

## 2c. Curriculum Policy

### **Rationale**

The Lyceum School is committed to delivering a rigorous and creative curriculum that enables every pupil to excel academically, athletically, and artistically. We incorporate the finest elements of the National Curriculum while also meeting the requirements for Independent school entrance exams. Pupils engage with broad, interdisciplinary topics that integrate history, geography, and science, alongside other subjects. This holistic approach fosters vital connections and deepens pupils' understanding of the world.

### **Relationship to the National Curriculum**

While The Lyceum School does not strictly adhere to every aspect of the National Curriculum from Year 1 onwards, we align with the revised statutory frameworks for English and Mathematics to ensure a robust foundation.

### **Our Aims**

The Lyceum Curriculum aims to:

- Inspire a positive attitude towards learning, making it enjoyable and rewarding.
- Develop a strong work ethic, emphasising independent learning skills and critical thinking.
- Provide a comprehensive, topic-based curriculum with significant focus on reading, writing, and mathematics.
- Promote the arts and creativity as essential components of education.
- Ensure physical activity for all pupils, with an emphasis on dance, yoga and sports.
- Foster the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of each pupil.

### **Planning**

Our curriculum follows a two-year cycle of topics for each Key Stage: The Early Years Foundation Stage (Reception), Key Stage 1, Lower Key Stage 2, and Upper Key Stage 2. The Whole School Curriculum Plan (2b) guides teachers' planning by outlining topics and estimating the number of lessons for each subject. Long Term Plans for each year group clearly specify the topics covered in each curriculum area.

At the beginning of each term, teachers create Medium Term Plans for Maths and topic-based lessons, including English. Teachers may also develop additional plans in formats they find useful, all of which are stored on the online shared drive, School Data.

### **11+ Preparation**

We provide targeted teaching to prepare pupils for 11+ entrance examinations, including creative writing, Maths, reading comprehension, and reasoning (both Verbal and Non-verbal). We do not routinely prepare pupils for 7+ examinations.

2a. Curriculum Policy Reviewed by FI: September 2024

Reviewed by the Board: June 2023

Next review: August 2025

## **Homework**

Homework is an integral part of our curriculum, starting with reading tasks in Reception. We encourage parents to support their children with homework. Even children who stay in the homework club are expected to take their work home to share with their parents. For further information see the Homework Policy (3g).

## **PE and Sports**

We utilise Shoreditch Power League, Bunhill Fields, and Finsbury Leisure Centre for sports activities, as well as local parks. Pupils are taught PE and Sports by a specialist teacher. In the Autumn Term, Year 6 pupils participate in a sailing course at West Reservoir. Our goal is for children to engage in physical activity daily, whether through sports, dance, gymnastics, drama, yoga, or small games. Where possible, fixtures are arranged by the Head of Sport with other schools in cricket, football, and rugby.

## **Music**

Our thriving music department offers pupils the opportunity to learn a variety of musical instruments. All Key Stage 2 pupils participate in the school choir, with some joining the chamber choir, orchestra, or school big band.

## **Languages (Spanish and Latin)**

Starting from Reception, all pupils have weekly Spanish lessons. In Year 6, pupils are also introduced to Latin from the Spring Term.

## **Trips**

Teachers organise educational trips based on Long and Medium Term Plans, such as visits to galleries, museums, and theatre shows, to enrich pupils' understanding of their topics. These trips provide hands-on experiences related to the curriculum, such as living as Tudors during a visit to Mildenhall. All trips are approved by the Senior Leadership Team.

## **Extra-Curricular Activities**

The Lyceum takes pride in its extensive extra-curricular programme, offering a wide range of opportunities for enjoyment and development in both intellectual and physical activities. Activities occur before, during, and after school, led by staff members and external coaches/specialists.

2a. Curriculum Policy Reviewed by FI: September 2024  
Reviewed by the Board: June 2023  
Next review: August 2025