



EDGEWOOD ACADEMY

Physical Education and Well Being Curriculum Rationale

At Edgewood Academy, the Physical Education (PE) and Well Being curriculum is uniquely designed to meet the complex needs of our primary-aged students with SEND through a bespoke, therapeutic approach that integrates self-designed National Curriculum Objectives. This curriculum is crafted not only to fulfil statutory requirements but to go beyond them by addressing the specific gaps in physical, emotional, and social development caused by previous unsuitable educational settings or missed learning opportunities due to special needs.

Our approach recognises that physical education is not solely about physical skills but critically supports mental health, emotional regulation, and social interaction—key areas for our students’ holistic development. The curriculum is personalised and flexible, utilising a 1:1 iPad learning environment to support engagement, provide accessible instruction, and enable creative expression tailored to individual EHCP targets. This technology integration empowers students to build confidence and resilience while developing essential physical literacy and well-being skills.

The curriculum is aspirational, aiming to unlock personal potential by fostering physical competence alongside emotional self-awareness and regulation. It supports therapeutic goals by incorporating movement-based activities that promote calmness, focus, and self-regulation, which are vital for students recovering from trauma or adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). By bridging gaps in physical development and well-being, the curriculum prepares students for successful reintegration into mainstream settings or future educational phases.

This curriculum aligns with the National Curriculum’s intent to develop physical competence, healthy lifestyles, and social skills but is adapted to ensure accessibility and relevance for our students’ unique profiles. It balances physical skill acquisition with therapeutic outcomes, embedding emotional and social learning within physical activity. This approach supports the school’s core mission of nurturing safe, supportive, and inspired learners who can flourish academically, socially, and emotionally.



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Whole School Aims

The PE and Well Being curriculum is deeply connected to Edgewood Academy's vision: **"SAFE, SUPPORTED, INSPIRED."** It embodies the ethos of being:

- **Safe to Grow:** Providing a secure environment where students can explore physical activity without fear, promoting trust and emotional safety.
- **Inspired to Innovate:** Using technology innovatively to personalise learning, encouraging curiosity and creativity in physical development and well-being.
- **Connected to Community:** Encouraging social interaction and collaboration through group activities that build empathy, communication, and teamwork.
- **Rooted in Excellence:** Setting high expectations for physical and emotional progress, challenging students to achieve meaningful outcomes at their own pace.

This curriculum supports the whole-child approach, integrating physical health with mental well-being, emotional regulation, and social skills development. It reflects the school's commitment to unlocking personal potential and preparing students for future challenges by fostering resilience, confidence, and independence.

Subject Vision

Edgewood Academy teaches Physical Education and Well Being to empower students with SEND to develop their physical abilities alongside emotional and social skills essential for lifelong health and happiness. The intent is to:

- Provide a therapeutic, inclusive curriculum that supports emotional regulation through physical activity.
- Personalise learning pathways using technology and trauma-informed practice to meet individual needs.
- Bridge developmental gaps caused by previous educational disruption or unsuitable settings.
- Foster physical confidence, mental well-being, and social connection to prepare students for reintegration or progression.



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- Equip students with foundational skills in movement, health awareness, and self-care that contribute to overall well-being.

This vision aligns directly with our school improvement priorities, particularly enhancing teaching through therapeutic and technological integration, improving student outcomes via targeted support, and fostering inclusion through personalised learning.

Communication with Stakeholders

To ensure successful implementation and understanding of this curriculum rationale, Edgewood Academy will:

- Share the rationale clearly with staff through professional development sessions that highlight the integration of therapeutic approaches and technology in PE.
- Communicate with families via newsletters, workshops, and parent meetings that explain the curriculum's role in supporting physical and emotional development, including how technology supports personalised learning.
- Collaborate with external partners such as Midlands Psychology and local SEND agencies to align therapeutic and educational goals.
- Use student-friendly materials and digital platforms to involve students in understanding their learning journeys and celebrating progress.
- Maintain transparent reporting systems that showcase individual pupil progress against personalised targets, reinforcing the curriculum's impact on well-being and development.

This multi-layered communication strategy reflects the school's commitment to community connection and stakeholder engagement, addressing the need for clarity and partnership in supporting each child's growth.

Addressing Inspection Feedback



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Although recent Ofsted inspection data for Edgewood Academy is limited, this curriculum rationale proactively addresses key areas relevant to the 2025 Ofsted framework and SEND priorities:

- **Quality of Education:** The bespoke PE and Well Being curriculum ensures a broad, balanced, and ambitious offer tailored to individual needs, supporting continuity and progression in physical and emotional development.
- **Personal Development and Well-being:** By embedding therapeutic strategies and emotional regulation within physical education, the curriculum promotes mental health, resilience, and social skills, core themes in the school's vision and improvement priorities.
- **Inclusion:** The curriculum's personalised and technology-enhanced approach ensures no student is disadvantaged by prior gaps or complex needs, aligning with the school's inclusive ethos and Stoke-on-Trent's SEND strategy.
- **Leadership and Management:** The curriculum supports leadership priorities by embedding innovation, collaboration with clinical services, and data-driven monitoring of progress, ensuring continuous development and impact.

This rationale demonstrates a clear, thoughtful response to the school's context and improvement goals, positioning the PE and Well Being curriculum as a vital component of Edgewood Academy's holistic educational offer and readiness for future inspection under the latest framework.