Curriculum Intent – Functional Skills Maths and English

1. Curriculum Vision & Ethos

At Rosscon Training College, our Functional Skills Maths and English curriculum forms the foundation of every learner's journey. It reflects our ethos of 'Second Chances, Real Skills, Real Futures,' ensuring all students develop the core literacy and numeracy skills required for success in life, work and further education. These essential qualifications underpin employability, confidence and self-efficacy for students re-engaging with education through vocational pathways.

2. Curriculum Intent – Functional Skills Maths

The intent of our Functional Skills Maths curriculum is to enable learners to apply mathematical knowledge and skills confidently in everyday and vocational contexts. The curriculum aims to build fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills that support independence and progression.

Key Aims:

- Develop confidence in using numbers, measures, and data.
- Strengthen reasoning and analytical thinking through applied tasks.
- Embed problem-solving through real Rosscon contexts such as budgeting, stock-taking, and measurements.
- Prepare students for Level 2 progression and workplace demands.

3. Curriculum Intent – Functional Skills English

The Functional Skills English curriculum is designed to develop learners' ability to communicate clearly and effectively in reading, writing, and speaking & listening. Learners engage with texts and tasks that are relevant to their vocational pathway, ensuring English remains purposeful, practical and empowering.

Key Aims:

- Strengthen reading comprehension through real-life and workplace materials.
- Improve writing accuracy, structure, and tone for varied audiences.
- Build confidence in verbal communication and professional dialogue.
- Embed English across vocational learning, reinforcing employability and confidence.

4. Implementation

Functional Skills Maths and English are timetabled weekly and embedded throughout vocational delivery. Learners are assessed through diagnostic screening and ongoing formative assessment to personalise their journey. Teachers model key skills, use scaffolding, and promote independence through retrieval practice and real-world tasks. Small group delivery and one-to-one interventions support differentiation and accessibility for all learners.

5. Impact

The impact of the Functional Skills curriculum is measured through learner confidence, exam success, and progression into higher qualifications or employment. Students demonstrate improved literacy and numeracy skills, enabling them to succeed across all Rosscon pathways. Data tracking, progress reviews, and portfolio evidence underpin measurable outcomes.

6. Cross-College Literacy & Numeracy Strategy

Rosscon promotes a whole-college culture of literacy and numeracy. Staff embed English and Maths across vocational subjects through contextual tasks such as:

- Calculating stock orders (Construction, Catering)
- Writing client notes and adverts (Hair & Beauty)
- Reading health and safety documents (Sport, Childcare)
- Producing reports and presentations (Business Pathway)

All staff model correct spelling, grammar, and numeracy in their communication, ensuring consistency and high expectations.

7. Cultural Capital and Wider Skills

Learners at Rosscon build cultural capital through improved confidence, communication, and personal organisation. They engage in tasks that reflect real-world scenarios, developing resilience, teamwork, and digital literacy. Functional Skills empower learners to participate in society, employment, and lifelong learning.

8. Summary

Through purposeful and contextual delivery, Functional Skills Maths and English at Rosscon Training College equip learners with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to progress and thrive. The curriculum reflects Rosscon's commitment to inclusion, personal development, and high aspirations for all learners.