





**The Early Years and Foundation stage (EYFS) framework shapes the enhanced continuous provision in Mercury.**

The main classroom, activity rooms and covered outside area provide an enabling environment to support our students to play and learn, both independently and alongside their peers and adults. Resources are carefully selected to provide to fully benefit from continuous provision. The construction area provides equipment to investigate, such as, how high they can build a tower or develop fine motor skills using busy boards/Lego/jigsaws etc. The outside area provides opportunities for sensory play and creativity, while enhancing cognitive development and functional skills. Various opportunities are available for students to develop play, exploration and build their knowledge and skills across the provision in other resource rich areas such as the sensory room, home area, art and craft room, reading corners and the main classroom area where students learn how to develop their personal, social and emotional skills and physical development in daily dance sessions, shared reading activities, small group work tasks. Reading, phonics, maths and literacy activities are built into the structure of the day either independently, 1:1 or in small groups. The organisation and structure of Mercury also enables students to return to their explorations and consolidate their learning over the course of a day or a more extended period. When students do this, they can explore what happens to things as they change over time and make changes to explore new ideas and challenging their learning; developing resilience and perseverance. The provision is linked to the needs and interests of the current students in Mercury this academic year, and provides familiar areas to explore; allowing students to make choices and initiate play with or without interaction with an adult. The curriculum is enhanced through engaging termly topics from the Cornerstones Curriculum with cross curricular links including literacy activities. White Rose maths provides schemes of learning to support personalised activities. Forest school and horticulture sessions provide opportunity to safely explore and manage risk taking. The curriculum follows a holistic, learner-centric approach by encouraging students to think about their actions, how things work and how they are connected. All students have daily interventions delivered by therapists and support staff.