

Food (Cooking) – Subject Intent

Welcome to Cooking Skills

Cooking Skills is a dynamic, student-led course that introduces learners to the joy, creativity, and life-long value of cooking. This is a space where students not only learn how to cook, but also gain confidence in the kitchen, explore global cuisines, and build essential life skills such as meal planning, budgeting, and food safety.

What Is the Cooking Skills Course About?

Each session is designed to teach students a range of practical cooking techniques—from basic knife skills and baking to making sauces, handling meat, or preparing plant-based meals. Alongside developing technical skills, students also:

- Explore dishes from different cultures and countries
- Learn how to budget for ingredients
- Adapt recipes to suit dietary needs and sustainability goals

Students are encouraged to make choices about what they cook, try new flavours, and stretch themselves with challenging and unfamiliar recipes.

What Will Students Learn?

Cooking techniques (e.g. sautéing, roasting, dough-making)

Food hygiene and safety

Cultural awareness through international dishes

Budgeting and ingredient substitution

How to read and follow recipes confidently

What Do Students Achieve?

By the end of the course or term, students will:

- Have a portfolio of recipes they've cooked and mastered
- Understand how to plan meals on a budget
- Be more independent, creative, and confident in the kitchen
- Gain a deeper appreciation of food from a variety of backgrounds and traditions

Why Students Love Cooking Skills

This course is a highlight for many—it's hands-on, creative, and social. Students enjoy the chance to explore their own tastes, share their food with others, and develop skills they'll use for life. For many, it's a chance to take ownership of their learning and discover passions they didn't know they had.

Assessment

Students have the opportunity to record their achievements through an ASDAN accreditation, AQA Unit Awards or Children's University.