

Curriculum Statement of Intent

Our core curriculum intention is to support our students in their pursuit of knowledge and wisdom, allowing them to flourish as lifelong learners seeking to love God and serve the community.

Curriculum Vision

Regardless of prior attainment or backgrounds, all students at The Ursuline Academy Ilford have equal access to a broad and balanced curriculum that is knowledge-rich, inclusive, and ambitious. Our curriculum is designed to ensure all students know success and to give students the knowledge, skills, and experiences to gain qualifications and the social and cultural capital necessary to flourish both individually and in society. The intention of our curriculum is to ensure that students leave the school as active in their understanding of social justice and action and appreciating that they have been created in dignity and designed with a purpose. Our curriculum should be a joyful experience for students stimulating a life-long love of learning.

Curriculum Philosophy

We believe that the acquisition of knowledge can empower our students and transform their lives. It is therefore our responsibility to ensure all students have equal access to this knowledge. We know that expert subject specialists are essential to the planning and development of a strong curriculum. Within each subject discipline our curriculum should contain the latest research and knowledge therefore we give time for our teachers to plan and develop their curriculum. We believe our curriculum should be broad and that all students should study the full range of national curriculum content and more. The structure and sequencing of content is thoughtful and supports the ongoing acquisition and application of knowledge. Students use their knowledge to develop skills specific to each subject discipline and skills that connect across the curriculum. Our curriculum choices reflect the context of students and their lives but are carefully considered to promote aspiration and the broadening of horizons. Furthermore, we want all young people to engage in our curriculum with the intention of doing much more than simply passing exams. We weave careers guidance, extend cultural capital as well as providing opportunities for meaningful spiritual, moral, and personal growth.

Curriculum Principles

We are committed to a continuous process of curriculum development. In each subject the curriculum is designed, reviewed, and developed according to the following principles:

- Our curriculum is knowledge-rich and specified in detail so that teachers and students are clear what needs to be learned,
- Our curriculum is ambitious, students are introduced to the most important knowledge of each subject,
- Our curriculum is inclusive so that all students have equal access to the same knowledge,
- Our curriculum is sequenced so that new knowledge builds on previous learnt knowledge with students becoming adept at applying that knowledge to develop skills,
- Our curriculum is supported with a strong literacy, numeracy and oracy strategy,
- Our curriculum is reviewed regularly – Senior and Middle Leaders have the skills, knowledge, and time to design, implement and review the curriculum.