



'Excellence in Literacy' Policy

September 2020

Originator	Authorised by	Date Adopted	Date of Review	Next Review
Ormiston/ T Humby	Board or Governors	October 2016	September 2020 OWS	September 2022

SEPTEMBER 2020

Overview:

Literacy is about our students' ability to function in society as well as the school setting. It is about us preparing them to function as individuals, citizens, employees and parents. Literacy will have an impact on our students' self-esteem, their interaction with others, their health and employability. It is so much more than reading, writing, speaking & listening. It is imperative that connections are made between each strand and across all subjects as we acknowledge that Literacy is the responsibility of all staff.

Ormiston Chadwick Academy believes that the acquisition and application of literacy skills is the foundation of all learning across all key stages and that it is the responsibility of all staff to improve the communication and language skills of all learners. The Academy is committed to enhancing and embedding Literacy Across the Curriculum throughout the Academy by:

- Following the structure of the National Curriculum.
- All Key Stage 3 students follow Ark Mastery in English; grammar and writing is taught explicitly in lessons.
- In addition to ARK 1:1 reading opportunities, struggling readers are offered 3 x weekly one-to-one reading opportunities in the zone, using a phonics-based reading scheme (Oxford Reading Tree books (Snapdragons, Fireflies, Floppy's phonics), Project X Origins and Tree Tops fiction).
- Providing support and information to parents/carers about Literacy and Reading and how they can help their children.
- Pupils reading ages are tested three times a year in order to inform intervention and measure improvements. In addition:
 - Reading ages are shared so all teaching staff may set and differentiate pupils' work accordingly.
 - A letter to parents is sent out informing them of their child's reading age and what interventions are put in place.
 - Small group/1:1 reading intervention for identified students is put in place.
 - The reading age also informs the examinations officer and teachers of any extra support a student may require.
 - Year 7 reading intervention during Personal Development time with stronger Year 7 readers.
- Ensuring that all learners enjoy Literacy by enriching the curriculum with visits and visitors to the school. (Styal Mill, cross curricular residentials, touring theatre companies etc.)
- Ensuring all subject areas enhance Literacy by using the Oracy and Communication Actions; Speaking & Listening, Reading, Writing and Vocabulary.
- Ensure all classrooms display the actions and that pupils are aware when the actions are being addressed.

- Providing CPD for each separate action; how to incorporate reading, writing, speaking and vocabulary in lessons.
- Provide all staff with a 'How to guide,' detailing suggestions for activities to incorporate literacy in all lessons
- Monitoring teaching and learning to provide feedback to bring about improvement and celebrate success.
- Providing support and information to parents/carers about Literacy and Reading and how they can help their children.
- Evaluating the effectiveness of Literacy Across the Curriculum and assessing the impact that it has had on learners.
- Using a range of teaching and learning styles including whole class, small group and individualised learning as appropriate.
- Giving all learners access to the appropriate learning methods and new technology which will help to provide personalised learning.
- As part of the Academy's Personal Development programme, all students have an extended registration each morning in which to revisit and consolidate literacy through a range of activities.
- Students in Years 7-10 read 'form books' using the primary school model of shared reading. The books address the themes being taught in the Personal Development curriculum.
 - Year 7 - Bubble Boy - Illness/disability
 - Year 8 - Can you see me? Disability/inclusion
 - Year 9 - Ketchup Clouds - Betrayal/democracy/death row
 - Year 10 - Pigeon English - Immigration/inclusion
- Transition texts/reading boxes of books are available for Years 7, 8 and 9 to read whilst students await their next teacher.
- Emphasise throughout the Academy the importance of communication via oracy: DebateMate and Talk the Talk are two ongoing initiatives.
- Reading is high profile across the Academy and special events are celebrated, i.e. National Poetry Day and World Book Day.
- The weekly WOW word is shared with staff and displayed for students via teachers' white boards and screens; this WOW also encompasses assembly and Personal Development themes.