

CURRICULUM POLICY

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Every student attending Newark Orchard School is entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum. As a school, we welcome a selective and flexible approach to the delivery and design of the curriculum. Each area of the curriculum has individual documents which detail the content of both the core and *EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage)* of the National Curriculum and Newark Orchard School's *Accreditation*.

NATIONAL CURRICULUM CORE & FOUNDATION

Every student attending Newark Orchard School is entitled to access the National Curriculum, both core and foundation subjects, at the appropriate key stage and in line with their PEP (Personal Education Plan) and IEP (Individual Education Plan). Each student will be empowered via a timetable to follow an individual educational programme which will include English (with Drama), Maths, Science, Technology (with Design and Food), Physical Education (with PE, Swimming and Dance), Music, Art, Religious Education, Geography, History and at Key Stages 3 an additional Modern Foreign Language and Careers Education. *KS4 and P16 also have opportunities to access accreditation in their timetable, alongside NC subjects.*

NEWARK ORCHARD SCHOOL'S LIFE SKILLS CURRICULUM

Newark Orchard School will enable each student to have opportunities to develop their individual needs, which may not be met entirely within the National Curriculum Core and Foundation subjects. Each student will be entitled to access Personal and Social educational skills, *Sex and Relationship Education, Computing and accessing the Community*. Residential experiences are used to enrich the curriculum from Key Stage 2 onwards. Work placements form part of the curriculum within the 14-19 department. These areas of the whole curriculum will be accessed via a timetable. Additionally, students who have needs identified within their PEPs and IEPs; and where parents have agreed, will be enabled to work with Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists. The school Paediatrician and the school nurse will arrange routine medical inspections and medical procedures as identified and discussed with parents/carers. All additional staff input will be discussed with parents/carers.

The school has access to a range of specialist teachers and facilities which it will make available to the pupils/students. Personalised Education Assistants will work with pupils/students who find it hard to engage within a class setting. These PEAs will enable pupils/students at danger of exclusion to access an individualised curriculum matched to need. This may mean that a very alternative curriculum will be provided to ensure that these pupils and students want to learn. This may be as wide ranging and varied as fishing, den building, motor maintenance, hair dressing, child care, horse riding, ice skating and swimming. Each programme is designed with the individual's interests at the heart of the planning. The PEAs will work with a number of different agencies who are currently involved with their pupils/students, this may range from police, YOT (Youth Offending Team), social workers, medical staff, careers, education welfare - in fact, anyone engaged with the family.

PRINCIPLES

The principle of entitlement for all students at Newark Orchard School has been fundamental in framing the curriculum policies and practices. Other principles that have been established within and by curriculum working parties have been adhered to:

- * Pupils/students are all entitled to a broad and enriching curriculum which is appropriate to their age, level of understanding and needs.
- * Pupils/students of differing abilities and whose experiences are wide ranging are entitled to develop at their individual level and stage of development.
- * Within the delivery of the curriculum issues relating to gender, race, culture and disability will be incorporated, providing equality of opportunity. Differences will be celebrated.
- * Parent partnership and community involvement should be given full regard in curriculum delivery.

CAREERS AND GUIDANCE

While the form of the 14-19 department's programme generally is designed to equip students for their part in the adult world, a particular leaver's programme focuses attention on the careers aspect of post school life. Work experience is arranged to meet individual needs and post school college courses are available at FE Colleges. Individual needs are addressed and suitable and appropriate placements are organised. Vocational Skills (*skills for employment and further learning and independent living accreditation*) form an important part of this work.

ASSESSMENT, ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT

The National Curriculum *alongside SOLAR* provide the framework for assessing the core and foundation subjects at levels within each key stage. The achievement of students at Newark Orchard School will be recorded by means of *keys statements taken from SOLAR*. *SOLAR is a commercial scheme which is used to track progress over time and inputted into CASPA which enables us to have a bench marking system in place. This helps us to set annual targets and gives us an understanding with regards to value added to each of our pupils/students. It is likely that pupils/students will return to earlier programmes of study during their school career to reinforce earlier learning.*

As well as assessment sheets completed by staff, students will be encouraged to record their own experiences and achievements. These will be recorded in a variety of ways using such medium as cameras, videos, written reports and computer programmes. The school has a separate Assessment and Recording Policy, which sets out expectations and responsibilities clearly.

EVALUATION OF THE CURRICULUM

Each policy will be continually reviewed, audited and managed by the Strategic Planning Sub-Committee of the Governing Body.