

CURRICULUM **POLICY NO. 79**

Aims and underlying principles

We aim to provide for all students a safe and secure environment, conducive to learning and creativity, and opportunities to:

- Have a broad and balanced education, based on Steiner Waldorf principles, that encourages them to fulfil their potential for spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical development.
- Acquire and develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and qualifications necessary to become healthy, well-adjusted adults who can live, work and be happy in society.

Education and Care staff work together to ensure that Life Skills and Personal, Health and Social Education is covered by a 24hour curriculum.

Curriculum

The Steiner Waldorf Curriculum (see The Educational Tasks and Content of the Steiner Waldorf Curriculum, published by Steiner Schools Fellowship Publications) has been revised and adapted for students at Philpots Manor School by the teachers. Each year it is personalised by each teacher to meet the needs of their students.

At Philpots the students have considerable access to arts and crafts work that supports their emotional and creative development. They are able to ride and care for horses, an activity that most students find healing. They have access to a wide and varied physical education curriculum that supports their physical development.

We have a full time counsellor, art and play therapist for students who need particular support in managing their anger, feelings or in overcoming events in their lives. There is also Therapeutic Speech, Curative Eurythmy and Bothmer Gym. Students with Specific Learning Difficulties are given individual lessons by our Learning Support teacher.

To meet the wide variety of academic ability within the school we have developed a number of different ways of accrediting the work of students. Each student is entered for Entry Level and/or GCSE English, Maths and Science if and when they are ready for them. The older students also take Entry Level Art and their work in Stable Management, Riding, Weaving, Pottery, Art, Gardening, Woodwork, Foreign Languages, Life Skills, Cookery, IT, Ceramics, Sailing and other subjects can be accredited by the Open College Network.

Some older students also go offsite to take courses at Central Sussex College or the Wealden Skills Centre if they wish to pursue part time courses that are not offered at Philpots. There is also the opportunity for work experience for older students.

There are various extra-curricular activities available for residential students. These include cycling, swimming, sailing and outdoor pursuits. There are sporting links with local groups and individual music lessons, sometimes off-site.