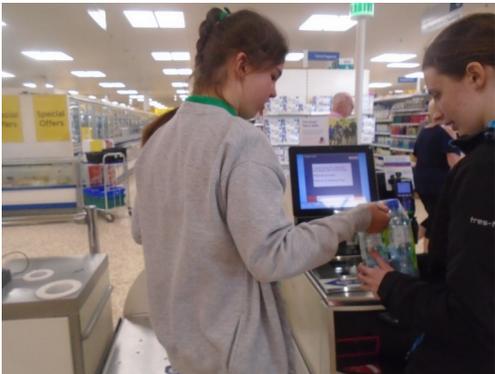


What is 'Independent Living Skills Group?'

Each pupil at St Mary's receives a weekly Independent Living Skills group lesson.

The lesson is jointly planned and delivered by education, therapy and residential staff.

Pupils learn a range of versatile and adaptable skills required for independent living and vocational success.



For more information about OCR Life and Living Skills vocational qualification please visit:

www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/vocational-qualifications

What do the pupils learn?

The structure and focus of lessons is informed by the Oxford Cambridge and RSA (OCR) Life and Living Skills vocational qualification curriculum. Each pupil accesses an entry level of teaching which corresponds with their level of ability. Pupils receive a certificate upon completion of the entry level.

Skill areas targeted by the OCR Life and Living Skills vocational qualification include:

- pre-employability
- personal
- social skills

The St Mary's Independent Living Skills group curriculum breaks down these broad topics into smaller steps with a half-termly focus on specific skills development.



Independent Living Group topics

Independent Living Group topics for 2017-18 are as follows:

Autumn Term 2017:

Budgeting and cooking
Safety in the community

Spring Term 2018:

Home management
Environment and community

Summer Term 2018:

Budgeting
Transition



How are the pupils taught?

Independent Living Group incorporates practical learning opportunities and teaches real life skills in real life environments.

Lessons are appropriately differentiated for each pupil according to their areas of strength and need. Pupils individual learning styles are also reflected in the multisensory approach used in teaching.

Teaching incorporates the use of specialist therapeutic strategies, tailored to the needs of the pupils and includes the use of; colour coding, symbols, signing, adaptive equipment and communication aids.



What St Mary's offers

St Mary's School & College provides residential and non-residential education, care and therapy for pupils aged 7-19. Our pupils have speech, language and communication needs and may also have associated physical and learning difficulties.

Our therapy, health and wellbeing teams and on-site facilities enable us to deliver provision across the waking curriculum. Our model of integrated therapy means that the pupils' needs are planned, provided, and assessed in natural and functional settings. There is the opportunity to develop high levels of trust and familiarity leading to strong therapeutic relationships. We work as a multidisciplinary team to maximise independence levels and the development of 'tools for life'.

The ultimate aim is for every pupil to achieve as much independence as possible so that they can live a fulfilled life.

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Independent Living Skills Group



Independent Living Skills Group
at St Mary's