



ARK Curriculum Delivery Policy-September 2026

Introduction

This Curriculum Delivery Policy outlines the structured approach adopted by ARK Alternative Education Provision (www.arkaep.co.uk) to ensure that every learner receives a high-quality, holistic educational experience. The policy reflects our commitment to safeguarding, the embedding of ARK Values, and the preparation of learners for academic achievement and real-world success. The delivery is structured into three distinct but interconnected phases, each designed to address the academic, social, and personal development needs of our learners.

Phase 1: Induction Phase

The Induction Phase is critical in ensuring a smooth transition for learners into ARK's educational environment. This phase focuses on the following key areas:

- **Safeguarding:** All learners are introduced to safeguarding policies and practices to ensure their safety and well-being. Staff ensure that learners understand who to speak to if they have any concerns.
- **Behaviour Expectations:** Clear expectations regarding behaviour are established. Learners are made aware of the standards and responsibilities expected of them within the ARK community.
- **Baseline Observations:** Staff conduct baseline assessments and observations to identify each learner's starting point, strengths, and areas for development. This informs personalised learning plans moving forward.
- **Embedding ARK Values:** ARK Values are integrated into all sessions, fostering an environment of respect, aspiration, kindness, and teamwork. Learners begin to identify as members of the ARK Team, building a sense of belonging and community.

Phase 2: Curriculum Introduction and Exam Preparation

The Curriculum Introduction and Exam Preparation phase is designed to develop learners' academic skills and prepare them for formal assessments. Key elements include:

- **Structured Lessons:** Learners participate in structured Maths and English lessons (Lessons 1 and 2), ensuring coverage of key curriculum content and skills development.
- **Small Group Support:** In Lesson 3, staff work with small groups to mark work, provide feedback, and monitor progress. This targeted support ensures that learners understand their strengths and areas for improvement.
- **Completion and Mop-Up:** Staff ensure that all assigned work is completed and provide opportunities for learners to address any incomplete tasks, maximising learning outcomes.
- **Progress Tracking:** Each learner's journey is captured using an individual Progress Tracker, allowing staff to monitor progress, tailor support, and celebrate achievements.

Note: Phase 2 may overlap with Phase 3, depending on the needs and readiness of each individual learner.

Phase 3: Employability and Real World Ready

This phase is focused on preparing learners for life after ARK, equipping them with the skills, experience, and confidence required for further education, employment, or training. Key activities include:

- **Next Steps Preparation:** Staff deliver sessions focused on planning for the future, including guidance on pathways and opportunities beyond ARK.
- **College Open Events:** Learners are supported to access college open events, gaining insight into post-16 options and requirements.
- **Post-16 Applications:** Support is provided for applications to further education, training, or employment settings. Where appropriate, learners create CVs using platforms such as Log On Move On.
- **Guest Speakers and Q&A Sessions:** Guest speakers are invited to share real-life experiences and answer questions, broadening learners' understanding of potential career paths and inspiring ambition.
- **Online Courses:** Staff encourage learners to participate in certificated online courses via platforms like Open Learn, enhancing employability and lifelong learning skills.
- **Celebration of Progress:** Achievements are regularly celebrated, reinforcing self-belief and motivation as learners transition to their next stage.

Note: The delivery of Phase 2 and Phase 3 may overlap, allowing for a flexible and individualised approach based on each learner's needs and progression.

Monitoring and Review

The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team, with input from staff, learners, and parents/carers. Adjustments will be made as necessary to ensure the policy continues to meet the evolving needs of the ARK community and supports positive outcomes for all learners.

Conclusion

Through this structured, phased approach, ARK ensures that all learners are safeguarded, academically supported, and empowered to succeed both within and beyond the classroom. The embedding of ARK Values throughout the curriculum underpins a culture of aspiration, respect, and achievement.

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Created by- K Walton

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