

The Trees café & shop vision and intent

The café is situated in the heart of the Farm, surrounded by an Arboretum of trees of every species native to the United Kingdom. The students attending the college are drawn from Great Oaks, Cedar and Rosewood schools. **The Trees** draws all these links to together.

A separate action plan details the setup of the café and the shop and the lines of responsibility for Health and Safety / Finance / Food hygiene.



Key curriculum areas to be delivered;

Vocational / Creative / Skills for Living

Areas that will be enhanced through the delivery of the above;

Personal social emotional well-being / Behaviour / Communication

The café kitchen has been designed with the inclusion of young people with physical as well and learning disabilities in mind. The kitchen will have sink and cooker at an accessible height and a height adjustable island to enable demonstrations and supervised work to take place safely. The size and dimension will enable the safe movement in and out of the kitchen.

The learning intentions for the environments are for vocational work place and enterprise skills to be taught, running the café and the shop for groups of visitors.

One of the aims is to have regular visits from adult day services who will combine a visit to the Farm with a visit the café and shop run by the students. Greater links will be fostered with adult day services to support and develop positive transition for our students.

The merchandise for the shop will be designed and crafted under our creative and vocational curriculum, utilising the wood work room and art room. Students will be engaged in a creating their own designs for the crockery for the café that will be available to use and available to purchase. Students will have the opportunity to work on budgets for purchasing of materials and working out profit margins.

Our new Polly tunnel will enable more horticultural work on site and the growth of produce and plants to sell. Working outside as much as possible to help the promotion of the identified links to positive mental health wellbeing.

The life skills curriculum that supports the reduction of dependency and increasing opportunities for independence, will be taught in part in the Kitchen. As the fundamental intention for the space is to offer work experience and vocational opportunities, we will continue to maximise the use of the Lodge for teaching Life Skills.

A carefully planned timetable will ensure that there are times for the café to be opened up to the wider community and families to visit. We envisage that this will be a weekly opportunity on a Friday afternoon.

We envisage that the shop will have the capacity to hire space to local artist and artisans to sell their merchandise. This will generate income and interest in the venue.

With the adaptations to the toilet facilities and the wider space we will encourage small groups of students from Rosewood and Avenues to attend session on the farm and we will be setting up a. Regular lunch club to be run by our vocational teacher and students. Sessions on the Farm in the wood work room will enable Rosewood and Avenues students to make products that can be sold in the shop.

Future projects may include;

Sandwich making and delivery to Compass, Testlands and the Farm

Art exhibitions

Lunch clubs or Afternoon tea social opportunities for other vulnerable groups

Bakery competitions

Flower and produce exhibitions