



Curriculum Policy

PCA
September 16

Date Approved by the Portfolio Sub Committee	22 September 2016
Next Review Date (must be completed):	September 2017
Signature of the Chair Of Governors	
Name of the Chair of Governors	John Copping

Overview Statement

This policy sets out the academy's aims, principles and procedures for the delivery of the curriculum at North Shore Academy. It reflects the values and philosophy of North Shore and it gives a framework for staff, both teaching and non-teaching, to provide engaging learning opportunities for all of our learners. This policy is intended to be used in conjunction with the Learning Journeys for each subject area which detail the learning experience for students in each year group.

The curriculum at North Shore Academy is an extended curriculum which is personalised for each learner to meet his/her needs. Flexibility in the curriculum allows for adaptations to be made that are responsive to the needs of both individuals and groups of students as they progress through our Academy.

Principles

North Shore Academy seeks to support our students by offering a curriculum that is broad and balanced and appropriate to the students' ages, abilities and aptitudes. North Shore values its freedom to make decisions relating to the curriculum, utilising the National Curriculum, the professionalism of its staff and educational best practice to inform appropriate decisions.

Our curriculum includes various extra-curricular activities that are organised in order to enrich our students' experiences as well as the 'hidden curriculum' – what the students learn from the way they are treated and expected to behave. Our curriculum is all the planned activities that we organise in order to promote learning and that enable personal growth and development.

We want our students to grow into positive, responsible people, who can work and co-operate with others while at the same time develop their knowledge and skills in order to achieve their true potential. Accordingly, North Shore Academy provides an educational environment which is caring, friendly, well-structured, positive and academically challenging for each individual student.

What we value

Below are the features of our students that we value significantly, upon which we have based our curriculum. These are not in any order of importance as we value all of these features equally.

- We value our students' uniqueness. We listen to the views of individual students and we promote respect for other cultures and religions.
- We value the spiritual and moral development of each person, as well as their intellectual and physical growth.
- We value the importance of each person in our community and we organise our curriculum to promote inclusion, co-operation and understanding among all members of our community.
- We value the rights enjoyed by each person in our society. We respect each student in our school for who they are and we treat them with fairness and honesty. We want to enable each person to be successful, and we provide equal opportunities for all our students.
- We value the individual needs of all of our students and we will strive to meet them.
- We value our students' environment. We want to teach our students, through our curriculum, how we should take care of the world, not only for ourselves but also for future generations.

Our aims are:

The aims of our academy curriculum are:

- To enable all students to learn and develop their skills to the best of their ability.
- To promote a positive attitude towards learning so that students enjoy coming to the academy and acquire a solid basis for lifelong learning.
- To motivate students by arousing a sense of curiosity and wonder.
- To teach students the basic skills of literacy, numeracy and information and communication technology (ICT).
- To enable students to be creative and to develop their own thinking.
- To teach students about the developing world, including how their environment and society have changed over time.
- To appreciate and value the contribution made by all ethnic groups in our multi-cultural society.
- To be aware of the importance of their own positive contribution to society and their responsibilities as members of a local community and a global society.
- To teach our students to have an awareness of their own spiritual development and to distinguish right from wrong.
- To help students understand the importance of truth and fairness so that they grow up committed to equal opportunities for all.
- To enable students to have respect for themselves and high self-esteem and to live and work cooperatively with others.

Focusing on English and Maths

English and Maths are at the heart of success in learning. We place great emphasis on these subject areas and provide additional support to students when they need it. This includes encouraging reading and numeracy skills. We want students to be enthusiastic readers as a springboard to achievement in the curriculum but also as a source of pleasure.

Supporting Each Student's Learning

The curriculum will have different learning blocks which will be finely tailored to ensure each student has a programme of learning which engages them and sets goals which they will be motivated to achieve. We will track and monitor each student's progress to make sure they are doing their best so that we can provide any additional support that is needed.

Effective and Exciting Lessons

We are aiming to make all lessons outstanding. Teachers will plan and prepare effectively and make lessons as engaging as possible using the very best practice. There will be opportunities, through the design of our new building, to model excellent teaching and learning and to show how students can actively drive their own learning.

SEN

North Shore Academy aims to provide an inclusive education ensuring that we meet all students' individual needs and that educational provision is tailored to help students overcome their barriers to learning.

Progress Mentoring

Students' progress is rigorously monitored and a programme of intervention lessons for each year group is designed by the Academy Leadership Team and the appropriate Head of School. Subject leaders and teachers commit to delivering support through these intervention lessons in order to ensure that all students make progress towards, and even beyond, their subject targets.