Budmouth Academy - Curriculum Overview

Aspirations 'No Limits' Curriculum

What is 'No Limits'?

Our unique No Limits curriculum is ambitious, enriching, broad and balanced. Designed to go beyond the traditional curriculum it combines the acquisition of knowledge with the development of power skills. Our students have regular opportunities to apply their learning and demonstrate their power skills in real world contexts. Engaging in learning in this way deepens understanding, and results in high levels of achievement as well as preparing pupils/students for an ever changing world.

Students are taught the full National Curriculum, and this is enhanced through several different learning approaches. These are designed to challenge and engage students allowing them to acquire and apply knowledge in single discipline subjects as well as through Applied Learning.



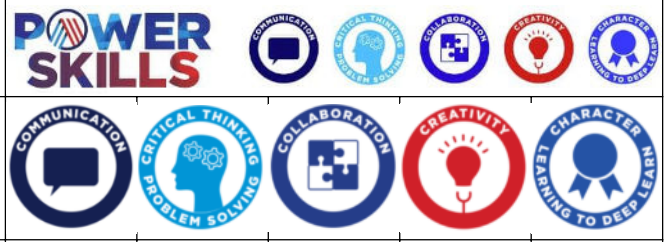
What is Applied Learning?

Applied learning is the real-world application of knowledge and power skills that includes relevant, practical experiences. This can be through:
1. Problem-Based Learning: Students work on real-world problems, developing solutions through research and critical thinking.
2. Experiential Learning: Students participate in activities like experiments, simulations, and fieldwork.
3. Project-Based Learning: Students undertake projects that require applying their knowledge and skills to produce a tangible outcome.
4. Work-Based Learning: students gain experience in a real-world professional setting.
5. Service Learning: Combines community service with academic learning, emphasising civic responsibility and reflection.

Why is Applied Learning Important to us?

Aspirations 'No Limits' Curriculum aligns the application of knowledge and skills to the world of work. Our Careers and Employability plan enables authentic opportunities and experiences within the real world. It ensures our curriculum remains relevant and evolving.
1. Enables students to engage with people, place and processes.
2. Enhances understanding and retention by deepening learning (relevant/engaging).
3. Can be differentiated easily.
4. Makes learning more purposeful.

Three Guiding Principles 8 Conditions of Success Power Skills





Self-Worth:
- Belonging: Feeling I am part of a team while being recognised for my uniqueness.
- Heroes: Having people we can look up to, learn from and respect.
- Sense of Accomplishment: Being recognised for effort, perseverance and citizenship as well as achievement.



Engagement:
- Fun and Excitement: Being actively involved in our learning so that we lose track of time.
- Curiosity & Creativity: Being empowered and encouraged to ask questions and explore solutions.
- Spirit of Adventure: A culture where taking risks is valued and encouraged.



Purpose:
- Leadership & Responsibility: Leading our own lives by taking responsibility for our actions.
- Confidence to Take Action: Believing in ourselves and being motivated to reach our dreams.

COMMUNICATION	CRITICAL THINKING PROBLEM SOLVING	COLLABORATION	CREATIVITY	CHARACTER LEARNING TO DEEP LEARN
Actively listening to receive, retain and process information in order to accurately convey knowledge and ideas to meet an agreed purpose and audience.	Applying knowledge to make connections, identify and analyse patterns using logical reasoning to find solutions to real-world situations or challenges.	Working cooperatively with others towards achieving a shared goal. Supporting, encouraging and developing each member of the team along the way.	Using imagination to generate innovative ideas which are developed and refined through exploration, collaboration and problem-solving.	Self-regulating using strategies that promote perseverance and resilience. Taking responsibility for one's own learning and being able to overcome setbacks to achieve goals.

Budmouth Curriculum & Teaching

Our Vision & Values

Our vision is 'To empower future generations to follow their dreams and to build a society of which we can all be proud'.

Our aim is to deliver an authentic education for the children of our community to thrive. We aim to ensure all students achieve high levels of success in an ambitious range of qualifications including GCSE and A Level examinations, alongside industry based Vocational qualifications, whilst at the same time equipping them with the knowledge and power skills required to play an active and successful role in today's highly competitive, exciting and fast-changing world.

Our values of Respect, Excellence and Determination are at the heart of everything we do and every decision we make.



Respect: We value every voice, every background, and every person - respect makes us stronger together.



Excellence: We take pride in our learning - we aim high and challenge ourselves to do and be our very best.



Determination: Every setback is a learning opportunity - determination is our power.

Our Curriculum

At Budmouth Academy, our curriculum is built to prepare students for the realities of today's world—and the challenges of tomorrow. We deliver an authentic education that develops deep knowledge, applied understanding, and the essential power skills needed for future success. Students learn in a culture of high challenge and strong support, where engagement is expected and excellence is achievable. This vision is brought to life through our Budmouth Basics Playbook—a clear, consistent approach to teaching and learning across the academy.

We are unwavering in our commitment to high-quality teaching. Every lesson is carefully structured, knowledge-rich, and rooted in evidence-informed practice. Teachers use explicit instruction, expert modelling, and purposeful practice to ensure students not only understand but remember what they learn. Regular retrieval and meaningful assessment are embedded to strengthen long-term memory and guide next steps.

High expectations are the norm for every student. Teaching is both inclusive and responsive, with adaptive approaches used to meet the needs of all learners in the classroom. Teachers continually check understanding and adjust their instruction in real time—providing the right level of challenge and support so that every student can succeed. Through collaboration, reflection, and shared best practice, we ensure that learning is accessible, ambitious, and focused on securing strong outcomes for all.

Our curriculum is underpinned by the best available research on how students learn. We prioritise the key concepts and skills that sit at the heart of each subject. These are carefully sequenced and revisited over time, enabling students to build connections, deepen understanding, and retain knowledge in the long term. Curriculum overviews are organised by year group, giving clear insight into what is taught each half term across all subjects. Each subject also provides a detailed statement and overview outlining its intent, implementation, and impact, ensuring coherence from long-term planning through to classroom delivery. These plans are reviewed regularly to remain responsive, relevant, and aligned with whole-school priorities.

All subjects use Google Classroom to share resources, revision materials, and independent study opportunities. This enables students and families to access learning anytime, revisit key content, and stay organised—while allowing teachers to provide timely feedback and ongoing support.

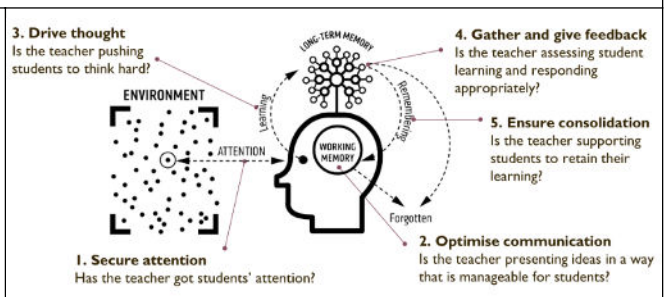
Budmouth Basics Playbook - Our Teaching & Learning Strategy

At Budmouth Academy, we believe that every student deserves exceptional teaching in every lesson. Our Budmouth Basics Playbook provides a clear, consistent and evidence-informed approach to teaching and learning, ensuring that all students have the opportunity to succeed, regardless of the subject they are studying or the teacher leading the lesson. The Playbook is built upon educational research alongside the teaching approaches that have consistently proven successful at Budmouth Academy. It provides a common lesson structure — Strong Start, I Do – We Do – You Do, and Strong Finish — which supports students to develop knowledge, build confidence and achieve highly.

While every lesson follows these shared principles, our teachers retain the professional freedom to tailor activities, resources and teaching strategies to meet the needs of their subject and the students in front of them. This balance of consistency and flexibility helps create engaging, purposeful learning experiences across the academy.

Our approach is guided by five core principles:

1. Secure Attention – Creating calm, purposeful classrooms where high expectations and positive routines enable every student to learn.
2. Optimise Communication – Delivering clear explanations and modelling new learning through explicit instruction and guided practice.
3. Drive Thought – Breaking learning into manageable steps that develop understanding, fluency and deeper thinking.
4. Gather and Give Feedback – Regularly checking understanding and providing meaningful feedback that helps students improve.
5. Ensure Consolidation – Using retrieval and deliberate practice to strengthen long-term memory and enable students to apply their learning with confidence.



Our commitment is simple: Every Teacher. Every Lesson. Every Time.

By embedding consistent, high-quality classroom practice, we ensure that every Budmouth student experiences inspiring teaching, develops a love of learning, and is equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to achieve their full potential.