



Statement of Curriculum Principles

Person responsible for policy: Chief Executive Officer

Revised: April 2019

Review Date: April 2021

Purpose

This document contains the River Learning Trust 'Statement of Curriculum Principles'. These principles should be represented in school approaches to curriculum and curriculum policies.

The production and implementation of an individual school's curriculum policy is the responsibility of the Headteacher of each school and the Local Governing Body.

Principles

The principles of the River Learning Trust are:

- **Commitment to Excellence**; striving for the best educational experience
- **Everyone Learning**; creating and taking opportunities that enhance lives
- **Respectful Relationships**; acting with care, integrity, and fairness in all we do

Commitment to Excellence

- We aim for schools to teach an excellent curriculum - both in content and in design - because we know that this is of central importance for students and for teachers
- Excellent content means that leaders and teachers have thought carefully about the subjects which are taught, and that these subjects result in a broad and balanced experience, tailored to the needs of each individual and each school community
- Within subjects, content is carefully chosen because it is challenging, interesting, and prepares students most effectively for their next steps
- Excellent curriculum design means that the most convincing evidence from cognitive science and educational theory provides the underpinning rationale behind, for example, sequencing, choice of knowledge and skill and the design and use of assessment

Everyone Learning

- Schools are learning communities for pupils and for staff, and it is essential that all pupils are able to access the curriculum and learn.
- We will be truly inclusive for all pupils and trainees, offering a rich and excellent educational experience whatever their academic ability, social background or special educational need
- This means that quality of teaching and of intervention should be of the highest quality, and paramount in the work of leaders
- Teachers should have ample access to excellent quality CPD, including in relation to curriculum and assessment design
- Schools in the Trust will work together to support and challenge each other, to share what is best and learn from what is working well; we will seek to direct resources and learning to secure the best education possible for our pupils, students and staff
- We aim to ensure that every individual has an equal opportunity to make the most of their lives, celebrating the differences within our communities and seeking to learn from this diversity

Respectful Relationships

- Respectful relationships will be represented and developed in our curriculum through opportunities to learn self-reflection, humility and to see the world through the eyes of others.
- The curriculum should promote tolerance and understanding of others, by giving students access to rich learning from across the globe, and allow students to learn beyond the boundaries of their own experiences
- PSHCE curricula will specifically address issues in relation to developing and maintaining respectful relationships