

The Oasis Curriculum – Our Statement of Intent

14th May, 2019

- In line with the Oasis' Education Charter, the curriculum is the heart of our academy's educational provision. Through this - and our commitment to an exceptional climate for learning and great pedagogy - we make learning the foundation of every lesson. We have designed our curriculum to meet the needs of all, striving for personal as well as academic and vocational excellence. Through our curriculum we will achieve outcomes that drive social mobility and give everyone freedom of choice throughout their lives.
- The Oasis ethos and 9 Habits are a foundation stone to the design and delivery of our curriculum. We know that the development of character doesn't happen by chance but by purpose and intention: it is therefore an explicit part of our curriculum. We therefore work hard at preparing our pupils to be the best version of themselves not just for today but for their futures too.
- Our curriculum has been designed to ensure our young people thrive, achieve and flourish. It enables them to understand what it is to be human and equips them for life so that they become kind and model citizens. Our curriculum not only develops our young people academically but socially, emotionally, culturally, physically and spiritually.
- Whilst our knowledge-rich curriculum is designed to ensure the very best academic outcomes for our young people, using the latest research in how the brain and memory works, it is about so much more than simply securing great results. It is about our academy's determination to achieve excellence with equity and integrity: where we bring advantage to the disadvantaged, where barriers to learning are successfully overcome and there are no limits to the achievement and ambition of our most able.
- In our academy this will mean that all children, whatever their background, starting point and life experience, develop a strong grasp of the key learning skills, attitudes and knowledge they need to make an excellent start to secondary education. This will be delivered through the crafted experiences of a stimulating, broad and balanced context-based curriculum that is not restricted to just skills and knowledge for Reading, Writing and Maths.
- At the heart of our academy curriculum are four core elements:
 1. Communication, language & vocabulary
 2. Books and reading
 3. Experienced-based learning
 4. Knowledge and retaining knowledge.
- We have purposefully incorporated units of study that seek to challenge thinking and beliefs that are rooted in limited experience and exposure in some aspects of the modern world. Wherever possible, authentic links have been made between learning in subjects.
- **English** has a pre-eminent place in education and in society. Literacy is essential to everyday life and it is vital that we ensure our pupils are confident readers and writers in order to operate successfully in education, the wider world and future employment. A high-quality Literacy education provides a foundation for understanding the world, developing language, fostering an appreciation of the beauty and power of reading and writing and a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject. At OALC, high-quality texts form the cornerstone of the curriculum. In all classrooms, books underpin the provision and enable us to develop readers and writers who have the language, understanding, skills and behaviours to stand confidently on a global platform and

overcome any challenges that the modern world presents.

- **Mathematics** is essential to everyday life and it is vital that we ensure our pupils are mathematically literate in order to operate successfully in the world, accessing employment and managing their finances. A high-quality mathematics education provides a foundation for understanding the world, the ability to reason mathematically, an appreciation of the beauty and power of mathematics, and a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject. The Mathematics Mastery curriculum with its three dimensions of depth (Conceptual Understanding, Language and Communication and Mathematical thinking) compliments the core principals underpinning our Academy curriculum and enables us to develop mathematicians who have the language, skills and behaviours to stand confidently on a global platform and overcome any challenges that the modern world presents.
- Studying **Science** helps to promote in pupils a curiosity and understanding of their world, it promotes in them the ability to make decisions based on evidence, and gives them the knowledge and skills to make a positive change for future generations.
- Studying **History, Geography** and **RE** enables our pupils to know and understand their local area and their world, its past, present and future direction as well as the beliefs and traditions that have shaped others and ourselves. In History, they will explore key moments, events, civilisations and individuals while in Geography, they will examine the physical features of countries close and far and broaden their knowledge with an appreciation of different cultures and traditions. Our RE curriculum recognises the shared stories of many faiths, teaches the stories that are part of our culture, encourages children to look deeper in what it means to have a faith and introduces students to many inspiring individuals. When possible, visits to local sites and museums help to deepen their understanding.
- In **Art** as in **Design Technology**, students develop their skills in a variety of ways, focusing on the work of different artists and styles using their creativity and imagination to produce their own masterpieces for exhibition.
- **Computing** covers a range of ICT skills as well as coding and is taught through genuine curriculum links and for progression
- Expert coaches support the teaching of **PE** so that pupils experience a range of sports and skills during their time at Long Cross.
- For the **Early Years** we will provide a curriculum based on planned, purposeful play and the development of physical dexterity, language skills and social awareness. The curriculum will provide opportunities for these children to learn to read and write, develop skills in maths, find out about the world around them and develop an understanding of art and design.
- Our knowledge-rich curriculum and our commitment to the Oasis ethos and Nine Habits is supported by our Trust's policies on Learning and Behaviour for Learning and the work of our National Lead Practitioners and Leads for Learning Innovation.
- Our commitment to providing pupils with a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities will add depth and breadth to our provision and allow our pupils to follow their hobbies and interests outside of the formal curriculum.