



Amethyst Pathway– 3 I's



Amethyst representing
creativity, intuition and
wisdom

Intent

The intent of the Amethyst Learning Pathway is to provide a highly adapted National Curriculum for pupils who are ready to move beyond early engagement and begin accessing more structured learning, while still requiring significant flexibility and support.

Our Amethyst pathway is a **“Doing & Responding curriculum”** so you will see children engaged in active exploration and practical learning, responding to direction and questioning and building upon their foundational skills. You will see a mixture of incidental and adult directed learning within this pathway.

Within a whole-school thematic approach, the pathway introduces early subject-specific learning alongside a continued focus on the key areas that underpin successful learning:

- Communication and interaction
- Cognition and learning
- Emotional wellbeing and understanding of self
- Forming and sustaining relationships

The curriculum recognises that children benefit from repetition, over-learning, and the generalisation of skills, ensuring learning is meaningful, embedded, and transferable across contexts.

Amethyst aims to develop resilient, increasingly independent learners, preparing them for the next stage of their education by building confidence, functional skills, and readiness for more formal learning.

Implementation

The Amethyst pathway is delivered through a balanced approach, combining structured teaching with experiential and play-based learning, ensuring

children can access subject knowledge in ways that meet their individual needs.

Curriculum & Pedagogy

- A highly adapted National Curriculum, introduced through a thematic approach to provide meaningful links across learning
- Explicit teaching of early subject-specific skills, including literacy and numeracy foundations
- Continued use of play, functional activities, and real-life experiences to support understanding
- Planned opportunities for repetition and over-learning, enabling children to consolidate and apply skills over time
- A strong focus on generalisation, ensuring children can transfer learning across different settings and situations

Learning Environment

- Classrooms following whole school, enabling environment expectations to meet the sensory needs of all children
- Access to continuous provision, allowing children to revisit, practise, and embed learning independently
- Outdoor learning opportunities to extend experiences, support regulation, and apply skills in different contexts
- Carefully structured environments that support engagement, independence, and confidence
- Within the Amethyst pathway, there are two TEACCH classes (one Lower Key Stage 2 and one Upper Key Stage 2) designed for children who benefit from a highly structured learning environment. These classrooms use zoning and individual workstations to create clear physical boundaries and support understanding. The approach focuses on increasing organisation; making the environment predictable; clearly and visually communicating expectations; reducing distractions and lowering

anxiety. Visual supports such as schedules and visual cues are central to this approach. They help maintain consistent routines, clarify expectations, and provide students with a clear understanding of what is happening throughout the day.

Personal Development & Support

- Targeted support for communication and cognitive development, embedded across all areas of learning
- Opportunities to develop emotional literacy, self-awareness, and regulation
- Structured opportunities to build and maintain positive relationships with peers and adults
- Activities designed to promote resilience, independence, and problem-solving skills

Adults scaffold learning carefully, balancing guided support with opportunities for independence, ensuring children are appropriately challenged while feeling secure and supported.

Impact

As a result of the Amethyst Learning Pathway:

- Children make progress in early subject specific skills, particularly in communication, literacy, and numeracy
- Communication and cognition improve, with children demonstrating greater understanding and expressive ability
- Children develop stronger emotional awareness and self-regulation, supporting readiness to learn
- There is clear evidence of relationship building, including increased interaction with peers and adults
- Children can retain and apply skills over time, demonstrating successful repetition and generalisation

- Increased independence and resilience enable children to approach new learning with greater confidence
- Children become more prepared for structured learning environments and future pathways

Overall, the Amethyst pathway supports children to move from primarily experiential learning towards more structured, curriculum-based learning, while maintaining the personalised, supportive approaches needed for success.