

'A Truly Unique Learning Experience'



# ADO RIVER VALLEY PROSPECTUS

[www.adorivervalley.co.uk](http://www.adorivervalley.co.uk)

[education@adorivervalley.co.uk](mailto:education@adorivervalley.co.uk)

A Not-For-Profit Community Interest Company



## RELEVANT CURRICULAR CHOICES FOR FURTHER EDUCATION

# We Are ADO River Valley

We firmly believe in the effectiveness of outdoor education. Our school is based within a 6.5-acre site in Welling, on the outskirts of South-East London! Our school has features consisting of woodlands, a river, therapeutic gardens, adventure sport zones, equine facilities including stables, an arena and a round pen, small animal enclosures and so much more! We are providing opportunities within an engaging and enriching curriculum, with vocational learning as the priority.

Our more traditional learning spaces are timber-built classrooms including an ICT and examinations room.

We look at education differently to traditional settings and have students who are happy and proud to be part of our school.



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# What We Do

ADO River Valley is an Independent Special School, providing a holistic approach to create flexible learner centred programmes for young people. Our school welcomes students who are aged between 14-19 years (Year 10-Year 14). We have some fantastic opportunities for our students who are all requiring additional support.

We specialise in working with students who have Social, Emotional, Mental Health Issues, with other linked and associated needs. We feel strongly that educating outdoors has a positive impact on our students, and our therapeutic interventions are taken as seriously as our educational curriculum.

ADO RIVER VALLEY  
PEARSON CENTRE 14124  
UKPRN - 10068165



# Specialist Courses

Our targeted specialist subjects complement core subjects, providing vocational qualifications for students.



EQUINE STUDIES



ANIMAL CARE  
AND  
MANAGEMENT  
STUDIES



LAND BASED  
STUDIES

# Curriculum & Qualifications

Each of our career pathways aim to teach essential life, vocational, work and communication skills. Each course on offer is based on a daily educational programme, that prepares young people with social, emotional, mental health needs and learning disabilities to live as independently as possible and participate in their local community. We provide the opportunity to achieve a wide variety of accredited qualifications, whilst developing, independent living skills, self-confidence, resilience and 'skills for life'. We offer a wide variety of BTEC courses relating to our specialisms, we follow the Functional Skills Model for our core subjects including English, Mathematics, and Digital Skills.

We are also an AQA Accredited Centre and offer many Unit Award too.



# Specialist Courses Part 2

Diverse options for pathways into different business sectors, improving personal development and successful transitions into adulthood.



SPORT & LEISURE



YOUTH &  
HEALTHCARE



BUSINESS  
STUDIES

## Therapeutic Curriculum

We treat our therapeutic curriculum with equal importance as our academic curriculum. Students take part in 'mindfulness' every day at ADO River Valley. They follow the Zones of Regulation framework, and have opportunities to attend Group Art Therapy, Group Assisted Activities, and 1:1 sessions with our Equine Facilitated Interactions lead as standard. Bespoke therapies also available, including input from Psychotherapy, CBT, OT, and SALT.

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# Core Pathways at ADO River Valley (KS4 Curriculum)

## Linguistic

English Functional Skills (Pearson)  
From Entry Levels- Level Two

## Mathematics

Maths Functional Skills (Pearson)  
From Entry Levels- Level Two

## Science and Humanities

Science Level 1 Introductory BTEC in Applied Science

Geography AQA UAS

## Technology

Digital Skills Functional Skills (Pearson)  
From Entry Levels- Level One

## Human and Social

PSHE AQA UAS

RSE AQA UAS

## Physical and Aesthetic

Adventure Sport AQA UAS

Mindfulness AQA UAS

## Creative Education

Level 1 Introductory BTEC in Art and Design

## Outdoor Education

Level 1 Introductory BTEC in Land Based Studies

# Career Pathways at ADO River Valley

Please note our specialist subjects are available in many levels, to ensure we can help each student to reach their full potential. We can deliver courses which are as high as the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diplomas, however more commonly our students complete the Level 1 Introductory, the Level 1/2 First Awards, and Level 2 Technical Diplomas when they are here with us (based on their cognitive abilities). If a whole course is not achievable for a student, they can be working on specific units within the correct levelled qualification within their chosen subject.



Animal Studies



Equine Studies



Sport & Leisure



Land based Studies



Youth and Healthcare



Business Studies

# EQUINE STUDIES

OUR HORSE-BASED CURRICULUM PROVIDES MULTIPLE QUALIFICATIONS THAT ARE ACCESSIBLE FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE A CAREER INTEREST IN THE EQUINE INDUSTRY. OUR COURSES PROVIDE VOCATIONAL LEARNING, WITH HORSES AT THE HEART OF TEACHING AND LEARNING. MANY OF OUR STUDENTS HAVE LOW STAMINA AND RESILIENCE, YET AS THEY ENGAGE IN CARING FOR THE HORSES, THIS BEGINS TO BUILD ON THEIR OWN SELF-CONFIDENCE, INDEPENDENCE & PERSONAL CARE SKILLS. WE AIM TO CHANGE THE FOCUS FROM DISABILITY TO ABILITY WITH THE HORSES PRESENT TO HELP THE STUDENTS REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL. THIS HELPS THOSE WHO MAY HAVE EXPERIENCED SOCIAL ISOLATION, BY COMING TOGETHER ENGAGING IN SMALL PEER GROUP WORK WITH THOSE WHO SHARE THE SAME INTERESTS, HELPING TO PROMOTE SELF-AWARENESS & RECOGNITION FOR OTHERS.

LEARNING WITH OUR HORSES INVOLVES CONSISTENT EXERCISE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WHICH HELPS PROMOTE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT, IMPROVED PHYSICAL FITNESS, POSITIVE SELF-IMAGE AND CLEARER, MORE LOGICAL THINKING.

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# ANIMAL SCIENCE

OUR ANIMAL-BASED CURRICULUM IS SUITED FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE A PASSION FOR ANIMALS AND THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED TO SEEK A CAREER WORKING WITH ANIMALS. THROUGH A COMBINATION OF WRITTEN AND PRACTICAL STUDIES, OUR ANIMAL COURSES SUPPORT STUDENTS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND RESILIENCE REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE THIS. THROUGHOUT OUR VAST ANIMAL-BASED CURRICULUM, STUDENTS LEARNING IS SCAFFOLDED BY THE 'FIVE FREEDOMS OF ANIMAL WELFARE'.

OUR AIM IS FOR STUDENTS TO LEARN TO ACTIVELY PROMOTE FREEDOM FROM HUNGER AND THIRST, DISCOMFORT, PAIN, FEAR AND GIVING THE ANIMALS THE FREEDOM TO EXPRESS NORMAL BEHAVIOUR. THROUGH STUDENTS CARING FOR OUR ANIMALS, THEY BEGIN TO SEE HOW THIS CAN BENEFIT THEIR OWN INDEPENDENCE SKILLS IN THE SAME VEIN. CARING FOR ANIMALS CAN SUPPORT STUDENTS TO UNDERSTAND WHY WE SHOULD AND NEED TO CARE FOR OURSELVES AND EACH OTHER IN SOCIETY AND ACCEPT OUR DIFFERENCES. HAVING A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWS OUR STUDENTS TO FEEL A SENSE OF PURPOSE. KNOWING THAT THE ANIMALS NEED THEIR CARE, CAN BE THE INCENTIVE TO FACE THE NEXT DAY WITH PURPOSE AND PROVIDES DAILY OPPORTUNITY FOR ACHIEVEMENT AND IMPROVE THEIR WELL-BEING.

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# BENEFITS OF EQUINE & ANIMAL STUDIES

CONTACT WITH THE WARMTH AND WISDOM OF OUR HORSES OR WORKING WITH OUR OTHER ANIMALS THROUGH COURSES AND QUALIFICATIONS, HELP TO AID RELAXATION FOR STUDENTS WHO MAY REQUIRE THERAPEUTIC AIDS IN LESSONS.

WE BELIEVE THAT ONCE STUDENTS EXPAND ON THEIR ABILITY THEY THEN BEGIN TO RESPOND AND START TAKING FURTHER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEMSELVES. PREVIOUSLY IF SELF CARE HAS FELT IMPOSSIBLE OR THEY HAVE LOST THE POINT OF TRYING, WE SEE THAT THE FOCUS OF CARING FOR A HORSE OR ANIMALS ACCORDING TO THEIR CHOSEN SUBJECT PATHWAY INTEREST CAN PROVIDE THE INCENTIVE AND MOTIVATION FOR LEARNING AND SELF CARE.

PREPARING HEALTHY AND NUTRITIOUS MEALS FOR THE HORSES OR ANIMALS CAN RESULT IN A SENSE OF PURPOSE AND WILL TO CARE FOR THEMSELVES.



# ENVIRONMENT STUDIES

WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT LEARNING THROUGH RISK RAISES EXPECTATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENT. RISK-TAKING EMPOWERS STUDENTS, INCREASES SELF-ESTEEM, ENGAGEMENT & BUILDS RESILIENCE TO FAILURE AND PRACTICE. ALLOWING STUDENTS TO LEARN THROUGH RISK-TAKING HELPS THEM GROW BOTH ACADEMICALLY AND PERSONALLY. OUR LAND-BASED CURRICULUM PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN IN AN ALTERNATIVE VOCATIONAL SETTING AND SEE THAT THERE ARE A VARIETY OF OUTDOOR CAREER OPTIONS.

INCREASED SELF-ESTEEM AND PURPOSE CAN STEM FROM MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING BIODIVERSITY, SUPPORTING THE LAND AND ITS ANIMALS, GROWTH OF PLANTS & FOOD GROWING, EXPERIENCING OUTDOOR COOKING AND TAKING THAT FOOD TO THE TABLE. BEING IN NATURE AND GREEN SPACES IS PROVEN TO BENEFIT MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WELL-BEING AND OUR APPROACH TO LEARNING ENABLES THIS ECO-THERAPY TO BE PART OF THEIR DAILY EDUCATION PROGRAM. LEARNING AND BEING MINDFUL IN NATURE CAN BENEFIT THE STUDENTS' WELLBEING AND ALSO TEACHES THEM SKILLS FOR LIFE.

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# SPORT & LEISURE

OUR SPORT AND LEISURE COURSES PROVIDE TRANSFERABLE SKILLS SUCH AS TEAMWORK, CREATIVITY, MULTI-TASKING, ALL WHILST PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLBEING. STUDENTS WHO ARE STUDYING OUR SPORT AND LEISURE COURSES ARE SUPPORTED TO MAINTAIN POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING.

THE COURSES ARE SUITED TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE A SKILL, INTEREST OR DESIRE TO DEVELOP SPORT THROUGHOUT THEIR LIVES, AND PERHAPS EVEN AS A CAREER. THE COURSES PROVIDE A BALANCE OF THEORY-BASED LEARNING, WITH DIRECT LINKS TO ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY AND REGULAR PHYSICAL SESSIONS SUPPORTING MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WELL-BEING.

STUDENTS CAN ACCESS PRACTICAL VOCATIONAL LEARNING AND DECISION MAKING TO USE GOOD JUDGMENT, ALL WHILST RELEASING ENDORPHINS AND HEALTHY POSITIVE HORMONES INTO THE BODY.

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# BUSINESS

BUSINESS STUDIES IS A SUBJECT THAT CAN BE IMPERATIVE FOR STUDENTS THAT WOULD LIKE TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN ASSOCIATED LAND, ANIMAL OR SPORT BUSINESS, AND WORK FLEXIBLY FOR THEMSELVES WITHOUT THE PRESSURES OF STRIVING TO FIT IN TO STRUCTURED EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS.

BUSINESS STUDIES OPENS DOORS FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE THEIR OWN INTERESTS THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE AS A POTENTIAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY OR IDEA. THESE OPPORTUNITIES MAY INCLUDE FOR EXAMPLE, A PERSONAL FITNESS TRAINER, TREE SURGEON, ANIMAL CARE CONSULTANT OR A DOG GROOMER, UTILISING OUR INTERNAL TEACHING SKILLSET AND THE SUBJECT STUDIES WE SPECIALISE IN.

BUSINESS STUDIES ENABLES STUDENTS TO LEARN AND UNDERSTAND THE BACKGROUND FUNDAMENTALS TO RUNNING A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS, INCLUDING FINANCIALS, COLLABORATION, PLANNING AND MARKETING.

COURSES IN THESE SUBJECTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR POST16 YEARS- PENDING POPULARITY/ UPTAKE.

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# YOUTH & HEALTHCARE

STUDYING HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE OR YOUTH WORK ENABLES STUDENTS TO LEARN HOW TO HELP OTHER PEOPLES PHYSICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL WELL-BEING.

AS SOME OF OUR STUDENTS MAY HAVE EXPERIENCED ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACE'S) THEY MAY FEEL A SENSE OF PURPOSE TO GIVE BACK TO SOCIETY AND BE INVOLVED TO IMPROVE OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE'S LIVES WITH APPROPRIATE EMPATHY.

YOUTH WORK STUDIES CAN BE A REWARDING AND IMPORTANT CAREER CHOICE TO WORK TO MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

STUDYING THESE SUBJECTS CAN ALSO PROVIDE A STRONG ASSOCIATED QUALIFICATION TO A SPORT AND LEISURE COURSE AS YOUTH WORK IS ABOUT SUPPORTING THE ACTIVE AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF A YOUNG PERSON'S LIFE.

COURSES IN THESE SUBJECTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR POST16 YEARS- PENDING POPULARITY/ UPTAKE.

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# FURTHER INFORMATION

## NUMERACY & LITERACY

THESE KEY LIFE SKILLS ARE EMBEDDED THROUGHOUT OUR CURRICULUM AND ARE NOT ONLY DELIVERED IN ENGLISH AND MATHEMATIC LESSONS. FROM BUDGETING AND PURCHASING STOCK FOR THE VARIOUS BTEC COURSES, CALCULATING ANIMAL/EQUINE FEEDS, SUPPLEMENTS AND MEDICINES TO WRITING EMAILS/ MAKING CALLS RELATING TO ORDERS DURING LESSONS.

PATHWAYS ARE INDIVIDUAL TO THE STUDENT. THEY MAY FOCUS ON LEARNING FUNCTIONAL SKILLS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING, OR MAY WORK TOWARDS AN ACCREDITED PEARSON FUNCTIONAL SKILLS QUALIFICATION IN MATHEMATICS OR ENGLISH FROM ENTRY LEVEL 1 TO LEVEL 2 AS PART OF A SMALL GROUP.

## HOW CAN I ATTEND?

IF YOU DECIDE YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURSUE US AS A 14-19 FURTHER EDUCATION SETTING, PLEASE SPEAK WITH YOUR RELEVANT LOCAL AUTHORITY CASE OFFICER TO REQUEST A REFERRAL OR CONSULTATION. WE WILL THEN WORK WITH YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY TO ORGANISE THE NEXT STEPS. YOU CAN ALSO FOLLOW US ON SOCIALS WHERE WE SHARE INFORMATION REGARDING OUR SCHOOL OPEN DAYS.

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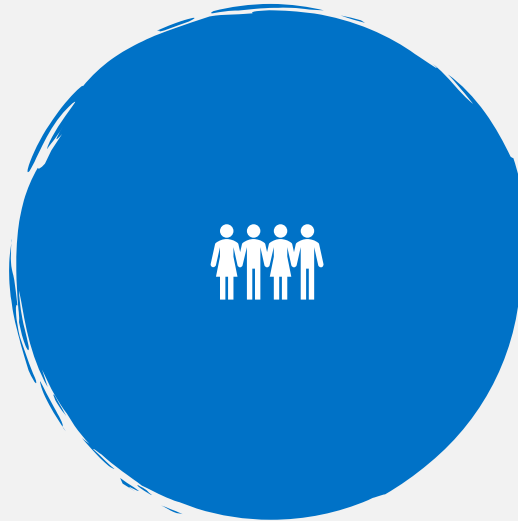
# Our Team

ADO River Valley have a strong experienced team, working to engage young people in education whilst providing coping skills for life. Our students feel part of something special, which is our accepting school community. Our school Ethos links to Neuro Linguistic Programming, and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy methodologies which enables students to make the best of their future, irrespective of traumas within their past.



Office

**Our office is ready to take your call and is supported by an experienced business management team**



Education Team

**Our headteacher leads a team of high-quality educators who have a diverse knowledge and skillset**



Pastoral Team

**Our therapeutic team embed Mindfulness, and Zones of Regulation into daily school life. In addition, students get offered a wide variety of therapeutic interventions on both group and 1:1 basis.**

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**'OF ALL THE PATHS YOU TAKE IN LIFE,  
MAKE SURE SOME OF THEM ARE DIRT'**

# ADO RIVER VALLEY

- Specialist Education
- Holistic Approach
- Learner Centred
- Specialist Staff
- Unique Delivery



A Truly Unique Learning Experience

Outdoor Education - Flexible Programmes -  
Therapeutic Interventions - Pearson Centre  
(BTEC) JCQ Approved – AQA Unit Awards  
Scheme - Jack Petchey Achievement Awards –  
Core Subjects



**POETS CORNER CENTRE**

**19A KEATS ROAD**

**WELLING**

**KENT**

**DA16 3NB**

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