

Diamond Academy



Diamond Academy
Knowledge-based Curriculum
Policy
September 2021

Diamond Academy

Intent – The rationale behind this policy is to ensure that each pupil has access to the highest possible curriculum to not only inspire them to learn through exciting and stimulating lessons, but also equip them with the knowledge they will need to go on to a successful life - through high-school and beyond. We will ensure that the lessons planned and delivered by our teaching staff give the children the life experiences and knowledge foundations which will be built upon as they move through our school and onto the next stage of their education.

Our curriculum is designed especially for our academy and pupils to ensure that all the learning is relevant to our pupils, building on prior learning whilst ensuring thorough coverage of National Curriculum objectives.

Subject leaders ensure that teachers and support staff deliver the best possible learning experience throughout the duration of each unit, so that high quality teaching and learning is always our priority.

This ties in with our value of - **Aspiration** – We **aspire** to achieve our best in everything we do and **transform** ourselves as learners.

Implementation -

Lesson 1- Start with a 'hook' for the unit – This is designed to 'hook' our pupils into the new topic. This is a key point in the sequence of learning where teachers must ensure that children have recognised the value of the learning, and what it has to offer them. Key questions, short story, interesting facts, pictures, or short video are all ways to establish this. Previous connected units are also referenced. The teacher will then share the 'flight path' (sequence of learning) for the entire unit, ensuring pupils understand their learning journey and final destination. The class will then share the whole knowledge organiser and discuss. Finally, there will be a short quiz or knowledge activity to establish pupils' current knowledge, and to establish any gaps in their background knowledge which might be key to the unit

lesson 2 -5 - Teach specific knowledge in a planned series of lessons. Regular, low stakes testing begins or ends every lesson.

We expect each unit to include an enrichment activity which could be an education visit or visitor, themed day or virtual experience.

Lesson 6 /7– Measure the impact of the knowledge and skills taught. This can be done by;

- project based
- presentation
- video
- diary entry
- newspaper report etc
- completing an empty knowledge organiser.

Our teaching is supported by a custom-made curriculum map with a wide, balanced and progressive approach to learning. Teachers are supported with materials which ensure their subject knowledge covers the content of the unit they are covering. We also ensure that certain topics (e.g. The Human Body) are covered at the same time across the school to ensure linked up learning and themed displays.

Patrick Miles (Interim Assistant principal)
September 2021