



21/10/24

Review Date: 21 October 2025

Orchard Academy

www.orchard-academy.com

Curriculum Policy

1. Introduction

At Orchard Academy, we are committed to providing a high-quality, inclusive curriculum that meets the needs of all learners. Our curriculum is designed to foster a love of learning, encourage curiosity, and equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing world. This policy outlines our approach to curriculum development, delivery, assessment, and continuous improvement.

2. Curriculum Intent

Our curriculum aims to:

- **Promote Holistic Development:** Support the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development of all learners.
- **Foster Lifelong Learning:** Instil a love of learning and a sense of curiosity that encourages learners to pursue knowledge and skills beyond the classroom.
- **Prepare for Future Success:** Equip learners with essential skills, including critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration, and effective communication.
- **Encourage Inclusivity:** Ensure that the curriculum is accessible and relevant to all learners, regardless of their backgrounds, abilities, or needs.
- **Promote British Values:** Embed principles such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect into the curriculum.

3. Curriculum Implementation

To achieve our curriculum intent, Orchard Academy employs the following strategies:

- **Curriculum Design:** The curriculum is designed to be broad, balanced, and relevant, encompassing a wide range of subjects and topics. It is aligned with the national curriculum where applicable and tailored to meet the needs of our learners.
- **Flexible Learning Environment:** We create a flexible learning environment that supports a variety of teaching styles and approaches, including individual, group, and project-based learning.
- **Engaging Teaching Practices:** Our staff employ a range of teaching methods to engage learners, including interactive activities, technology integration, and real-world applications of knowledge.
- **Cross-Curricular Links:** We promote connections between subjects to enhance learners' understanding and appreciation of how knowledge interrelates in the real world.

4. Curriculum Assessment

Assessment is integral to our curriculum, helping us to monitor progress, identify strengths and areas for improvement, and inform teaching practices. Our assessment strategies include:

- **Formative Assessment:** Ongoing assessments conducted during lessons to monitor learner understanding and provide immediate feedback. This includes questioning, discussions, and informal checks on progress.
- **Summative Assessment:** Formal assessments at the end of a unit or term to evaluate learners' overall understanding and skills. This may include tests, projects, and portfolios.
- **Self and Peer Assessment:** Encouraging learners to reflect on their own work and provide feedback to peers fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility for their learning.
- **Data Analysis:** Regular analysis of assessment data to track progress and identify trends, ensuring that support is targeted where it is most needed.

5. Curriculum Review and Improvement

Orchard Academy is committed to continuous improvement of our curriculum. This includes:

- **Regular Reviews:** The curriculum is reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant, engaging, and aligned with educational best practices and local needs.
- **Stakeholder Feedback:** We actively seek feedback from learners, parents, staff, and other stakeholders to inform curriculum development and improvements.
- **Professional Development:** Ongoing professional development opportunities are provided for staff to enhance their teaching skills and stay updated on current educational trends and practices.

6. Inclusion and Diversity

We recognise and celebrate the diversity of our learners. Our curriculum is designed to be inclusive and responsive to the needs of all students, providing appropriate support and resources to ensure that every learner can achieve their potential.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Leadership Team:** The Senior Leadership Team is responsible for the overall implementation and effectiveness of the curriculum. They will ensure that resources are allocated appropriately and that staff receive the necessary training and support.
- **Curriculum Leads:** Subject leaders are responsible for the development, implementation, and assessment of their subject areas, ensuring alignment with the overall curriculum intent.
- **Teaching Staff:** All teachers are responsible for delivering the curriculum effectively, employing varied teaching strategies to meet the needs of all learners, and assessing student progress.
- **Governors:** The Governing Body will monitor curriculum implementation and effectiveness, ensuring that it meets the strategic objectives of Orchard Academy.

8. Conclusion

At Orchard Academy, our curriculum is at the heart of our educational mission. We are dedicated to creating a dynamic and engaging learning experience that prepares our learners for their future, promotes their well-being, and nurtures a passion for lifelong learning.

Approved by: Management Committee of Orchard Academy

Next Review Date: September 2025