

## Kickstart Curriculum

### School Vision

Kickstart Academy is committed to providing a safe, caring and stimulating environment for all students. This allows our young people to re-engage with learning and either return to mainstream schooling or be successful whilst remaining with ourselves. During this time, the learning needs of each individual pupil are accurately assessed to support personalisation of learning.

Our main aims as an Academy are:

- To keep our students safe
- To provide a high quality of education
- Help our students to personally develop
- Improve outcomes for our young people

### Curriculum Intent

Our curriculum intent is for all of our students to achieve a positive destination when they leave Kickstart Academy. This may be when they return to mainstream school or when they leave Year 11 and embark on their journey into further education, training or employment. In order for this to happen we must ensure the quality of education we provide is well rounded, bespoke and applicable to our young people.

The quality of education is outlined with our purposeful curriculum that has been created around delivering the education needed for our students. There is a mixture of both academic and vocational learning. In our school-based curriculum students have the opportunity to attain 7+ GCSE (or equivalent) qualifications in: Maths, English, Science, Art, Employability and PE. There is also the opportunity through our vocational curriculum to attain many more relevant qualifications in: Cooking, Outdoor Education, Sport and Careers.

In terms of personal development, we have a dedicated pastoral team that take ownership over the development of our young people, helping them in whichever way needed to ensure their success when moving on. All teaching staff across Kickstart Academy are involved in delivery of our bespoke curriculum that also aims at developing our students' skills for life after school. We also work on the different and individual needs of our young people within school to help them develop in whichever is needed, in order for them to be successful. As a school we also work closely with outside agencies, in order to help further support our young people to the greatest extent.

Improving outcomes for our young people is of utmost importance to us. We look to maximise attendance and punctuality, to ensure our students can access the provision they need to help them remain safe, improve their well-being and succeed. We also have a key focus on behaviour management, with a very skilled staff team that work closely with our students to ensure that behaviour for learning is positive. When students access our provision, we put in the necessary steps to ensure they are going to be successful in their own right. This involves working closely with parents and the students themselves around their future and understanding what will ensure their achievement. We have a bespoke and extensive Employability and Careers programme, which involves our staff working closely with students to understand their hopes and aspirations and turning this into a reality. We also work side by side with Future Focus to give our young people the best opportunity to achieve their goals post 16. In order to improve outcomes for our students it involves our school delivering its curriculum to the highest standard and we pride ourselves on the quality of our delivery.

### **Curriculum Implementation and Impact**

At Kickstart Academy our structured curriculum is delivered through high quality teaching, with specific attention being given to supporting the personal development of our learners.

Key Stage 4 learners, whilst on site at Kickstart Academy, engage in a mixture of core subjects and vocational accreditation. Students have the opportunity to access English, Maths, Science, Art, Employability and PE lessons each week. The aim is that all students will achieve accreditation in core subjects (GCSE and/or Entry Level). At Kickstart we also offer a range of vocational subjects and qualifications, including: Outdoor Education, Sport, Cooking and Work Experience/Alternative Provision Programmes.

The intense intervention that Kickstart Academy offers creates an environment where behaviours and attitudes, that are often engrained, can be managed effectively. This allows students to re-engage with education and experience success. This in turn fosters confidence and self-belief within our students and makes it possible for the pupil to undertake a change of educational trajectory. As a result, of the calm, focused and supportive setting, students experience accelerated academic progress and the closing of any gaps in learning.

Within the curriculum, specific work is done to support the improvement in behaviours and attitudes as well as social and employability skills that will support success within society. This is evident throughout everything at Kickstart Academy, with staff taking every opportunity to support improved behaviour and learning in a holistic way.

All staff are motivated to deliver an offer that will enable all students to take advantage of the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. Curriculum development is motivated to meet the needs of the evolving cohort and this includes focus on delivering knowledge and skills to allow all students to maximise learning and personal development.

Our curriculum implementation can be broken down into some key elements:

#### Registration

The key principles around our registration is development positive relationships with staff and ensuring students know they are supported. We embed the following topics into our tutor time to provide additional support: Literacy, Numeracy, Progression, Life Skills and News. These sessions are designed to support and nurture our young people.

#### Personal development Curriculum

Our personal development curriculum is designed to offer support to our students and give them to tools to be personally successful. Our programmes are designed to help students over time develop themselves and ensure a greater success when they leave us. Our personal development curriculum is designed with helping students develop in mind and the package for students is bespoke for their needs. As a school we also work with additional support services where needed to help our young people in whichever way may be best suited. This ensures that our students are getting the right support to help them develop. Our pastoral team also have regular 1-2-1 meetings with all students within school, to help develop a bespoke path and support package that can enable them to be successful.

#### Core and National Curriculum

The purpose of our core curriculum is to allow our young people the opportunity to achieve the best they possibly can, with the aim that all our young people achieve their appropriate outcome. This outcome may be GCSE 4+ or it may be Entry Level, but it is about achieving the best possible for our students to allow them to move onto an appropriate destination. Both GCSE and Entry Level is offered for students in English, Maths and Science, GCSE Art, GCSE PE and Entry 3 through to Level 2 in Employability. In terms of meeting the national curriculum, our school meets all requirements. English,

Maths and Science are taught in specific lessons. Citizenship and Computing are taught through Employability lessons, tutor time and PSHE, Physical Education is embedded into our curriculum through our vocational offer (Outdoor Education and Boxing/Dance), through dedicated sport sessions and PE theory lessons. We also offer a full GCSE in Art as an addition for its therapeutic and expressive benefits. Religious Studies is embedded across all subjects that are taught and Relationship and Sex Education is delivered to all students.

### PSHE/RSE

Our PSHE/RSE curriculum is extensive and students are progress tracked in this area to ensure they have accessed all of the content. All students have access to contextual PSHE sessions dependant upon the needs of the issues our young people face and that of the community. We are thorough in ensuring that the recommended national curriculum guidance for PSHE/RSE topics are all covered and embedded within our various subject areas, where staff identify this in their schemes of work.

### Preparing for the workplace

A big part of what we do at Kickstart Academy is getting our young people ready for the world of further education or work. For this reason, we deliver an Employability qualification, of which students can attain Entry 3, Level 1 or Level 2 depending on their ability. This qualification is incorporated within our extensive careers programme. This programme is designed to get students enthused about their future destination and therefore work hard to attain this goal. We offer all our students the opportunity a work experience placement and ensure that their careers package is tailored to suit them. We work hard as a school towards hitting all of the Gatsby benchmarks. The aim of the above is to ensure our students have the necessary skills needed and are ready for the workplace when they leave school.

### Well-being

Student well-being is of utmost importance to us and something we have designed our curriculum around supporting. Our curriculum includes many different aspects that work towards improving student well-being, with our vocational curriculum having a big input in delivering this. These areas also included accredited qualifications but there is a huge benefit in regards to instilling well-being from them. As well as these curriculum aspects we also run a personal development curriculum, dedicated pastoral sessions and students have access to our school counsellor. We also have a dedicated mental health lead and policy in place to ensure we are meeting the needs of our students and supporting them effectively.

### Vocational

Our vocational curriculum is designed to support and compliment our core curriculum but offering students to take part in activities that are therapeutic, engaging and rewarding. All of our vocational offers have a supporting qualification, but with this aside we feel the value of this offer to be of huge

importance to our young people. Our vocational offer includes: Outdoor Education (delivered through the Arthog Outreach Centre), Cooking and land-based activities (Tickwood Farm), Boxing programme (delivered through Bright Star) and our work experience/careers programme. There is a variety of qualifications that can be attained by students through our vocational curriculum.

The purpose of our curriculum is to help young people develop and attain to the best of their ability, leading them to be successful in the future.