



Curriculum Policy

(Review Date: September 2016)

At Oasis Academy Silvertown we aim to:

- Provide a safe, stimulating, and enriching environment for our students to be able to thrive emotionally, socially and educationally.
- Develop independent learners who increasingly have a stake in directing their own learning and developing their own interests.
- Ensure that our students enjoy coming to school, are happy and actively contribute towards making the school buzz with purposeful learning.
- Ensure that our students fulfil their potential as they develop aspiration, self-belief, a sense of justice and respect for community and one another.

Oasis Academy Silvertown will empower every student to:

- Be the best version of themselves
- Be a model citizen
- Be ambitious in aspiring to a career of their choice

In order to achieve our vision we focus on 5 key principles:

Inclusion

- Meeting every child at their starting point.
- Tailoring our approach to education to remove barriers to learning and making progress.
- Celebrating our diversity and promoting tolerance of our differences.

Integrity

- Developing well-rounded students – academically, creatively, socially, physically, emotionally and morally.
- Equipping students to make right and wise choices and become responsible citizens.
- Teaching students to treat others with respect and as they would like to be treated themselves.

Independence

- Helping young people to be confident enough for their personalities to flourish and to avoid negative peer pressure.
- Developing key life skills.
- Developing work related skills to take maximum advantage of job opportunities.

Inspiration

- Raising the aspirations of students from all backgrounds
- Creating an appetite for life-long learning so that students can continue to succeed and adapt in our knowledge based society.
- Developing a strong work ethic and having opportunities within the Academy to demonstrate it.

Interdependence

- In a small supportive environment, young people interact with each other across all year groups, bridging social divisions and celebrating diversity.
- All students are involved and informed about the whole life of the Academy, celebrating and appreciating each other's contributions.
- Using our broad and stimulating curriculum to help children express themselves, grow in confidence and appreciate different and complimentary gifts in each other.

The Curriculum at Oasis Academy Silvertown

At Oasis Academy Silvertown, we believe that our children learn best:

- If we give them a wide experience of different subjects and activities
- If we focus on teaching them skills and how to do things
- If they are actively involved, interested and enjoy their learning.

Our curriculum is varied and action-packed to enable students to have studied a broad range of subjects before making their options choices for GCSE. The coverage will enable students to make the relevant choices to achieve the English Baccalaureate.

Key features of our innovative curriculum include:

- A strong development of core skills – especially in English and mathematics where students are taught every day.
- Fostering a love of literature with daily reading sessions
- Developing an appreciation of the Arts – with a focus on drama, art, dance and music.
- Weekly enrichment to introduce our students to the principals of the Duke of Edinburgh award will include: Mandarin, water-sports, cookery, enterprise projects, etc.
- Links to schools overseas for joint projects to fulfil our aim of creating global citizens.
- Instrumental lessons in Year 7, providing continuity in learning from primary.
- A strong focus on PSHE, Citizenship and Healthy Living taught through the tutorial programme and linked to weekly assemblies.
- Curriculum links with employers, local businesses and community partners in and around the Royal Docks
- Students are engaged in competitive games and are taught a varied range of sports.

Organisation of learning

- Students are taught in small classes of up to 24 children.
- Students are organized into home groups and spend time with their tutor for 90-minutes each day so that they become well-known by their tutors.
- The Academy operates a longer school day (8.30am – 4.15pm) which means that over the course of the school year your child receive 25% more learning time than a typical secondary school.
- Homework is set regularly to foster the habit of independent study and is always a necessary preparation for future lessons.

Sex and Relationships Education

Sex and relationships education (SRE) forms part of the PSHE curriculum. Students learn about relationships within a moral framework.

Parents/carers have the opportunity to discuss the resources and content of these sessions. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child from sex education.

Collective Worship

Collective worship is broadly Christian in tone but explores other cultures and beliefs as well as providing a chance to discuss moral issues. Parents/carers and friends of the Academy may be invited to attend these from time to time.

A “Thought for the Week” is set each Monday and corresponds to one of the social, moral, spiritual or cultural (SMSC) themes, or PHSE themes.

Extra-Curricular Activities

To further enrich their lives at the Academy, students are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities. Such activities vary from year to year but may include football, tag rugby, hockey, netball, gymnastics and athletics, gardening, film making, art, dance, drama and choir. The Academy provides access to peripatetic music teachers free of charge to Years 7 and 8 students. Most activities take place from 4.15-5pm.

Clubs provide an invaluable opportunity to enrich our students’ experiences. We offer a range of activities and we try to ensure that there is something for everybody across the week.

Attendance at all clubs is optional. Time is available at the end of each day (except Friday) to offer clubs to students from 4.15-5pm.

Curriculum Provision

There are a total of 30 teaching sessions per week dedicated to national curriculum learning. Teaching sessions are 50 minutes long.

In addition pupils spend 90 minutes per day with their form tutor – 30 minutes in the morning and an hour at the end of the day. This time is mainly used for whole class reading, PSHE & Citizenship, SMSC, homework support and intervention.

Year 7 Curriculum

English	5 sessions	Maths	5 sessions
Science	3 sessions	PE	3 sessions
German	2 sessions	Humanities	3 sessions
Drama	1 session	Computing	1 session
RE	1 session	Art	2 sessions
Enrichment*	3 sessions	Music	1 session

Year 8 Curriculum

English	5 sessions	Maths	5 sessions
Science	3 sessions	PE	2 sessions
German	2 sessions	Humanities	4 sessions
Drama	1 session	Computing	1 session
RE	1 session	Art	2 sessions
Enrichment*	3 sessions	Music	1 session

***Enrichment** – Friday morning or afternoon

Pupils experience the following activities in smaller teaching groups on a carousel system for 6 to 7 weeks.

Rowing
 Creative Film or Song making
 Field Studies
 Mandarin
 Enterprise
 Food technology