



2021—2022

RECEPTION—YEAR 1

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.”**

For Reception to Year 1 pupils the following options will be available during the year 2021—2022:

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, team work, 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.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Food preparation has become one of our most popular Enhanced Curriculum choices. However, in previous years we have focussed our food preparation classes on baking.

There is a wealth of other ways to prepare food – so this year we are going to include non-baking methods of food preparation from a variety of different cultures. These will include at least one each of: a delicious salad, a pasta dish, a rice dish, a type of sweet, and a dessert.



In the classes pupils learn to:

- Take precautions, such as wearing aprons and making sure the food surfaces are clean.
- Know that heat is a catalyst and matter can change state.
- Develop team work and taking turns with various tasks.
- Think for themselves, and be creative, trying new and exciting flavor combinations and seeing what works and what doesn't. (The best cooks are those who have the courage to experiment.)
- Understand food hygiene rules.

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.



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



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.

DANCE

Dance was a popular topic last year, so we are making it available again this year. In the lessons pupils learn new ways to move – thereby improving both co-ordination and memory skills.



The aim of the course is to use and explore the fundamentals of dance. It will help to improve posture, flexibility and balance. In learning specific dance moves it will also help to practice focus and allow an exploration into different types of music, as well as simply being fun.



Furthermore, movement combinations increase memory, order, and sequencing skills.

Dance also increases self-esteem which is so very important to learning. Utilizing dance in academics also helps children develop skills that are necessary for learning such as creativity, communication, critical thinking, and collaboration.

YOGA STYLE

We have incorporated Yoga in our Enhanced Curriculum to use as a potential tool for children to deal with stress and regulate themselves. Yoga provides training of mind and body and helps bring emotional balance.

In this topic pupils will learn some gentle exercises and stretches similar to those studied in Yoga.



The poses they learn to hold will help to improve focus and concentration as well as promoting good physical and mental health.



The topic will also help build muscle strength and flexibility.

Benefits of yoga:

- helps children manage their anxiety
- improves children's emotional regulation
- boosts children's self-esteem
- increases children's body awareness and mindfulness
- enhances children's concentration and memory
- develops children's strength and flexibility

DRAMA

Drama is another of our most popular topics. In learning drama we aim for your child to experience a variety of fun situations where they can have plenty of opportunities to develop the important early skills, such as:

- Pretending
- Social play
- Social interaction
- Language development
- Imagination
- Self-esteem



They will do this through games, role-play, paired and group tasks, the use of props and acting out scenes from familiar stories.

