



Curriculum Intent

Vision

Our vision for Park Academy reflects our commitment to the importance of learning in life and recognises of the uniqueness of individuals. It is driven by our desire to offer the best possible education for our learners in partnership with families and the community around us. We believe our choices and approach should always seek to inspire a love of learning and unlock the potential that lies within all our learners, preparing them to be contented, successful, motivated and responsible citizens in the future. We celebrate difference and respect each other's cultures and traditions, building our learning family on the strength that it brings to our community.

We will always remember Article 6 from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child which states that we must do all we can to ensure that children survive and develop to their full potential.

Park Academy Mission

PROUD

Perseverance

Respect

Open-Mindedness

Unity

Determination

Empowered Learners

– we will ensure that all our learners can:

- achieve well
- retain and remember the knowledge and skills needed for success in future learning and life
- benefit from a wide range of experiences and challenges designed to grow their aspirations and awareness of the world around them
- be extremely DETERMINED and PERSERVERE when times are tricky.

As a result, our learners will be empowered to have choices and to be able to make constructive decisions for their own future. They will have hopes, aspirations and have some understanding how to reach them in their futures.

Great Communicators

– we will teach all our learners to express themselves fluently, becoming:

- confident speakers
- active and open listeners
- effective communicators

As a result, our learners will be proficient in English in order that they can learn to the best of their ability. They will be interested in and PROUD to be part of a community in which languages are diverse. They will recognise that knowing how to communicate in many ways is a strength.

Thriving, not simply Surviving

– we will ensure that:

- all learners have the opportunity to thrive and achieve to the best of their ability
- our academy is a safe place without prejudice
- our daily work recognises that individuals are unique and always worth effort
- we challenge stereotypes and always be OPEN-MINDED

As a result, our learners will be PROUD of their individuality and celebrate that of their peers. They will feel safe in our school and know how to keep themselves safe outside of school.

All learners attend school regularly and absence is unusual

– attendance at school is a powerful predictor of positive outcomes in academic study and in life. We will work to ensure that:

- Learners attend school every day
- Learners arrive on time
- Learners are be well-prepared for learning
- Families only request leave of absence in exceptional circumstances

As a result, our learners will have a good level of attendance and rarely be late to school. They will be able to explain why attending school is so important, and they will have the best opportunity to make good progress in their learning. Families will work with us to improve their child's attendance where necessary.

A positive culture with behaviour we can be PROUD of

– our academy will be a place where:

- there is a foundation of positive and RESPECTFUL relationships built on love and care for ALL learners and their families
- individuals have respect for themselves and for others, committed to UNITY not division
- we all commit to making positive contributions to our communities, recognising and avoiding actions that might cause harm to ourselves or others

Curriculum Statement of Intent

At Park Academy, we have designed our curriculum with the intent that learners will experience a broad and balanced curriculum which is both engaging and exciting. It will equip them for today as well as their future lives. Every person is recognised as being a unique individual and we celebrate and welcome differences within our diverse local community. Our curriculum recognises the context of our school and the various challenges that this can bring along with opportunities.

Our school welcomes learners from a wide range of backgrounds and cultural experiences. Our learners include many who are entitled to Free School Meals, many who learn with additional special needs, many more who speak two or more languages and those who are new to the UK. High numbers of our learners experience 'mobility' – where they move from school to school, or even country to country. Large numbers of our learners have parents who work very long or irregular work patterns, whilst others experience the challenge of unemployment over long periods of time. A number of our families experience difficulties in finding appropriate housing, and some learners have limited opportunities outside school to access outdoor and active play.

As a result, our curriculum is built on prioritising essential high quality teaching and learning across a wide range of subject areas.

One of our highest priorities is vocabulary development in the English language and opportunities to develop oracy, ensuring that all learners have the opportunity to learn how to understand each other and communicate effectively. Being able to communicate effectively allows children to fully access learning and provides a deeper understanding so that children can acquire key knowledge which they can utilise in their learning both now and in the future.

Our curriculum is designed to help our learners to close gaps in their knowledge, skills and experience. Experiential learning is a high priority for all stakeholders at Park Academy and our intent is to facilitate access to a broad range of memorable, first-hand experiences both within and outside of school and within a local and wider context. Our curriculum exposes learners to the wider world and we celebrate the awe and wonder which lies within it.

We believe that raising the aspirations and ambitions of our learners is key to their future success. Our intent is that all learners will understand the opportunities that are available to them and have the confidence and desire to access these. We recognise that it is crucial to raise the aspirations of all our learners, assisting them in achieving their full potential. We aim for our learners to be independent, resilient, confident, successful learners so they can make positive contributions to their community and the wider world.

A final element of our curriculum is built on the understanding that we have an important role to play in encouraging children to make healthy life choices. Educating children on the benefits of healthy eating and regular exercise can bring about both immediate and long-term improvements to their quality of life. A healthy diet is essential for maintaining and protecting children's health, for ensuring they perform to their full potential during the school day (both academically and physically) and for their growth and development.

Key documents for staff that are central to the effective implementation of our curriculum include;

Core subject policies

Curriculum intent documents

Long and Medium Term Curriculum Maps

Implementation

Our curriculum provides a consistent and cohesive framework for high quality teaching and learning across the school. It ensures that all teachers have access to a common set of resources, instructional strategies, and assessment tools. It is designed to promote consistency of quality provision for all our learners.

Our curriculum programme is designed to provide a foundation upon which our teachers can build. By providing a structured framework, teachers can concentrate on honing their instructional skills and teaching methods in order to be able to adapt content to pupil needs, and fostering a positive, energetic and engaging classroom environment.

Our curriculum is carefully sequenced over time: progression documents outline the knowledge and skills developed in each area of study based on the expectations of the National Curriculum. From these, teachers and leaders design and plan to ensure effective learning.

In some instances, schemes such as Little Wandle Phonics, Power Maths, One Decision and Purple Mash are also used to enrich our curriculum. These schemes align with national standards and ensures that our curriculum is robust.

Within our Medium Term Planning, retrieval opportunities are mapped out and are based on, but are not limited to: something learnt last week, last theme, previous year etc. This is because we want our learners to remember more about what they learn. Retrieval practice is a powerful learning strategy in which learners are encouraged to deliberately recall information and to reflect on what they 'know'. This enables knowledge to become deeper and more 'sticky.'

An example of development designed to ensure children can learn deeply sits within our Humanities curriculum. Our Humanities curriculum has recently incorporated 'enquiry questions'. These are used to;

- stimulate curiosity, encourage critical thinking, and guide learners' exploration of complex topics related to history and geography.
- provide opportunities for learners to retrieve knowledge, practice skills and make links in their understanding.
- provide a clear sense of purpose for each unit or lesson and to
- help learners understand the relevance and significance of the topics they are studying.

This can lead to greater motivation to learn more as learners see the real-world applications of their learning. Our aim is to build lifelong learning habits. Asking and seeking answers is valuable skill that encourage learners to become lifelong learners who are curious, proactive, and adaptable in their pursuit of knowledge as well as provide a clear focal point.

We have developed the use of learning walls across the curriculum as a key tool to support learning. They are designed to be interactive, evolving, and central to the teaching and learning process. They are visual aids that aim to enhance comprehension and memory retention. They provide a visual representation of key concepts, connections, and processes, making complex topics more accessible to learners. They provide opportunities for collaboration as learners work together to build and update them as well as serving as a reflective tool, allowing learners to revisit their previous learning and self-assess their progress.

We use artefacts, manipulatives and concrete, real-world experiences to enhance learning. For instance, in a history class, learners can examine historical artefacts to gain a deeper understanding of a particular time period or dienes within maths to grasp place value.

Impact

The impact of our curriculum will be evaluated against our vision summarised as 'we must do all we can to ensure that children survive and develop to their full potential'.

We will also look for indicators of success including the following statements:

Learners are able to

- talk about what they are learning both currently and what they have previously learnt, including the skills they have gained and the experiences they have had.
 - talk about how they learn in different subjects and they can identify the characteristics of different subjects.
 - talk about how their learning is part of a 'bigger picture' and builds on their prior learning.
 - make links between different subjects and lessons.
 - make progress in their learning, regardless of their starting point.
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- demonstrate good learning behaviours in lessons.
 - demonstrate that they are 'next phase' ready in their learning.
 - become be well-rounded individuals, with a range of individuals.
 - communicate effectively with peers and adults.
 - understand how to keep healthy and look after themselves.

Teachers are able to

- plan and teach high quality lessons which are well structured and follow a clear sequence.
 - know who to talk to for support, especially when teaching new or challenging concepts.
 - demonstrate clear pedagogical understanding in all lessons.
 - identify their own areas for professional development and seek ways to improve their knowledge and skills to meet.
 - are confident in their planning, teaching and assessment of learning.
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- are confident to give feedback to subject leaders about the learning and progress of their learners.
 - understand the Intents for all subjects and implement them effectively. (These documents are available in school).

Academy Councillors and visitors will

- comment on the interesting learning they observe and/or are a part of.
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- comment on the creativity, dedication and relentless drive for every child to succeed.
- notice and comment on the links children are able to make in their learning.
- Notice that the learning environment support children's learning at the time and over time.
- highlight positive engagement of learners in their learning, and their motivation to learn more and try hard in more tricky areas.

Parents and Carers will

- provide us with positive feedback about their child's attitude towards school.
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- be able to share examples and talk to teachers about learning experiences their child has enjoyed or is looking forward to.
 - notice that their children have made good progress in their learning, what their strengths are and what they need to work on.