



Elm Tree's Curriculum Intent Statement

How we Designed Our Curriculum

Our curriculum is an ever-changing combination of events and activities that are designed to meet the needs of all of our learners, as well as prepare them for the next phase of their education. However, our curriculum is much more than this. We have designed our curriculum to take into the account the following:

- For the vast majority of our pupils, their previous experiences of school, learning and the curriculum have all been negative. They have disengaged.
- Our pupils all have an Educational Health & Care Plan.
- We have a high proportion of pupils with diagnosis of ADHD, ASC and other difficulties.
- Our pupils (generally speaking) have great issues with subjects being taught in a traditional manner.
- Our families have a wide range of needs and circumstances, but many have, or are experiencing deprivation, and a range of other challenging issues. Some of these are on a 'day to day' basis
- In year referrals meant that, the size and dynamics of every year group changed during the year.
- 48/125 pupils were new to the school at the start of the academic year, which equates to 38% of the school population.
- Our pupils are in desperate need of constant and appropriate relationships that guide, reward, motivate and inspire, alongside the setting of consistent boundaries.

Curriculum Values

We have designed our curriculum based on the factors above and our current curriculum has the overarching intent to do the following:

- To provide exciting, motivational and engaging experiences for pupils that enable rapid and sustained engagement. To get back to learning!
- To use a curriculum that provides deep learning experiences, as well as breadth of subject matter, but adapt this and if need be to create bespoke learning when appropriate.
- Ensure that we are equipping our pupils with key area development such as literacy, numeracy and science. However, this may be from the perspective of filling gaps, and providing catch up due to our pupil's previous educational history, as well meeting their age related needs and development milestones where appropriate.
- To support and challenge our pupils by intervening where appropriate in a timely and supportive manner that creates progression and growth.
- To enable confidence, self-esteem, positive interaction with peers and adults and engender a love of learning for life.

Vision, Ambition and Values

Elm Tree School and its staff remain committed to providing the very best education for its pupils. Our school motto of 'Believe to Achieve' permeates throughout the school. The Elm Tree Way is to feel safe, happy and special and have needs met. Being caring, consistent and calm and all times.

We consider our school to be the leaders of our type of provision within our county and beyond. For the past three years, we have set the challenging target of achieving around 80% progress for our school cohort in the areas of reading, writing and mathematics.

The drive applies in our creation of, review and continuous adaptation of a curriculum for our pupils.