



**KING'S PARK
ACADEMY**

High Expectations Lead to High Achievers

King's Park Academy

Curriculum Policy

Adopted by Academy Advisory Committee: October 2020

To be reviewed: October 2023

High Expectations lead to High Achievers

Part of the Ambitions Academies Trust

King's Park Academy Curriculum Statement

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Our mantra at King's Park Academy is *High Expectations Lead to High Achievers* and it permeates all we do, both inside and outside of the classroom. We believe in the abilities of all our pupils and promote positive behaviours for learning and behaviour that result in success across all fields of school life. Achievement is recognised and success celebrated through our reward systems and processes, reinforcing the power of learning to our pupils. They are also encouraged to build resilience to be confident to make mistakes and learn from them and to have the confidence to communicate with peers and adults alike.

KNOWLEDGE

We use the National Curriculum as a framework for learning on which we build the learning of wide and diverse knowledge which is applied as skills.

We consider learning knowledge across all subjects to be essential in the empowering of our pupils:

- That knowledge is important to all thinking
- That we understand new things in relation to what we already know
- That retrieving knowledge helps us to remember it for longer
- Children use knowledge to understand, make sense of and interpret the world
- Shared knowledge enables children to cooperate effectively
- The foundation for a just and sustained democratic society is shared knowledge
- It is fair and just that all children should access knowledge
- Due to its importance, knowledge is explicitly planned for, as well as the skills that will utilise this knowledge for each of our curriculum projects.

LINKING AND EMBEDDING LEARNING

Within our aim to enable and empower our pupils, we understand how forming links between knowledge and concepts is essential to long term learning. Our curriculum projects are carefully planned to allow for sequences of learning that build up knowledge over time and that link learning across different subject areas, including literacy and numeracy. Each topic that the pupils learn consists of a primary subject area and secondary subject areas, all of which interlink to contextualise the areas being learned and embed this learning, allowing for the development of complex schema for our pupils. The curriculum diet of the school is set out in long term, medium term and short-term plans, with progression and assessment opportunities carefully considered.

King's Park Academy Curriculum Content

READING, WRITING AND MATHS

We understand that having a secure ability in Reading, Writing and Maths is essential to our pupils' ability to learn independently during their time at KPA and into their future lives.

Our delivery of Reading and Writing is integrated into the teaching of topics, in order to be relevant and based on the context of a child's wider learning. We teach Reading through daily use of a topic-based class text and through comprehension lessons, as well as through individualised interventions and reading support. Writing is taught in classes, with grammar learning embedded into this teaching in order to ensure understanding of the relevant context in which it will be used. Spelling is taught daily through short, focussed sessions matched to the year groups curriculum and spellings learned are individualised in order to allow for every child's progress.

Maths is taught using the Maths No Problem DfE approved scheme, which is based around an investigative, problem solving approach, in line with the Singapore pedagogy.

To further support learning, our teachers hold additional learning extended school sessions for any learner that requires support with elements of learning in reading, writing and maths. Pupils attending and subjects covered vary in relation to the specific need within the year group, as determined through ongoing assessment of the pupils on the school assessment system.

SUPPORT

We recognise that supporting our pupils through the formation of effective relationships, both between each other and with adults at school, is essential in order for learning to be optimised and for our children to be empowered. All pupils at KPA are treated with unconditional positive regard, with each individual member of our community valued. This approach is reflected in our positive behaviour policy.

Alongside a skilled Learning Support Team, our Inclusion Team provides personal care and attention to pupils who are experiencing challenge within their own lives and may be vulnerable. This team also support pupils when transferring to secondary schools and are all level 3 safeguarding trained to allow for secure child protection procedures and practices to be implemented effectively.

EXPERIENCES

We place a high level of importance on our pupils being active within their learning. This involves a wide variety of activities within the classroom, but also a wide variety of other opportunities to learn and develop. Each half term, pupils participate in WOW immersive

experiences in order to engage, stimulate curiosity and to add context to their learning. This can be trips to museums, wildlife centres and other areas of interest, visitors to school or themed days linked to their topics. We also hold curriculum days where the timetable of the school is dedicated to one particular curriculum area, such as music, for the day.

Additionally, we run a wide variety of after school clubs that are free of charge (for example, cookery, hockey, football, gymnastics and drama) as well as offering the opportunity to participate in clubs at reasonable additional costs on site (including Karate.....) and we offer certified sailing courses for Years 4, 5 and 6.

Residential experiences are held in year 4 and year 6, with pupils staying under canvas for 2 nights in year 4 and having a full, adventurous week away in year 6. These experiences empower our pupils through developing independence, problem solving, cooperation and self-regulation, as well as developing knowledge through being directly linked to the topics being studied in their year groups.

AVENUES TO FUTURE LEARNING

One of our key aims is for our pupils to develop a love of learning and to be ambitious with their own goals for the future. Within our curriculum, we explore a wide variety of subjects in detail, celebrating the children's particular strengths and abilities and fostering enjoyment within different subject areas. We provide further inspiration through the celebration of the lives of key individuals within our topics and hold a Careers Day for our year 6 pupils to explore the direction that the children would like to travel. We aim to empower them to have aspirations for their future lives and a belief they can get there. Some of our pupils and families wish to gain entrance to the local Grammar Schools, which we support through additional, after school sessions.

CITIZENSHIP

Our pupils are taught core British values throughout their school experience. This is developed within teaching for example through History lessons (where one topic in each year group is focussed on British History) through assemblies, within PSHE learning (following the SCARF scheme) as well as through daily interactions with our pupils: parents, YMCA, RNLI, DOG's Trust, MP's, authors and members of different religious communities to name a few. This empowers them to have the confidence to make informed choices now and into the future, knowing these choices can have an impact on their own lives, those around them and on wider society (School in a Box Charity, Food Bank donations, Rainforest etc). We have an active school council who model the democratic process to our pupils and also year 6 pupils are encouraged to take roles of responsibility as prefects, house captains and head boy/girl.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

We enable and empower our pupils through whole development, which not only considers academic progress, but also social and personal enrichment. Our Character Award Program is integral to this. This helps our children build resilience to believe they can succeed. Pupils are introduced to different characteristics within assemblies and class activities and then rewarded when they demonstrate these traits positively. We have categorised twelve-character traits that we develop with our pupils; trust, compassion, self-control, courage, inter-dependence, mindfulness, honesty, grit, adaptability, discernment, creativity and optimism. We have simplified these for KS1.....

REFLECTION, EVOLUTION and ADAPTATION

We value the importance of reflection about the learning of our pupils and how to best alter our curriculum provision to meet the needs of the children that we teach. We continually assess pupils and use this information to plan lessons in all subjects. Additionally, through half termly curriculum reports, we highlight key areas for development for our pupils from across the range of subjects covered, identifying actions to address gaps in learning for groups or cohorts of children. We also run curriculum INSET for at least two days of year, in order to continue to develop the quality of our provision.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

King's Park Academy actively promotes the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our children and values the multi-cultural and multi faith nature of their backgrounds. We use the wealth of this diversity to enrich the understanding, respect and tolerance of all members of our academy which greatly enriches how we teach.

We aim to promote pupils' understanding of the world in which they live and the interdependence of individuals, groups and nations. We encourage respect for religious and moral values and tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life. We help our children appreciate human achievements and aspirations and to value the high expectations they have for themselves and others. We foster the spiritual development of our children by teaching them how to become reflective about their own beliefs and to have respect for different people's faith, feelings and values.

King's Park Academy follows the Discovery RE programme of study which is an enquiry based approach to Religious Education. During their time at King's Park Academy the children will engage with and study key world religions. Each year group will explore Christianity and either Hinduism, Islam, Judaism or Sikhism. Each theme studied will involve key questions to frame enquiry skills and to encourage critical thinking, personal reflection and evaluation skills. These sessions will not only develop our children's spiritual development but also equip them to understand and celebrate religious diversity.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

King's Park Academy are proud to offer our children a wide range of extra-curricular activities which are led by our Curriculum Enrichment Coordinator. The vast majority of our clubs are run free of charge and include not only sports clubs designed to engage children further with team games but also clubs that celebrate the creative arts and those which further a love of learning. Currently the extra-curricular clubs on offer to all pupils, free of charge, are: Netball, Athletics, Dance, Football, Gardening, Cookery, Drama, Singing and an Art club. As well as small charge extra-curricular activities which are: Gymnastics, Dodgeball and Karate.

In addition, King's Park Academy have built strong links with local community clubs and organizations such as AFC Bournemouth Community Team, Curves Football Club, Foundation Sports, Bournemouth Council, and Sainsbury's. Over the academic year King's Park Academy run additional clubs on the school grounds allowing our children the chance to experience and enjoy a wider range of sports and community based activities. This is inspiring the children with the opportunity to succeed and excel in competitive sport and allowing them to participate in wider community projects.

We are proud of our sporting achievements at King's Park Academy. Our children participate in the following competitions and events:

- Netball, Hockey and Rounder's friendly within the Ambitions Academies Trust.
- Netball competition at Bournemouth School.
- Bournemouth Cross Country League.
- St Peter's Rounder's Tournament.
- Bournemouth Swimming Gala.
- Town Sports Athletics Event.
- TAG Rugby tournament
- CAN-DO football and multi skills events
- Sailing training

Musical opportunities are also highly valued at King's Park Academy with our school choir performing at a variety of local events, including at the Bournemouth Pavilion, our local Sainsbury's and residential care homes. For those children interested in developing their own musical expertise we offer lessons from specialist music teachers in guitar, piano/keyboard and drums.