West Lakes Academy Curriculum Vision

Our aspirations for our students:

A curriculum exists for those it serves. If our curriculum is successful, it will allow our students when they leave us to "Be The Best They Can Be."

Our curriculum is underpinned by our values, and as such we seek to ensure our students show the following characteristics when they leave our institutions:

Responsibility:

They will understand their place in society, valuing their own contributions to social and economic activity and be always dedicated to lifelong learning and enjoyment of their endeavours.

Our children will be self-motivated to drive their own learning and fully understand the role they can play as citizens of their school, their local community and their world. Our learners understand the different needs of others and believe they can make a difference. Across our Trust we constantly seek to forge, sustain and deepen our relationships to provide the best we can for our children.

Respect:

British values underpin beliefs and actions. Our children will be tolerant and respectful, taking care of others and valuing personal and shared resources. They will be understanding and reflective; being willing to reason and accept new people, new ideas and new challenges. They will make a meaningful contribution to their communities and families.

We all acknowledge people are good at different things and that we can all learn from each other. We show care for the environment and have the highest expectations of our own behaviours in how we interact with people with different beliefs.

Resilience:

They will understand and embrace challenges, be continual with effort in the face of adversity. As a result our children will develop their own self-esteem and self-respect enabling them to cope with challenge and to accept that personal growth comes from taking risks and experiencing failure. They will develop problem solving skills and self- help strategies to live a fulfilling and healthy life. They will be given opportunities across the curriculum to demonstrate perseverance, build aspirations for the future and experience challenge.

Intent

Powerful Knowledge and The Best In Everyone

Our aim is to provide an excellent education for all our students; an education which brings out the best in all of them and prepares them for success in life. Our curriculum is designed

to provide children with the core knowledge they need for success in education and later life, to maximise their cognitive development, to develop the whole person and the talents of the individual and to allow all children to become active and economically self-sufficient citizens. The education we provide is designed to endow our students with "powerful knowledge:"

- We want our students to be able to predict, explain and to envisage alternatives.
- We will enable our students to grasp knowledge about where they live, surpassing the knowledge that students acquire through everyday life.
- We will teach concepts that are systematically related to each other so that students are able to generalise and think beyond particular contexts.
- We will ensure students acquire specialised knowledge developed by distinguished groups with a clear focus and field of enquiry. Students will be taught by qualified subject specialists whose aim is to pass on knowledge and understanding from the leading experts such as mathematicians, scientists, novelists and musicians.

By drawing on the best that's been thought, said and done in each subject, we hope that our curriculum enables children to appreciate and participate in the full richness of the human experience.

At its heart the CET Curriculum as a core academic curriculum, founded on these key delivery principles:

- **Entitlement** – We believe that all children have right to learn what is in the CET Curriculum; schools have a duty to ensure that all children are taught the whole of it.
- **Mastery** – We want all students to achieve a full understanding of the knowledge specified in the Curriculum for each year, and teaching should not move on until this is achieved.
- **Stability** – We won't constantly amend the Curriculum: while we should make occasional adjustments in the light of feedback and experience, we will aim for stability over many years, so that teachers can develop expertise, and we constantly build assessments and teaching materials to support the Curriculum.
- **Concepts not context** – The Curriculum is intended as a concise specification of knowledge and content to be taught and learned; it is for schools and teachers to decide how to teach and bring it to life.

Our curriculum:

- Is fully compliant with all statutory aspects of the revised National Curriculum for 2014.
- Always caters for the individual and their needs; making adjustments where reasonable and possible.
- Is broad, balanced and gives all students fair access to the full range of subjects on offer.
- Provides opportunities to make and learn from mistakes, achieve success and find enjoyment in learning.

- Ensures all are exposed to the Arts, Culture, Community and the Outdoors beyond the academic core.
- Adapts and evolves to meet local and national needs.
- Fosters high aspirations and enables all to make successful transition to employment or the next steps in their education.

At each Key Stage we develop these intentions through both the structured curriculum and informal learning to provide the conditions in which individuals can flourish.