

**Programme of Study**  
EMA Gillingham, North Dorset



*Find your future...*

## EMA - Programme of Study - Gillingham

### Programme Overview

The EMA Gillingham Study Programme offers a personalised curriculum that helps every learner build the skills and confidence needed for adult life. Learning is based around five key areas - My Communication, My Independence, My Wellbeing, My Thinking and Problem Solving Skills, and My Creativity - which together promote communication, life skills, confidence, and community engagement.

Students follow either the Discovery or Horizons pathway, depending on their support needs and learning goals. The programme combines classroom learning with practical experiences such as the Pop-up Café and community activities, encouraging independence and teamwork. Progress is tracked through the EQUALS Moving On framework and, where appropriate, Functional Skills qualifications in English, Maths, and Digital Skills. The aim is to help every learner achieve positive outcomes in employment, independent living, community participation, and good health - supporting a smooth transition into adult life.

### MY COMMUNICATION

#### Timetabled Subjects:

- Communication and Relationships (Core subject)
- Communication and Choice (All pathways)
- English/Functional Skills English (E3-L2 for Horizons)

#### Integration Across All Areas:

- All subjects incorporate communication development
- Intensive Interaction principles embedded throughout
- Choice-making and preference expression in all activities

### MY INDEPENDENCE

#### Timetabled Subjects:

- Independent Living Skills (ILS) (Core subject - all students)
- Cooking for Self (Discovery pathway)
- Sensory Cooking (Discovery pathway)
- Enterprise (All pathways)
- Problem Solving (Horizons pathway)

#### Integration Focus:

- Self-care and daily living skills
- Choice-making and self-advocacy
- Preparation for adult responsibilities

### MY MY WELLBEING

#### Timetabled Subjects:

- Gym/Physical Activity (All pathways)
- Sensory/Wellbeing (Discovery pathway)
- Gardening/Outdoor Sensory (Discovery pathway)
- Community Access (All pathways)
- Community (Discovery pathway)

#### Integration Focus

- Physical health and fitness
- Mental health and emotional regulation
- Sensory regulation and comfort
- Social relationships and community participation

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### MY THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

#### Timetabled Subjects:

- Maths/Functional Skills Mathematics (E3-L2 for Horizons)
- Digital Skills (All pathways)
- Problem Solving (Horizons pathway)
- Enterprise (All pathways - problem-solving elements)

#### Integration Focus

- Mathematical thinking and number skills
- Technology use and digital literacy
- Logical thinking and problem-solving strategies
- Planning and organisational skills

### MY CREATIVITY

#### Timetabled Subjects:

- Creative Skills (All students)
- Pop-up Café (All students - creative hospitality elements)
- Gardening/Outdoor (Creative environmental engagement)

#### Integration Across All Areas

- Creative expression embedded in all curriculum areas
- Arts, music, and creative projects
- Aesthetic appreciation and personal expression
- Creative problem-solving approaches

## CROSS-CURRICULAR SUBJECTS

### POP-UP CAFÉ (All Students)

#### Primary Curriculum Area: My Creativity (with elements across all areas)

- My Communication: Customer service, social interaction
- My Independence: Enterprise, responsibility, time management
- My Wellbeing: Social confidence, community connection
- My Thinking: Money handling, problem-solving, planning
- My Creativity: Menu planning, presentation, hospitality innovation

### TUTOR TIME & ALL ABOUT ME TUTORIAL

#### Cross-curricular integration of all 5 areas

- Personal development and relationship building
- Individual target setting and progress review
- Preparation for Adulthood outcomes focus

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**CURRICULUM MAP**

**Year 1: “Discovering My World”**

**Key:**

**Discovery Pathway**

**Horizons Pathway**

**Cross-Pathway**

Half Term	My Communication	My Independence	My Wellbeing	My Thinking & Problem Solving	My Creativity
1: Getting to Know Each Other	<p><b>Communication and Relationships</b> - Building trust and basic communication methods</p> <p>Functional Skills English (E3-L2) - Personal communication and relationships</p>	<p><b>Sensory Cooking</b> - Exploring food choices and basic self-care</p> <p>ILS - Building structured independence</p>	<p><b>Sensory/ Wellbeing</b> - Physical comfort and emotional regulation</p> <p>Physical health awareness and emotional development</p>	<p><b>Choice-making switches and basic cause/ effect</b></p> <p>Functional Skills Maths (E3-L2) &amp; Digital Skills - Foundation concept</p>	<p><b>Creative Skills</b> - Sensory art exploration</p> <p>Personal creative skills development</p>
2: Exploring My Environment	<p><b>Environmental communication and contextual understanding</b></p> <p>English - Workplace communication and report writing</p>	<p>ILS - Safe exploration and environmental comfort</p> <p>ILS - Developing independent living routines</p>	<p><b>Gardening/ Outdoor Sensory</b> - Environmental engagement</p> <p>Health routines and group fitness participation</p>	<p><b>Environmental awareness and spatial understanding</b></p> <p>Mathematics - Practical calculations &amp; Digital - Basic computer skills</p>	<p>Gardening creativity and environmental aesthetics</p> <p>Creative skills in work contexts</p>
3: Finding My Voice	<p><b>Communication and Choice</b> - Developing personal voice</p> <p>Communication for independence and work preparation</p>	<p><b>Self-advocacy through choice-making</b></p> <p>Self-advocacy and decision-making independence</p>	<p><b>Sensory regulation and emotional expression</b></p> <p>Emotional intelligence and social wellbeing</p>	<p><b>Symbol understanding and memory development</b></p> <p>Mathematics - Practical calculations &amp; Digital - Basic computer skills</p>	<p>Personal creative expression</p> <p>Creative skills in work contexts</p>

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Half Term	My Communication	My Independence	My Wellbeing	My Thinking & Problem Solving	My Creativity
4: Building My Skills	<p><b>Communication for daily activities</b></p> <p><b>Communication for independence and work preparation</b></p>	<p><b>Cooking for Self - Skill consolidation</b></p> <p><b>Self-advocacy and decision-making independence</b></p>	<p><b>Physical development through Gym</b></p> <p><b>Emotional intelligence and social wellbeing</b></p>	<p><b>Skill-related thinking and quality awareness</b></p> <p><b>Abstract thinking and practical problem-solving</b></p>	<p><b>Creative expression of achievements</b></p> <p><b>Creative skills development and community contribution</b></p>
5: Connecting with My Community	<p><b>Community interaction and social inclusion</b></p> <p><b>Functional community communication</b></p>	<p><b>Community Access - Supported participation</b></p> <p><b>Community Access - Independent participation</b></p>	<p><b>Community comfort and social wellbeing</b></p> <p><b>Community health and social participation</b></p>	<p><b>Community understanding and navigation</b></p> <p><b>Community navigation and social problem-solving</b></p>	<p><b>Community creative participation</b></p> <p><b>Community creative contribution</b></p>
6: Celebrating My Progress	<p><b>Communication celebration</b></p> <p><b>Communication mastery and expansion</b></p>	<p><b>Independence achievements</b></p> <p><b>Independence consolidation and Year 2 preparation</b></p>	<p><b>Wellbeing celebration and summer preparation</b></p> <p><b>Wellbeing participation and summer maintenance</b></p>	<p><b>Reflection and continued learning</b></p> <p><b>Thinking skills integration and advancement</b></p>	<p><b>Creative celebration and artistic joy</b></p> <p><b>Creative participation and artistic contribution</b></p>

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### CURRICULUM MAP

#### Year 2: “Preparing for My Future”

#### Key:

Discovery Pathway

Horizons Pathway

Cross-Pathway

Half Term	My Communication	My Independence	My Wellbeing	My Thinking & Problem Solving	My Creativity
1: Strengthening My Independence	<p><b>Communication consistency</b></p> <p><b>Workplace and community communication with problem-solving</b></p>	<p><b>Self-care consistency and choice confidence</b></p> <p><b>Independent living mastery and household management</b></p>	<p><b>Comfort seeking and health communication</b></p> <p><b>Health self-advocacy and emotional intelligence</b></p>	<p><b>Daily problem-solving with choice reasoning</b></p> <p><b>Household problem-solving and financial thinking</b></p>	<p><b>Creative expression with creative choice</b></p> <p><b>Creative skills development and community projects</b></p>
2: Mastering Daily Living	<p><b>Advanced need expression</b></p> <p><b>Communication excellence and presentations</b></p>	<p><b>Routine ownership and personal care excellence</b></p> <p><b>Professional independence and workplace responsibility</b></p>	<p><b>Enhanced comfort and health awareness</b></p> <p><b>Professional wellness and occupational health</b></p>	<p><b>Enhanced problem-solving with advanced choice</b></p> <p><b>Professional mathematics and advanced digital skills</b></p>	<p><b>Enhanced creative expression</b></p> <p><b>Creative skills in work contexts</b></p>
3: Accessing My Community	<p><b>Community communication and public interaction</b></p> <p><b>Public communication and service navigation</b></p>	<p><b>Community comfort and choice</b></p> <p><b>Transport independence and community services</b></p>	<p><b>Community wellbeing and social comfort</b></p> <p><b>Community health and public wellbeing</b></p>	<p><b>Community problem-solving with social reasoning</b></p> <p><b>Abstract thinking and practical problem-solving</b></p>	<p><b>Community creativity and public expression</b></p> <p><b>Creative skills development and community contribution</b></p>

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Half Term	My Communication	My Independence	My Wellbeing	My Thinking & Problem Solving	My Creativity
4: Preparing for Work/ Services	<p><b>Work communication and task communication</b></p> <p><b>Professional workplace and customer service communication</b></p>	<p><b>Work environment comfort and routine participation</b></p> <p><b>Professional skills and job preparation</b></p>	<p><b>Work wellbeing and task satisfaction</b></p> <p><b>Workplace wellbeing and professional health</b></p>	<p><b>Work problem-solving and task thinking</b></p> <p><b>Workplace thinking and professional reasoning</b></p>	<p><b>Work creativity and task creativity</b></p> <p><b>Workplace creativity and professional creative skills</b></p>
5: Planning My Future	<p><b>Future preference expression</b></p> <p><b>Goal communication and planning discussions</b></p>	<p><b>Future choices and transition participation</b></p> <p><b>Life goal setting and transition management</b></p>	<p><b>Future wellbeing and transition comfort</b></p> <p><b>Future health planning and transition wellbeing</b></p>	<p><b>Future thinking and planning reasoning</b></p> <p><b>Strategic life planning and future problem-solving</b></p>	<p><b>Future creativity and planning creativity</b></p> <p><b>Creative future planning and goal setting</b></p>
6: Ready for Transition	<p><b>Achievement communication</b></p> <p><b>Communication mastery and expansion</b></p>	<p><b>Independence celebration and transition confidence</b></p> <p><b>Living readiness and employment preparation</b></p>	<p><b>Achievement wellbeing and celebration joy</b></p> <p><b>Health mastery and wellbeing leadership</b></p>	<p><b>Reflection thinking and achievement understanding</b></p> <p><b>Mastery thinking and success planning</b></p>	<p><b>Celebration creativity and achievement expression</b></p> <p><b>Creative mastery and success celebration</b></p>

## CROSS-PATHWAY INTEGRATION

### Shared Experiences:

- Pop-up Café: All students participate regardless of pathway
- Community Access: Differentiated by pathway level but shared experiences
- ILS (Independent Living Skills): All students participate with differentiated outcomes
- Physical Activity/Gym: Inclusive sessions with pathway-appropriate adaptations

### Formal Qualifications Integration (Horizons Only):

- Functional Skills English: Delivered through My Communication curriculum area
- Functional Skills Mathematics: Delivered through My Thinking and Problem Solving curriculum area
- Digital Skills: Delivered through My Thinking and Problem Solving curriculum area

## PREPARATION FOR ADULTHOOD OUTCOMES

### All curriculum areas support the 4 key outcomes:

1. Employment: Pop-up café, enterprise, digital skills
2. Independent Living: ILS, cooking skills, household management, self-advocacy
3. Community Inclusion: Community access, social communication, public engagement
4. Good Health: Physical activity, wellbeing focus, health advocacy, sensory regulation

## ASSESSMENT AND PROGRESSION

### Discovery Pathway:

- EQUALS Informal Curriculum: Progress tracking through engagement and choice-making
- Moving On: Recognition of personal progress and achievements
- Sensory Assessment: Tracking preferences, comfort levels, and engagement

### Horizons Pathway:

- Formal Qualifications: Functional Skills English, Mathematics, Digital Skills (E3-L2)
- EQUALS Semi-Formal: Academic and practical skill development
- Moving On: Workplace readiness and independence preparation

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