Music, Computing, and Modern Foreign Languages, while embedding cross-curricular skills and knowledge relevant to our pupils' unique needs.

The rationale for Connected World lies in its holistic approach to education, which aligns with the school's specialist therapeutic ethos and SEND focus. It recognises that our primary-aged pupils with complex needs benefit from learning that is meaningful, accessible, and connected to real-world contexts. By integrating foundation subjects around the theme of "Connected World," the curriculum fosters curiosity about the environment, community, culture, and technology, encouraging pupils to explore their place within a wider social and global context. This thematic integration supports cognitive and emotional engagement, facilitating continuity and progression tailored to individual EHCP targets and therapeutic goals.

This curriculum is aspirational as it nurtures creativity, critical thinking, and digital literacy—key future skills outlined in the Economic Future Skills Forum 2030. It leverages the school's 1:1 iPad learning environment to personalise learning, enabling pupils to express themselves, develop communication skills, and build confidence in an accessible and motivating way. The Connected World curriculum supports emotional regulation and resilience by embedding therapeutic strategies and sensory considerations into learning activities, thus removing barriers to engagement and achievement.

By aligning with Edgewood Academy's vision of being "SAFE, SUPPORTED, INSPIRED," the Connected World curriculum ensures that pupils learn in an environment where their individuality is valued, their wellbeing is prioritised, and their potential is unlocked through innovative, inclusive, and purposeful learning experiences.



Whole School Aims

The Connected World curriculum directly reflects and reinforces Edgewood Academy's vision and values:

- **Safe to Grow:** It provides a secure, nurturing learning framework where pupils can explore new ideas at their own pace, supported by therapeutic practises and sensory-friendly resources.
- **Inspired to Innovate:** The curriculum champions creativity and thoughtful technology use, encouraging pupils to engage with digital tools and real-world problems, fostering curiosity and innovation.
- **Connected to Community:** Through thematic units that explore local, national, and global contexts, pupils build cultural and social capital, strengthening their sense of belonging and empathy.
- **Rooted in Excellence:** High expectations are embedded in personalised learning pathways, ensuring every pupil makes meaningful progress academically, socially, and emotionally.

This curriculum is a key vehicle for unlocking personal potential, building cultural awareness, and preparing pupils for future challenges by equipping them with transferable skills and confidence.

Subject Vision

The Connected World curriculum is taught to empower pupils to understand and engage with the complex, interconnected world around them. The intent is for pupils to:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of diverse cultures, histories, environments, and technologies.
- Build essential skills such as communication, collaboration, creativity, and digital literacy.
- Enhance emotional regulation and resilience through structured, therapeutic learning experiences.



EDGEWOOD ACADEMY

- Foster curiosity and self-expression in a safe, supportive environment.

This vision aligns with the school's improvement priorities by deepening the integration of technology and therapeutic approaches, personalising learning, and improving student outcomes through targeted support. It supports leadership's focus on inclusion by ensuring all pupils access a broad, balanced curriculum designed to meet their individual needs and aspirations.

Communication with Stakeholders

To ensure successful implementation of the Connected World curriculum, communication with all stakeholders—staff, pupils, families, and partner agencies—must be clear, consistent, and collaborative:

- **Staff:** Provide comprehensive training and ongoing CPD focused on the curriculum's thematic approach, therapeutic integration, and technology use to ensure confident delivery and adaptation for individual needs.
- **Families:** Share curriculum overviews, learning intentions, and examples of pupil work through newsletters, parent workshops, and digital platforms, enabling parents to support learning and emotional regulation at home.
- **Pupils:** Use accessible, engaging materials and technology tools to help pupils understand what they are learning and why, fostering ownership and motivation.
- **Partners:** Collaborate with Midlands Psychology and local organisations to align therapeutic and educational goals, sharing progress and adapting provision as needed.

These communication strategies align with the school's emphasis on community connection and respond proactively to the lack of detailed inspection feedback by promoting transparency and engagement.

Addressing Inspection Feedback



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While the most recent Ofsted inspection provided no specific feedback or grades, this curriculum rationale proactively addresses potential areas for development by:

- Ensuring the curriculum is broad, balanced, and fully compliant with the National Curriculum, thereby meeting statutory requirements.
- Embedding personalised, therapeutic approaches alongside technology to enhance engagement and progress, directly supporting the school's priority to enhance teaching and learning quality.
- Strengthening inclusion and SEND provision through a curriculum that is flexible and responsive to individual EHCP targets and emotional needs.
- Promoting clear communication and partnership with families and agencies to support holistic development, which is a key focus in SEND strategy alignment and leadership priorities.

This rationale demonstrates Edgewood Academy's commitment to continuous improvement and readiness for the 2025 Ofsted framework, emphasising safeguarding, inclusion, curriculum quality, achievement, personal development, and leadership excellence.