



2021—2022

PRE-PREP

Dear Parent,

At Auckland College we have always placed enrichment at the heart of everything we do to ensure that every child develops to their full potential, both academically and personally.

We are proud that our Outstanding 2019 Ofsted report stated that “Pupils really enjoy the enriched curriculum which provides so many different opportunities, such as projects on sensory science and dances across the world.”

We continue to strive to offer the broadest range of topics that we can, and our Enhanced Curriculum provision helps us to do this.

It is important to us, therefore, that our curriculum continues to enhance our formal academic programme and provide a complete education experience for your child.

In relation to our Enhanced Curriculum, the 2019 Ofsted report also stated that **“The aim is to widen pupils’ intellectual experience, improve research skills and inspire them.”**

As last years’ programme was such a success we have decided to keep most of the activities, but will adapt their content for the 2021 – 2022 academic year to ensure they remain engaging and interesting for your child. The activities include a series of projects, which will further broaden pupils’ experiences. They embrace four key ideas. These objectives are to:

- Widen pupils’ intellectual experiences
- Improve independent learning skills
- To inspire learning within pupils
- Offer them the opportunity to study a variety of options of their choice in something they would not experience under the national curriculum.

Each project is designed to incorporate the investigation of cross- curricular academic subjects, with key skills, creativity, and a community approach. Where applicable, the outcome of each project is a display of both the end result, and the work leading up to it.

The projects link to all core subjects; Literacy, Numeracy and Science. They incorporate skill development in areas such as: dexterity, self-discipline, teamwork, creativity and singing.

There is also a wealth of choice. Pupils will opt for up to 6 different projects over the course of the year. They will have a choice of at least four options each time.

It is important to note, however, that due consideration must be made for group numbers, and places on any of the courses are limited and cannot be guaranteed, although we will continue to endeavour to place pupils in the options they have requested as far as possible. Places will be allocated on a “first come first served” basis.

Below are examples of the activities we deliver across our Enhanced Curriculum for our Pre-prep pupils. Your child’s specific Year-Group choices will be sent via a Google Form for you to choose at the start of each academic year or in the event of a change of activity part-way through the academic year.

For Pre-Prep pupils the following options will be available during the year 2021—2022:

ART AND CRAFT



Art, as well as being fun, helps to develop motor skills. Motions such as holding a paintbrush or scribbling with a crayon, are essential to the growth of fine motor skills in young children.



In the art classes children will have the opportunity to work with various mixed media creating pieces such as collages, paintings and chalk work.



CHOIR



Singing has so many benefits. Learning the words helps to develop concentration by repeated use of the 'memory muscle' plus the actual process of singing releases endorphins so is a natural antidepressant.



Singing helps children's memories. Practising musical patterns and rhythms helps form neurological pathways, with huge implications for children's learning.

Singing in a choir at an early age helps develop self-esteem, studies have shown. Performing in front of people when the choir is fully prepared and confident imprints a powerful positive impression on the child.

Additionally, children can learn to express emotion through song and it is actually a workout – improving posture. Learn to sing and feel the joy!

MUSIC



The aim of music as an extra-curricular subject in our Enhanced Curriculum is to develop our children's aesthetic judgement of different types of music and help children build social and cultural values.

Music contributes greatly to young people's development and learning as well as its artistic and aesthetic values. It is well recognised that music can help to develop the skills, attitudes and attributes that can support learning in other national curriculum subjects. This includes listening skills, the ability to concentrate, creativity, intuitions, aesthetic sensitivity, perseverance, the ability to work in a group, self-confidence and sensitivity towards others.

There are many benefits of music and dance education that go hand-in-hand with their preparation for future endeavours for our children.

- Enhanced language capabilities

Emerging evidence suggests the area of the brain controlling both musical ability and language comprehension are more related than previously thought. Music education requires children to recognize and repeat pitch, tone or enunciation of words.

- Improved memory

Music education involves a high level of memorization. Children must be able to read music by sight, play the proper notes on their

instrument or recall lyrics. This process benefits the overall memory centre of the brain.

- Strengthened hand-eye coordination

Playing a musical instrument has long been known to enhance dexterity and hand-eye coordination.

- Powerful study habits

When children are exposed to proper music education, they learn powerful study habits. Mastering their specific musical craft takes a concerted effort, consistent practice and patience. These disciplined habits translate into other areas of study.

- Teamwork

Music is often thought of as a way to foster individual expression. While it definitely is that, music can also teach teamwork. Children work together to create a cohesive, technically correct performance. Together, they form a community of like-minded individuals who can help each other reach goals.

- Mental processing & problem-solving heightened

In the end, one of the most useful benefits of music education is the increased ability to process situations and find solutions mentally. Those with musical training have been found to have higher levels of grey matter volume in their brains, which are directly tied to auditory processing and comprehension.

