



English curriculum intent

English has a pre-eminent place in education and society, meaning that all English teachers have a shared responsibility to ensure that all learners are equipped for the demands of adulthood and the world of work. The school's vision and educational aims for English provision are to provide learners with a curriculum which is engaging, inspiring and challenging for all, regardless of starting point or ability. This aspiration is in keeping with the school's own vision of encouraging all learners to strive for excellence in a culture which challenges and stretches them in all aspects of their lives.

Baseline

Many of our learners come to us having experienced disruption to their school life, often from an early age. Although learners arrive with significant challenges, we do not allow these factors to be a barrier to our high aspirations for learners' academic progress, setting targets using baseline assessment data on entry.

Intent

At The Kassia Academy our intent is reflected in our English curriculum. The intent is to equip learners with a desire to express their views; develop working relationships between learners and teachers which share high expectations; to feel valued and to be excited about life and actively encouraged to pursue their ambitions beyond the school environment. We recognise the role of literacy as being instrumental in learners achieving their very best at The Kassia Academy and the English focus takes an active role in enabling all learners to access the full benefits of our tailored curriculum. We believe in delivering an accessible English curriculum that engages learners by breaking down learning and providing clear direction in structured steps. Flexibility and freedom for staff and students within this framework ensures that learning is personalised, enjoyable and sequenced throughout KS3 and KS4.

We ingrain at least one of the eight Golden Threads of Learning into our curriculum:

- Writers Craft
- Symbolism
- Cultural Perspective
- Expression
- War and Conflict
- Literary Cannon
- Critical Thinking

- Ambition

Kassia's Golden Threads are core concepts that we believe are so important that they transcend within individual units, ensuring that all learners receive a broad and balanced curriculum, regardless of which part of the year they join our school.

Rationale

We provide an enriched, quality curriculum linked to the PBL topic theme and topic literature. English focuses across the curriculum on spelling, sentence structure, grammar, reading, writing and spoken language. This ensures children are enthused, engaged and can apply the skills taught.

This is evidenced through:

- Data
- Book scrutiny
- Formative and summative assessments
- Lesson Observations
- Marking and feedback

Differentiation

Our curriculum is broad and rich, enabling all learners to access content and make progress irrespective of needs and starting point. Activities and tasks are assigned to each learner which are suited to their needs. Support staff lead activities to ensure each child receives support and encouragement to learn and achieve.

Reading

Here at Kassia Academy our intent is to promote reading for attainment, engagement, enrichment and intervention. It is also integral that we develop a love of reading among our learners. We outline reading in our curriculum intent because we firmly and passionately believe it fundamentally underpins progress in reading, writing, literacy and therefore progress and achievement in all subjects and aspects of life.

How we implement reading:

- Exposing learners to a vast array of challenging texts across the curriculum.
- Ensuring reading material in lesson occurs in every subject
- Teachers are equipped with strategies to support reading and comprehension in their subject
- Supporting learners with subject specific terminology
- Reading data is available for staff to access so they can be aware which learners require support with reading and to plan lessons that successfully support these learners.

- Encouraging reading for pleasure through; reading areas, reading with the school's therapy dog, dedicated shared reading activities,
- Utilising our onsite Woodlands Centre Library where learners can access a variety of fiction and non-fiction books, including eBooks.
- 1:1 reading interventions with Learning Mentors
- Incentivised reading through the Literacy Leaderboard.
- Monthly newspaper and magazine subscriptions
- The Annual Cheshire Book Awards

Overall, we strive to deliver a carefully sequenced and ambitious curriculum to equip learners with the skills needed to become articulate, confident individuals. We aim to regularly celebrate learners' English achievements and want our curriculum to be engaging, breaking down barriers of learning. Our aim is to build confidence within our learners which is something they may have missed in mainstream education. We are passionate and dedicated to supporting our learners in finding a love for English.