

## Curriculum Policy

New Level Academy's curriculum policy is based upon the following aims:

- Having students at its heart, putting their interests above those of the institution
- Having a curriculum that is fit for purpose, offering differentiation and personalisation
- Be a centre of excellence in learning and teaching
- Promote fundamental British values
- Prepare all students for a successful adult and working life in a 21<sup>st</sup> century global society

The curriculum should deliver the following outcomes for students:

- All students should achieve the highest possible standards for their ability
- All students who attend regularly and engage in lessons should make measurable progress
- Students who have been disadvantaged or disengaged from education should have the best possible opportunity to catch up with their peers
- All students should develop higher order thinking skills and become more independent in their learning
- All capable students should learn the functional literacy, numeracy and ICT skills required for adult life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- All students should be challenged and stretched to achieve their potential
- All students who attend regularly should enjoy learning here and experience an improvement in their attitude to learning

The U16 curriculum should:

- Be as broad as possible
- Include a choice of subjects for KS4 students whenever possible
- Cater for the widest possible range of learning styles
- Help students develop personal moral values, respect for religious values and tolerance of others' beliefs and ways of life
- Include work experience
- Include PSHE lessons which highlight to pupils that the law on child-on-child abuse is there to protect them rather than criminalise them, as well as helping pupils understand intrafamilial harms and that there is support available for all family members following an incident

The post-16 curriculum should:

- Provide a 'bridging year' between level 2 and 3 qualifications for students who would struggle to move straight to a level 3 programme of study
- Offer the scope for partnerships between the Academy and other schools/colleges, to widen the range of qualifications on offer
- Enable students to progress to work, apprenticeships or university, with guidance available from teaching and pastoral staff, based on the latest information

The qualifications we offer should:

- Be decided upon in consultation with specialist teaching staff
- Be reviewed at least annually, with reference to:
  - DfE recommendations
  - recommendations from universities and work-related think tanks
  - local sixth form and college entry requirements

- changes made by examining bodies
- Meet the needs of all young people at the academy

### **Responsibilities**

The Centre Manager is responsible for ensuring that:

- The Curriculum meets the needs of all students
- Staff have adequate classroom time to deliver the curriculum
- The curriculum and procedures for assessment meet all legal requirements
- Parents, carers and referral partners are aware of the curriculum, receive copies of their children's timetables and are informed of any changes
- Trustees and teaching staff are involved in decision-making at least annually
- Teaching staff receive training, at least annually, to become aware of the latest developments in the subjects they teach and in general pedagogical practice

Teaching staff are responsible for ensuring that:

- The academy curriculum is implemented in accordance with this policy
- Individual Learning Plans are in place for all students covering all subjects
- Levels of attainment and rates of progression are monitored
- The tracking sheet on OneDrive is completed on a half termly basis
- Action is taken to improve attainment when necessary; such action should largely be at the teacher's discretion, but should not contradict the Behaviour Policy or the Assessment for Learning Policy (other than in rare, exceptional circumstances)
- Staff meetings are used as a platform for sharing best practice and communicating developments that other relevant staff may not be aware of
- The Centre Manager, parents/carers and referral partners are kept informed of relevant data, including but not necessarily limited to:
  - Students achieving above expected progress
  - Students achieving qualifications, especially before the end of year 11
  - Students struggling to access the mainstream or differentiated curriculum
  - Students who should be assessed for special educational needs or given access arrangements in exams

The Exams Officer is responsible for ensuring that:

- Applications for approval are completed in the shortest possible time frame, ideally before the start of the school year and certainly before initial entry deadlines
- Exam entries are made on time
- Teaching staff and the Centre Manager are consulted before exam entries are made
- Important information from examining bodies and other partners is relayed to teachers and the Centre Manager when necessary

### **Monitoring, evaluation and review**

The Trustees will receive an annual report from the Centre Manager on:

- The standards achieved in each subject
- The standards achieved in each key stage
- How these standards compare with national/London averages and the previous year
- Access arrangements put in place for individual students

This Policy will be reviewed at least once a year.



Reviewed: September 2022  
Next Review: September 2023