

Victoria Academy



Curriculum Policy

Our curriculum provides pupils with opportunities to develop essential skills and acquire knowledge, through a broad and enriching range of learning experiences, enabling them to become independent successful learners and confident thinkers who have responsibility for their world. At Victoria Academy we aim to meet the needs of all our pupils and promote a love of learning, therefore enabling them to reach their full potential and be well prepared for the next stage of their education.

Aims

Our Curriculum aims:

- To promote the highest level of achievement for all individual pupils, across all subjects, in a fully inclusive manner regardless of age, gender, background or ability.
- To teach children the process of enquiry so that they will become independent and confident thinkers.
- To be flexible and responsive to individual needs and interests.
- To provide real and purposeful learning experiences for the children both inside and outside the classroom.
- To promote strong links and learning opportunities with businesses, outside agencies and the wider community, to prepare our children for their future.
- To create resilient learners who are reflective and can evaluate and assess their own learning.
- To explore children's spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development.
- To teach children about the world and their place within it, now and in the future.

Values

Our school curriculum is underpinned by the values that we hold dear at our school, and British values, which prepare our children for life in modern Britain and the wider world today. The curriculum is how the school achieves its objective of educating children in the knowledge, skills and understanding that they need to lead fulfilling and successful lives.

- We value the way in which all children are unique, and our curriculum promotes respect for the views of each individual child, as well as for people of all cultures. 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. We organise our curriculum so that we promote co-operation and understanding between all members of our community.

- We value the rights enjoyed by each person in our society. We respect each child in our school for who they are, and we treat them with fairness and honesty. We aim to enable each person to be successful, and we provide equal opportunities for all the children in our school.
- We value our environment, and we aim, through our curriculum, to teach respect for our world, and how we should care for it for future generations, as well as our own.

Enquiry

Our Curriculum Model is centred around 'Our World' and encompasses the following themes: Maths, English, Enquiry, Health, and Creative Arts. Our Maths and English curriculum is based on the September 2014 National Curriculum for Key Stage 2.

Teaching and Learning of foundation subjects and R.E. is designed to follow an enquiry approach.

- Scientific Enquiry
- Historical Enquiry
- Global Enquiry
- Social Enquiry
- Digital Enquiry
- MFL

Enquiry focuses on teaching children how to:

Question → **Plan** → **Discover** → **Record** → **Conclude** → **Communicate**

Our aim is for our children to be successful independent learners who are prepared well for secondary education and beyond.

Key Skills (Learning for Life - L4L)

At Victoria Academy we aim to enable our children to succeed in a Global Society. We teach seven key 'Learning for Life' skills:

- Team Work/ Collaboration
- Organisation
- Quality Work
- Research
- Communication
- Creative Thinking
- Critical Thinking

These key skills are embedded throughout our curriculum and are taught both explicitly and implicitly. Each child's progress in the L4L skills is monitored and assessed.

Extra-curricular Opportunities and Enhanced Provision

We provide a rich, varied and exciting programme of learning opportunities. Each year group participates in a residential trip and off-site visits to enhance their learning and enrich their lives. We invite visitors into

school making learning purposeful and real. A wide range of opportunities are provided to meet the interests, talents and needs of individual pupils.

Each year, all the children take part in a whole school 'Creative Arts Week' where they focus on developing their skills in Music, Drama and Art.

Victoria Academy has strong links with the business community enabling us to prepare pupils with the skills and aspiration to be successful lifelong learners, making their learning relevant by putting it into a real context.

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities which take place at lunchtimes and after school. These include a range of sports clubs, gardening, engineering, choir, lego, and craft club. Activities are chosen in consultation with the children.

Children with SEND

If a child has a special need, our school does all it can to meet these individual needs. We comply with the requirements set out in the SEND Code of Practice (2014) in providing for children with special needs. If a child displays signs of having special needs, their teachers and our SENCO assesses this need. In most instances the teacher can provide resources and education opportunities which meet the child's needs within the normal class organisation. If a child's need is more severe, we consider referring the child for an EHC Plan and we involve the appropriate external agencies when making this assessment. We always provide additional resources and support for children with special needs.

The school provides an Individual Educational Plan (IEP) for each of the children who are on the special needs register. This sets out the nature of the special need and outlines how the schools will aim to address the need. It also sets out targets for improvement, so that we can review and monitor the progress of each child at regular intervals.

Monitoring and Review

A Teaching & Learning Responsibility is in place to ensure curriculum content remains relevant to our children's lives and meets national statutory requirement. The headteacher is responsible for the day to day organisation of the curriculum ensuring that all classes are taught the full requirements of the National Curriculum, and that all lessons have appropriate learning objectives. Our governing body's curriculum committee is responsible for monitoring the way the school curriculum is implemented. Subject development is prioritised on a rolling programme and is informed by monitoring and learning outcomes.

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) monitor the way subjects are taught throughout the school. They examine long-term and medium-term planning, and ensure that appropriate teaching strategies are used. They regularly carry out scrutiny of work in books and speak to children about their learning. Staff support, and development is provided through focused staff training and meetings. The SLT have responsibility for monitoring the way in which resources are stored and managed and work with the whole staff to ensure resources are updated and relevant.

