



**South East Cornwall Multi Academy Regional Trust**

# **Curriculum Policy Statement**

## **Looe Community Academy**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Changes</b>
June 24	Reviewed by Kelly Wood, Assistant Headteacher - Curriculum
Sept 24	Reviewed by Scott Yalden, Headteacher

Next date for review : May 2025 by Assistant Headteacher - Curriculum

## **Looe Community Academy** **Curriculum Policy Statement**

Looe Community Academy offers a broad and balanced curriculum for all students regardless of gender, race, religion, social-class, culture or ability. Our aim is to provide excellent learning opportunities that will develop our young people into confident, independent, lifelong learners, who make a positive contribution and are prepared for leading a good and successful life. We champion their development in the core values of Respect, Resilience and Responsibility to achieve this aim.

Close links with our feeder primary schools ensure that students in year 7 settle in quickly and build on the skills they have learnt during KS2. In Key Stages 3 and 4, and in particular during the autumn and spring of year 9, students receive guidance ahead of their choices for Year 10. In Key Stages 3 and 4 a comprehensive Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance programme, offering independent advice, ensures that students are fully briefed on the opportunities available following their KS4 courses of study.

We are educating today's young people for tomorrow's world. Students need to acquire skills, knowledge, attitudes and values which will help them play a full and useful role in all aspects of society. The development of the Essential Skillsbuilder Skills is considered an important aspect of every subject's curriculum. The curriculum is also supported by an established Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Economic Education programme. The aim of the curriculum is to help students to build a 'Schema' of concepts that structure their understanding in the same way as the branches and trunk provide the structure for a tree. Knowledge is attached to the schema like leaves attached to the tree. They feed and nourish the schema allowing it to expand in new directions. The learning of these concepts is carefully sequenced with increasing complexity so the schema builds correctly by returning to the same concept on numerous occasions in different contexts as a spiral curriculum.

Students should be encouraged to work hard and contribute to the wider academic and social life of the school and the local community. Through the work that is completed there is also an acceptance of the differences between the people and cultures within our community. We also aim to help students gain a general economic well-being. Teachers utilise a variety of teaching and learning styles so that all students can gain from different creative approaches and challenges

### Curriculum Principles

- Every student will have equal access to a broad and balanced academic curriculum.
- Groups may be based on prior attainment data, and targets. The students are provided with learning opportunities appropriate to their recognized needs with a range of relevant qualifications and accreditations.
- Our provision will give appropriate balance to the development of attitudes to learning, skills, knowledge and understanding.
- In Key Stage 4, we offer a range of courses, which reflect the national expectations for young people.

### **Key Stage 3**

In years 7, 8 and 9 all students follow a curriculum of:

English

Mathematics

Science

Art and Design

Computer Science

Dance

Drama

Technology (Including Resistant Materials, Food, Textiles and Graphics)

French

Geography

History

Music

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education

Physical Education

Religion and Worldviews (REW)

Spanish

In KS3 students will study either French or Spanish.

### **Key Stage 4**

In the spring of year 9 students are asked to choose their Key Stage 4 courses. Guidance and counselling play an important part in the decision-making process. To assist parents / carers and students, an annual Year 9 information evening is held in March and provides them with an opportunity to discuss, with all subject teachers, the choice of option subjects. A general information evening is also held for parents of year 9 students. Opportunities are also made available for students to meet with a careers advisor to discuss their future educational needs.

All students follow a compulsory core consisting of GCSE English, GCSE Mathematics, GCSE Science, GCSE Religious and Worldviews (REW), Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic education (PSHCE) and Physical Education. Students should encounter ICT through all their subjects.

In addition, students have the option to study up to 4 further courses outlined in an annual option choices booklet. (A copy of the most recent booklet can be requested from the school). The school ensures that all students are able to choose from choices which include the Arts, Modern Foreign Languages, the Humanities, Technology, and Vocational courses. The range of options should be as rich as possible to meet the needs and aspirations of our learners.

Currently available option courses:

#### **GCSE:**

Art & Design, Computer Science, Combined Science, Dance, Design and Technology, Fashion, French, Geography, History, Physical Education, Sociology, Spanish and Triple Science.

**Vocational Courses**

Level 1/2 Tech Awards: Engineering, Hospitality Performing Arts (Drama), Performing Arts (Music). Other applied learning courses may be negotiated in order to personalise the learning for specific individuals.

**The Whole School Curriculum:**

Looe Community Academy strives to ensure that the curriculum offer is enhanced by opportunities that extend beyond the 25 timetabled hours of formal teaching. During the year there are calendared events for each year group. This allows students to participate in experiences where they can explore Diversity, Social Issues, Learning to Learn, Enterprise Education, ICT, Citizenship, Relationships and Sex Education etc. This also provides an opportunity for all learners to develop and promote shared ideals and values. It allows learners to challenge prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping through working together on social and educational ideas. The curriculums across subjects are designed to be inclusive for all and for every student to be able to achieve their full potential, creating a sense of belonging and ensuring there is universal provision where needed. Where possible cross curricular links are made and often subjects will work together on specific drop-down days, trips and events. There are lots of opportunities given for out of class learning for example field trips and gallery visits, and often students will have visiting people from different industries to show how their learning can progress into careers. In addition to this Year 10 students undertake 5 days of Work Experience.