

AD
MELIORA

ACADEMY TRUST
Better Futures For All

Curriculum Policy - St Edmund's Academy



ST EDMUND'S
ACADEMY

Document Detail	
Category	Non Statutory
Department	St Edmund's Academy
Responsible Officer	Headteacher of St Edmund's Academy
Status	Approved
Reviewed on:	Term 3 2020 <i>LM Cook</i>
Next review:	Term 3 2021

Curriculum Policy

Overview

At St Edmund's Academy we have designed and follow a knowledge-engaged curriculum, balancing both knowledge and skills. Although we base our curriculum around subject specific knowledge, the intention of the curriculum is to develop the skills children need for future learning, such as resilience and a growth mindset. Skills are not seen as 'by-products' of the curriculum but have equal importance to acquiring knowledge.

Pastoral Curriculum

As a restorative school, we believe effective relationships are vital for children to access learning and to achieve their potential in school and beyond. We use the PATHS, Thrive and Steps programmes to develop social competence, self-control and self-esteem. Being 'ready to learn' and having good behaviours for learning such as resilience, perseverance, confidence and independence are the essential foundations for effective teaching and learning to take place. We aim to use resources efficiently in school in order to meet these needs, where this is not effective, we refer to external agencies for advice and next step recommendations.

We believe everyone is capable of:

- Changing
- Growing
- Being motivated to learn

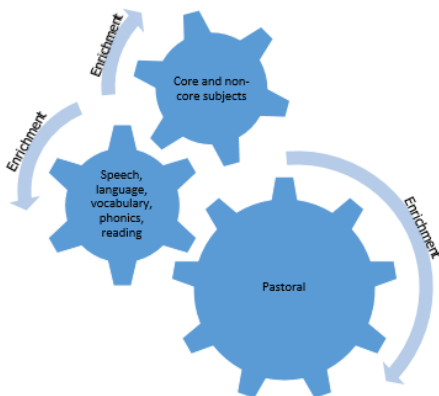
Our aim is for children to leave St Edmund's Academy

- Thoughtful learners
- Ready for their next stage
- Committed to developing skills
- Able to explore
- Reflective
- Effective communicators
- Able to engage in learning
- Able to work well with others
- Excited about new challenges

being:

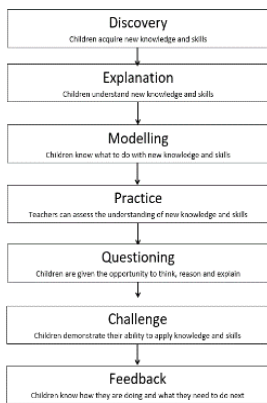


Academic Curriculum



We have a commitment to understand and meet the needs of our unique school community. Our curriculum is tailored to these needs meaning that time is invested in EYFS, and beyond, to developing both behaviours for learning and language skills. We have a bespoke speech and language programme for our EAL and non-EAL children that includes the promotion of a language rich environment. Our phonics programme develops language skills further and forms the basis of our reading programme that encourages reading for pleasure. Both programmes aim to develop children's skills so they are able to become expert readers, building self-esteem and confidence, enabling success and giving children access to the wider curriculum.

Our curriculum follows the National Curriculum (2014) which provides pupils with an introduction to the essential knowledge, in different subject areas they need to become educated citizens. It introduces pupils to the best that has been thought and said; and helps engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement. The National Curriculum provides an outline and coverage of core knowledge around which our teachers develop exciting and stimulating lessons to promote the development of pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills as part of the wider school curriculum.



Lessons would typically follow the structure as shown in the flowchart.

We promote whole class teaching where all pupils are learning the same skill or concept with resources and intervention to ensure all children are able to access learning at their level. Differentiation would not typically be seen as learners completing different work, but rather as learners being supported in a variety of ways to complete the same task. In order for pupils to make the most of all learning opportunities, we recognise that learning can be recorded in different ways. This may be in the form of an individual book, a class book or displayed in the classroom on a working wall.

Maths:

At St Edmund's we use Power Maths. This is a whole-class, mastery resource that empowers every child to understand and succeed. Power Maths rejects the notion that some people simply 'can't do maths'. Instead, it develops growth mindsets, encourages hard work, practice and a willingness to see mistakes as learning tools.

English:

The overarching aim for English is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment. We expose all children to age appropriate texts during guided reading sessions. Writing is typically linked to pupils' topic study, enabling them to write for a purpose.

Science

Our science curriculum is taught through Science Bug. This is a hands-on science programme designed to spark imagination, fuel curiosity and nurture inspired and confident young scientists.

Non-Core Subjects:

History and geography - An overview of the current academic year themes is available on our school website.

Music – Taught cross-curricular plus Music Express and a peripatetic teacher from Norfolk Music Service.

Art/Design and Technology – Taught as part of the class topic theme and through theme days/weeks.

Modern Foreign Language (MFL) – French is taught in KS2.

Religious Education (RE) – We follow the Norfolk Agreed Syllabus for RE.

Physical Education (PE) – The school employs a professional sports coach to deliver PE lessons, run after school clubs and provide professional development opportunities for teachers.

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) – We follow the PATHS programme.

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) – Taught through PATHS plus additional discrete lessons.

Enrichment Opportunities

Through trips, visitors, theme days and weeks, parent sessions, career fairs and visits within the local community, we aim to extend learning opportunities, engage in the wider community and teach important life skills and character. Enrichment opportunities promote academic attainment, employability and skills children need to make good choices. Children are enabled to discover and develop new interests.

Links

Maths (Power Maths) - www.pearsonschoolsandcolleges.co.uk

PATHS - www.pathseducation.co.uk/

Science (Science Bug) - www.pearsonschoolsandcolleges.co.uk

Thrive - www.thriveapproach.org.uk

Phonics – www.letters-and-sounds.com and www.jollylearning.co.uk/jolly-phonics

PiXL - www.pixl.org.uk