



Hereward College

Promoting individual achievement



Learning for Life

Sensory programme for
learners with profound and
multiple learning difficulties (PMLD)



Learning for Life study programme

In Learning for Life students experience a sensory curriculum and learn skills in making choices and communicating with others.

Young people also work on physical targets to increase fine and gross motor skills and are encouraged to develop independence during lessons and unstructured times such as breaks and lunches.

Lessons are taught using a multi-sensory

approach where sensory needs can be met using touch, sight, taste and smell.

Switch-based technology is used for cooking activities and students take part in other cause and effect activities.

This is a five days per week study programme.

Bespoke learning and support plans

Teachers have a detailed understanding of the starting points of learners with high needs. They use this information effectively to develop learners' individual learning and support plans. Teachers and support staff work closely with the clinical team to put in place appropriate therapies and adjustments. As a result, learners participate in a bespoke curriculum that supports them to achieve to the best of their ability. **Ofsted report – June 2023**





Communication

Pre-entry to Entry Level 2

Students will develop communication skills at a pace which suits their individual needs through all senses and using a total communication approach including:

- Makaton
- Objects of reference
- Picture exchange communication system (PECS) symbols
- Sensory cues
- Body signs
- Use of voice output communication aids
- Through an intensive interaction approach.
- TOBI cards (true object-based icons)

We also ensure communication opportunities such as sensory massage, music and touch sessions, sensory stories, choice making activities and trips out are all embedded into the curriculum.

Ongoing partnerships with home and care services are also important to ensure the skills developed in the classroom are used in all areas of a young person's life.



Cognitive

Cognitive skills are developed and embedded throughout the curriculum in fun and practical ways including:

- **Problem solving** throughout the day including at break and social times with one to one support from staff.
- **Participation** in activities such as art, cooking and music to explore different areas.
- **Sequencing** skills using ICT and switch-based activities.



Physical

You will learn about body awareness, develop fine and gross motor skills and work on your mobility through:

- Weekly sessions with the **physiotherapy** team.
- **Personal independence** and fitness sessions such as sound and touch, sport and drama.
- Access to a **sensory room** for both relaxation and learning.



Social and emotional

Students will develop relationships inside and out of college, understand personal care and develop a sense of self through:

- Visits in the local community to increase **social skills**.
- Taking part in **cross-college activities** such as shows, celebrations, Easter and Christmas markets and other enterprise projects.
- **Participating** in lessons with other learners on the Foundation Pathway.
- Working to targets for developing **personal care** and understanding.



How do I apply?

Learners are assessed through direct application to the college or upon receipt of a consultation from the local authority.

Places are funded by your local authority through an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and the final decision on placement is made by the local authority.

For more information or to make an application:

Email **admissions@hereward.ac.uk**

Visit **[hereward.ac.uk/contact](https://www.hereward.ac.uk/contact)**

Call **024 7646 1231**



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