



a revolutionary response to school

Statement of Aims of Atelier 21 Future School

Atelier 21's aim is to create an inclusive, democratic learning space that empowers young people to lead their education, embrace personal responsibility, and cultivate curiosity, creativity, and innovation. We aim to prepare students not only to thrive in a fast-changing world but to contribute meaningfully to it.

We are a school where children are given time, autonomy, and encouragement to explore their interests, master skills at their own pace, and thrive in a culture of mutual respect. Our educators see themselves as researchers of children, dedicated to delivering an engaging and personalised educational experience that considers each child's age, aptitudes, and needs, including those with EHC plans.

We aim to create a school where children's days are filled with challenge, inspiration, friendship, and laughter. Through relevant and meaningful learning experiences, we foster the skills essential for young people to succeed in the 21st century: academic mastery, curiosity, self-regulation, empathy, collaboration, and creativity. Atelier 21 is a nurturing community where mutual respect between adults and pupils is at the core of everything we do.

Our flexible and emergent curriculum, informed by the UK National Curriculum, enables children to participate fully in their education. Through our *Personal Responsibility Model*, pupils develop accountability, autonomy, and a sense of agency, equipping them to become motivated, life-long learners.

Atelier 21 focuses on building confident, curious, and resilient learners. Our pupils make strong progress from their starting points, acquiring the knowledge, skills, and understanding to thrive in real-life situations and in their future lives.

Learning at Atelier 21 is holistic. Pupils engage in a mix of small-group instructional teaching, project-based learning, and self-directed study. Alongside these approaches, a structured, broad, and balanced curriculum ensures academic rigour, with formal assessments to track progress. We nurture a love of the natural world through *WILD Friday* outdoor learning and encourage entrepreneurial thinking through the *Enterprise Curriculum*. From Reception to Year 6, *Big Studies* connect humanities with other subjects in a transdisciplinary way. Core subjects like English, maths, and science are taught both discreetly and through integration across the curriculum.

To continue this approach in secondary education, Atelier 21 delivers the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme for Years 7–11. The IB's focus on inquiry-based learning and authentic, real-world assessments aligns seamlessly with our ethos. This ensures that our students leave as adaptable, capable learners ready to thrive in the 21st century.

Our partnership with Guy Claxton as the school's patron further strengthens our philosophy. His *Learning Power Approach*—centred on developing a growth mindset and learnable intelligences—teaches pupils how to persevere, reflect, and embrace the challenges of learning. By distinguishing between 'learning mode' and 'performance mode,' children gain the tools to understand their own progress and take charge of their learning journey.

Atelier 21 staff work to develop positive, respectful relationships with pupils, recognising each child as an individual with unique skills, attributes, and needs. This supportive approach ensures children feel valued and empowered in their learning. Pastoral care focuses on helping pupils navigate the social, academic, and personal challenges of school life.

Our overarching aim is to equip children with the mental tools and confidence to enjoy learning now and throughout their lives. We want them to embrace challenges, make mindful decisions, and feel empowered to lead fulfilling, independent lives. Atelier 21 is a place where every child can thrive, surrounded by opportunities to grow, learn, and explore.

James Ashcroft

Executive Head