



<b>Local Procedure/Protocol</b>	
<b>School/Home Name:</b>	<b>Luxborough Court School</b>
<b>Local Procedure/Protocol Title:</b>	<b>Curriculum Protocol and Procedures</b>
<b>Linked to Group Policy Title &amp; Code:</b>	<b>Curriculum Policy</b>
<b>Date Reviewed:</b>	<b>September 2023</b>
<b>Next Update Due:</b>	<b>September 2024</b>
<b>Procedure/Protocol Lead:</b>	<b>Jeanette Allen and Sarah Blanchard (Deputy Headteachers)</b>
<b>Procedure/Protocol Sponsor:</b>	<b>Hayley Dorian – School Development Lead</b>
<b>EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY STATEMENT</b>	
Witherslack Group is committed to the fair treatment of all in line with the Equality Act 2010. An equality impact assessment has been completed on this policy to ensure that it can be implemented consistently regardless of any protected characteristics and all will be treated with dignity and respect.	
<b>ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL, GOVERNANCE (ESG) STATEMENT</b>	
Witherslack Group is committed to responsible business practices in the areas of: Environmental Stewardship, Social Responsibility, Governance, Ethics & Compliance. An ESG impact assessment has been completed on this procedure/protocol to ensure it can be implemented successfully without adverse implications on our Group goals.	
To ensure that this procedure/protocol is relevant and up to date, comments and suggestions for additions or amendments are sought from users of this document. To contribute towards the process of review, please email the named policy lead.	

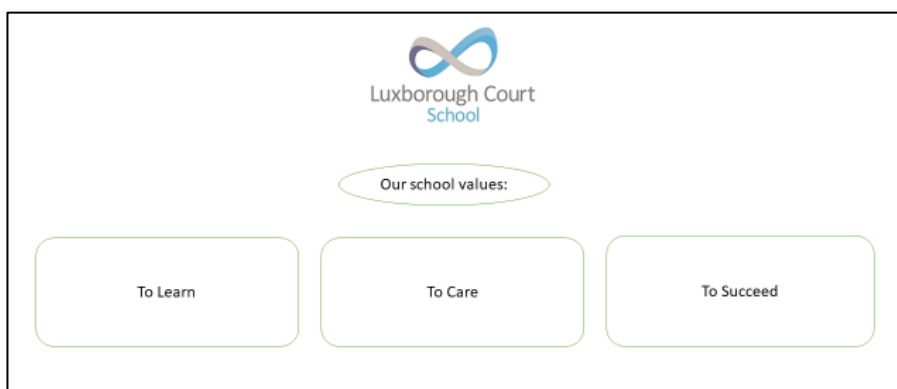
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### 1. CONTEXT

#### 1.1



Luxborough Court School is an independent special school and part of the Witherslack Group. Our pupils are aged 5 to 19, with many strengths and interests, along with complex educational needs arising from autism and other types of neurodiversity. Many of our pupils present with social communication and sensory needs and/or behaviours which challenge and they have invariably experienced disrupted education placements. Pupils may be working below age-related expectations when they join us and some may have additional or specific learning needs. All pupils have an Education, Health and Care Plan and some pupils may be in the care of their local authorities.

- 1.2** Luxborough Court School benefits from a fantastic building and grounds. It is well-resourced and has a comprehensive range of facilities including bright, spacious classrooms, a science laboratory, a food technology room, a well-stocked library and a large dining room. Class sizes are deliberately small in order to ensure pupils feel well supported by our highly-skilled staff team of education, pastoral and therapy staff.

All of the aspects described above contribute to making our school a positive place in which all members of the school community are able to fulfil our whole-school values: **'To Learn, To Care and To Succeed'**.

### 2. VISION, AIMS AND INTENT

- 2.1** We are committed to ensuring that all of our pupils flourish whilst at Luxborough Court School and in order to achieve this, we provide a curriculum which is pupil-centred, ambitious, engaging, and relevant. We have high expectations of all pupils, with the aim that they leave us with experiences, skills and knowledge which prepare them for the next chapter of their lives. We do this by focusing on the three key 'golden threads' of our curriculum, which are aligned with our values:

To **L**earn: **Raising aspirations and achieve**

To **C**are: **Develop confidence and communication skills**

To **S**ucceed: **Promote independence**

Each golden thread relates to the overall aims and intent of our curriculum:

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**Raising aspirations and achieve**

**We want pupils to:**

- Develop a love of learning and reading
- Make progress across the curriculum, remembering what they learn
- Develop awareness and respect for a diverse society
- Achieve positive outcomes, including accreditation and qualifications where relevant
- Experience the community, further education and the workplace

**Develop confidence and communication skills**

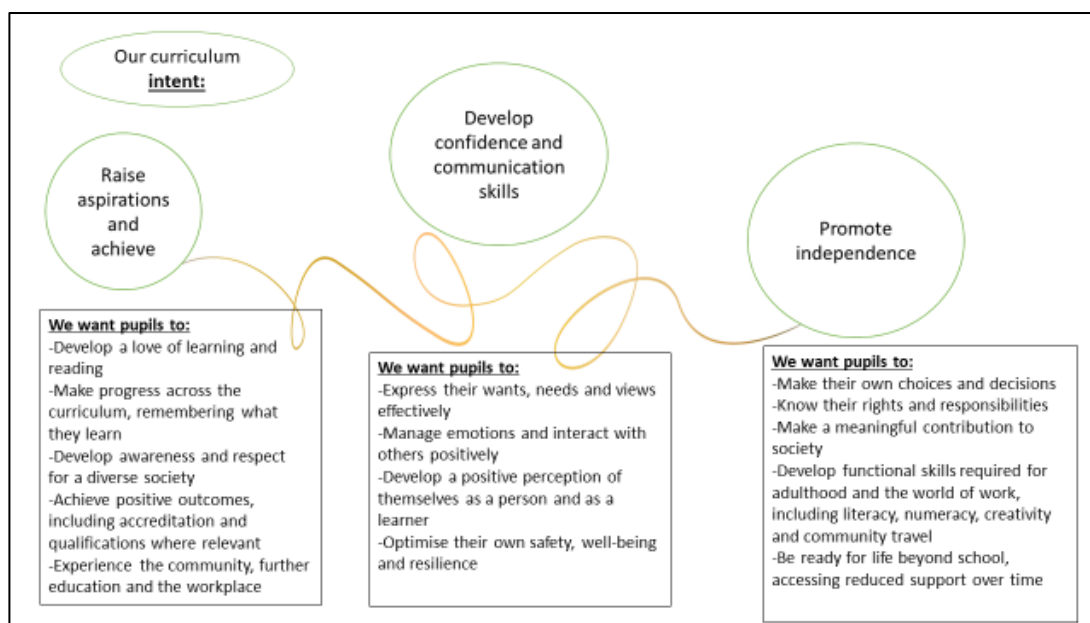
**We want pupils to:**

- Express their wants, needs and views effectively
- Manage emotions and interact with others positively
- Develop a positive perception of themselves as a person and as a learner
- Optimise their own safety, well-being and resilience

**Promote independence**

**We want pupils to:**

- Make their own choices and decisions
- Know their rights and responsibilities
- Make a meaningful contribution to society
- Develop functional skills required for adulthood and the world of work, including literacy, numeracy, creativity and community travel
- Be ready for life beyond school, accessing reduced support over time



**3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**3.1 Leaders at Luxborough Court School ensure that:**

- Staff in the school are involved in decision-making processes that relate to the vision, intent and development of the curriculum
- Regular monitoring activities are carried out to ensure that the curriculum offered is progressive and appropriate, enabling all pupils to achieve positive outcomes
- All teaching staff fulfil their roles and responsibilities, including high quality planning and teaching methods, use of regular assessment and consistent implementation of the agreed school procedures

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- Teachers are provided with opportunities to sustain strong subject knowledge and pedagogy as required and the whole-staff team remain upskilled in supporting the needs of pupils
- Parents/carers receive regular communication from staff, including information about the curriculum and school strategies, their child’s progress and next steps

### 3.2 *The teaching staff at Luxborough Court School ensure that:*

- The curriculum is planned and delivered to support pupils to develop skills, knowledge and vocabulary, helping pupils to know more and remember more and to be prepared for their adult lives
- The curriculum is planned and devised to best suit the needs of each individual pupil, and takes account of outcomes and strategies outlined in Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), PEPs and other key documents
- A range of teaching and adaptation strategies are used to ensure all our pupils are stretched and able to progress at their own pace
- Pupils are given the opportunity to experience safely planned activities outside of the usual classroom environment
- Wherever possible, pupils know their next steps and how to get there, with opportunities to discuss their own learning
- Parents/carers are provided with high-quality reports which reflect what their children have been learning and how they will be supported to progress
- The procedures for assessment are used to support the learning and development of the pupils, including identifying gaps in knowledge and next steps
- Subject leads provide support and advice for colleagues, and monitor progress in their subject area

### 3.3 *Clinical staff ensure that:*

- Appropriate clinical support is provided to assess and meet the therapeutic needs of pupils, including those related to social, emotional and mental health needs and sensory differences
- Suggestions, strategies and bespoke interventions are provided to support pupils’ learning, development and preparation for adulthood

### 3.4 *All staff ensure that:*

- High expectations are maintained for our pupils and themselves at all times
- Reading, learning and high aspirations are role-modelled by all members of the school community
- Positive contributions are made to the whole-school Internal Team Around the Child (ITAC) approach
- Pupils are supported to express themselves appropriately socially and emotionally
- Pupils are helped to develop their literacy and numeracy skills and achieve their next steps with increasing independence
- The efforts and achievements of pupils are celebrated and positivity is promoted in all aspects of school life

## 4. IMPLEMENTATION

### 4.1 *Curriculum Delivery*

Small class sizes with a high staff to pupil ratio supports effective implementation of the curriculum, along with clinical support from the Speech and Language Therapist, Mental Health Practitioner, Occupational Therapist, Assistant Educational Psychologist and Clinical Psychologist.

Classes in Key Stages 1-2 are taught in their own classrooms which helps to reduce transitions and provides frequent opportunities to support the sensory, social communication and mental health needs of pupils eg. through ‘*emotional check-ins*’. Some pupils at Key Stage 3 continue to be taught in their own classrooms, but where they are able to, Key Stage 3 pupils access subject specific teachers and classrooms. Most pupils at Key Stage 4 and 5 are taught by subject specialists.

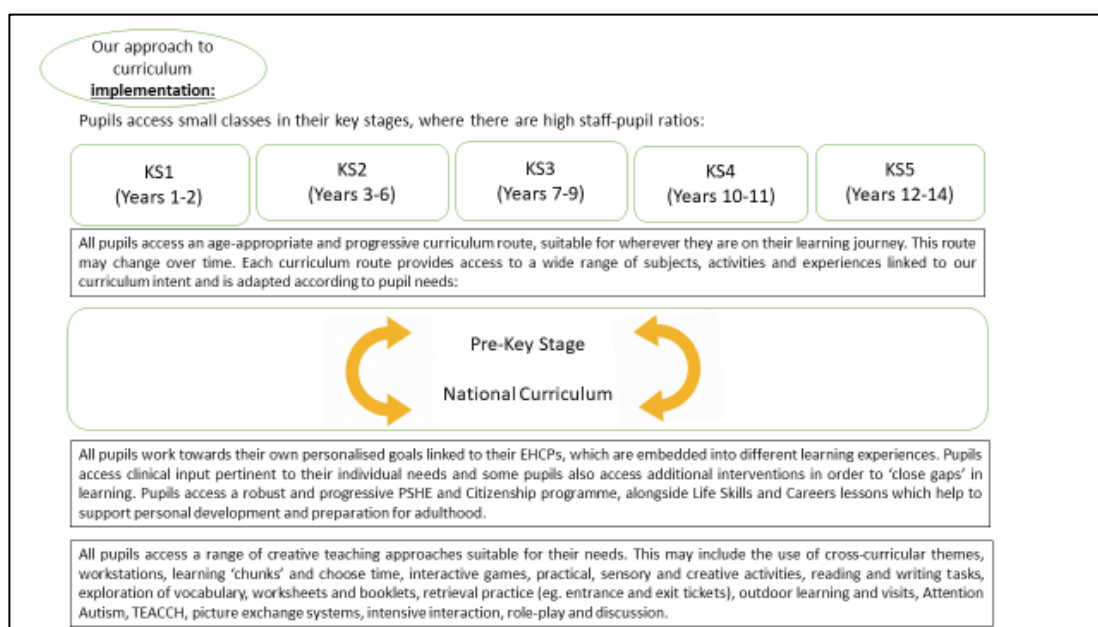
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Our school timetable comprises of thirty lessons per week for each class. Some pupils may have bespoke timetables that take account of particular strengths and areas of need and individual interventions are planned as required in order to close gaps in knowledge and skills, supporting pupils to make progress.

All pupils access an age-appropriate and progressive curriculum route, suitable for wherever they are on their learning journey. For some pupils, this may mean accessing what is known as a pre-key stage curriculum as they are not yet ready to access the National Curriculum. This route may change over time.

Each curriculum route provides access to a wide range of subjects, activities and experiences linked to our curriculum intent and is adapted according to pupil needs. Detailed schemes of work are planned to ensure pupils access the content relevant for them and so that they are prepared for their next steps. Some pupils also access additional interventions in order to ‘close gaps’ in learning.

All pupils work towards their own personalised goals linked to their EHCPs, which are embedded into different learning experiences. Pupils access a robust and progressive PSHE and Citizenship programme, alongside Life Skills and Careers lessons which help to support personal development and preparation for adulthood.



#### 4.2 Key Stage 1 and 2 (Years 1 - 6)

KS1 and KS2 pupils start their school journey in our designated primary classrooms and are taught most of their lessons by their class teachers. Pupils access either our Pre-Key Stage curriculum offer, the National Curriculum or a mixture of both, with additional interventions offered as required. There is a focus on reading, including the teaching of phonics to early readers using the Read, Write, Inc/Fresh Start programme.

Pupils access:

English, Maths, Science, Computing, PE, PSHE/Careers/Citizenship (including Relationships and Health Education), Humanities (Geography and History), Art & Design/Music, Design Technology (including Food and Nutrition), Personal Development/Life Skills and Enrichment.

Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils access clinical/therapeutic input as appropriate to their needs.

#### 4.3 Key Stage 3 (Years 7 – 9)

Some pupils at KS3 continue to be taught for most subjects in their own dedicated form classrooms but where they are able to, KS3 pupils access subject specific teachers and specialist classrooms. Pupils access either our Pre-Key Stage curriculum offer, the National Curriculum or a mixture of both, with additional interventions offered as required, including Read, Write, Inc/Fresh Start phonics for early readers.

Pupils access:

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English, Maths, Science, Computing, PE, PSHE/Careers/Citizenship (including Relationships and Health Education), Humanities (Geography and History), Art & Design, Design Technology (including Food and Nutrition), Personal Development/Life Skills and Enrichment.

KS3 pupils continue to access clinical/therapeutic input as appropriate to their needs.

#### **4.4 Key Stage 4 (Years 10 – 11)**

Our current Key Stage 4 offer is a mix of academic, vocational and functional skills courses, ranging from Entry Level to GCSE, depending on pupils' prior level of attainment. Pupils follow a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, PE, Computing, PSHE/Citizenship/Careers (including Relationships, Sex and Health Education) Employability and Personal Development/Life Skills. Pupils select additional 'option' subjects which cater to their individual interests and career aspirations. These 'option' subjects currently include: Food and Nutrition, Sport Science, Art, Humanities and Animal Care.

KS4 pupils continue to access clinical/therapeutic input as appropriate to their needs.

#### **4.5 Key Stage 5 (Years 12 – 14)**

At Key Stage 5, the DfE's 16-19 study programmes provide our sixth form pupils with a structured learning programme which supports development, progression and pupil aspirations. A combination of all of the elements below are provided to each pupil:

- Substantial qualifications offering stretch and preparation for transition to education at the next level or for employment (offered on-site or as part of a bespoke package with a link FE college as linked to pupil need).
- English and Mathematics where a GCSE at grade 4 has not yet been achieved
- Work experience and/or work-related learning
- Other non-qualification activity to develop character, broader skills, attitudes and confidence and to promote a successful transition to adulthood (including PSHE/Citizenship/Careers, Employability, Personal Development and Enrichment).

KS5 pupils continue to access clinical/therapeutic input as appropriate to their needs.

#### **4.7 Homework**

At Luxborough Court School, teachers provide opportunities for extended learning and homework when it is appropriate and pertinent to a pupil's needs. For example, a homework 'menu' may be offered where pupils can choose a range of activities linked in with their learning experiences for the half term. Some pupils may be provided with weekly or fortnightly tasks as linked to the core subjects and some pupils may be provided with revision booklets to complete in preparation for the exam period. All pupils are encouraged to read regularly at home.

#### **4.8 Reading**

At Luxborough Court School, reading is integral to our curriculum. We are committed to ensuring that all pupils leave us as 'a reader' and we have a robust 'reading strategy' in place to achieve this. For pupils with early reading skills, explicit teaching of phonics is provided. Reading interventions are provided when necessary, in line with a pupil's individual needs. Reading skills are taught explicitly in English lessons, as well as other areas of the curriculum where appropriate. Reading for pleasure is actively promoted through staff and pupil role-models, our on-site library, classroom reading areas, class texts/story-time and regular pupil reading challenges.

#### **4.9 Therapeutic Provision**

Our on-site clinical team work with teachers and support staff to provide a 'Zones of Regulation' curriculum, where appropriate to the learners, this is delivered by classroom staff throughout the school day. This helps pupils to understand and regulate their own emotions, develop appropriate coping strategies and achieve personal targets as set out in pupil EHCPs, PEPs and Boxall profiles. Pupils have access to on-site sensory areas

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and safe spaces throughout the school day in order to support their self-regulation of emotions and behaviour. Pupils are offered group or individual therapeutic sessions, as appropriate to their needs.

#### **4.10 Physical Education**

All pupils access PE lessons at Luxborough Court School with physical well-being being seen as a priority. Lessons mostly take place at the school site but some may also take place in the community e.g. swimming. We also offer PE/Sport Science as an option subject at KS4-5 for those pupils who would like to pursue a related qualification.

#### **4.11 PSHE, Citizenship and Careers Education**

All pupils access PSHE and Citizenship at Luxborough Court School and this aims to be needs-led whilst gaining coverage across three core themes:

1. Health and wellbeing (including statutory Health Education)
2. Relationships (including statutory Relationships and Sex Education)
3. Living in the wider world (including Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural Education, Economic wellbeing, Careers Education and Citizenship).

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Sex Education delivered as part of PSHE/Citizenship/Careers up until three terms before a child's 16th birthday (please refer to the school's RSE Policy and Local Protocol). RSE lessons are carefully planned and taught in a sensitive and age-appropriate way using a variety of resources.

There is a focus at all Key Stages on the development of skills and attributes such as resilience, self-esteem, risk-management, team-working and critical thinking. Pupils are prepared for life, learning how to become responsible citizens, how to manage their money well and make sound financial decisions. They learn how to keep themselves safe and well.

Pupils at Key Stages 3 and 4 have access to impartial careers advice and the Witherslack Group 'Futures' programme (please refer to the school's Futures, Careers and Work-Related Learning Policy and Local Protocol). Relevant careers guidance and workplace experiences are provided, which allow pupils to make informed choices about a broad range of career options. This helps our pupils to fulfil their potential and prepare successfully for independence, further learning and adulthood.

#### **4.12 Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural (SMSC) Education, British Values and Protected Characteristics**

At Luxborough Court School, SMSC, British Values and Protected Characteristics are promoted in so much of what we do, not least during our planned school assemblies and in PSHE/Citizenship/Careers lessons. As part of the wider SMSC curriculum, pupils are encouraged to experience awe and wonder, act responsibly and support the community (please see the school's SMSC and British Values Policy and Local Protocol).

We encourage pupils to respect the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of the law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. As well as actively promoting British Values in school, the opposite also applies: we would actively challenge pupils, staff or visitors expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

Pupils learn about the protected characteristics as defined in The Equality Act 2010: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

#### **4.13 COVID-19 Recovery Curriculum**

At Luxborough Court School, we recognise that pupil well-being is at the forefront of recovery from the Covid19 crisis. Specific support from education, pastoral and clinical staff is offered to pupils where required. We continue to overcome the impact of any lost learning time in previous settings by re-visiting key concepts,

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knowledge and skills in each subject area, provide high-quality learning strategies and personalised support as required.

## 5. IMPACT, ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING

### 5.1 *Impact*

The impact of the curriculum at Luxborough Court School is evidenced by the work that the pupils produce, their progression over time and how well prepared our pupils are for further learning and adulthood. We recognise that we may never see the long-term impact of our curriculum but we make every attempt to find out the wider impact using key indicators (outlined below) which relate directly to our curriculum intent:

#### Raising aspirations and achieve

##### Pupils will:

- Show enjoyment in both learning and reading
- Make excellent progress from their starting points
- Demonstrate respect and tolerance for all members of society
- Be ambitious for themselves and achieve accreditation and/or qualifications reflective of their abilities and interests
- Demonstrate awareness of how to conduct themselves in the community, further education settings and the workplace

#### Developing confidence and communication skills

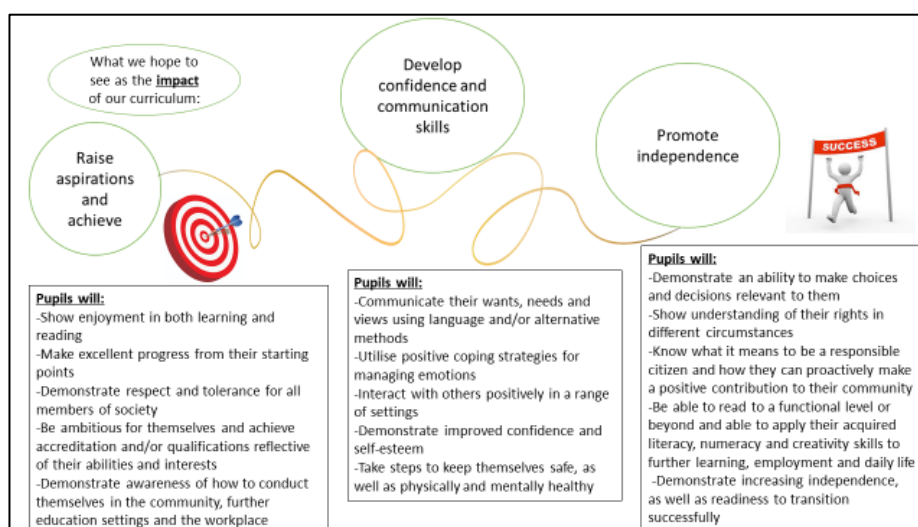
##### Pupils will:

- Communicate their wants, needs and views using language and/or alternative methods
- Utilise positive coping strategies for managing emotions
- Interact with others positively in a range of settings
- Demonstrate improved confidence and self-esteem
- Take steps to keep themselves safe, as well as physically and mentally healthy

#### Promote independence

##### Pupils will:

- Demonstrate an ability to make choices and decisions relevant to them
- Show understanding of their rights in different circumstances
- Know what it means to be a responsible citizen and how they can proactively make a positive contribution to their community
- Be able to read to a functional level or beyond and able to apply their acquired literacy, numeracy and creativity skills to further learning, employment and daily life
- Demonstrate increasing independence, as well as readiness to transition successfully



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## 5.2 Assessment

We use assessment as a key part of our approach to inform the next steps for pupils and to monitor the wider impact of our curriculum (see the school's Assessment Policy). Achievement of key concepts and skills are tracked three times a year using our assessment system, known as Solar.

Wherever possible, we enter our Key Stage 2 pupils to sit external tests (KS2 SATs). However, due to the gaps in learning that some of our pupils have previously experienced, some pupils may not be yet able to achieve the national expected standard in their tests. If it is felt not to be appropriate for a pupil to participate in the SATs, parents/carers will be notified in writing.

Our expectation is that all Key Stage 4 and 5 pupils will achieve externally recognised qualifications and accreditation which are both ambitious and reflective of their abilities.

Softer skills are tracked using the Boxall Profile. Experiences related to the teaching of protected characteristics, British Values and SMSC activities are all tracked using SMSC Gridmaker.

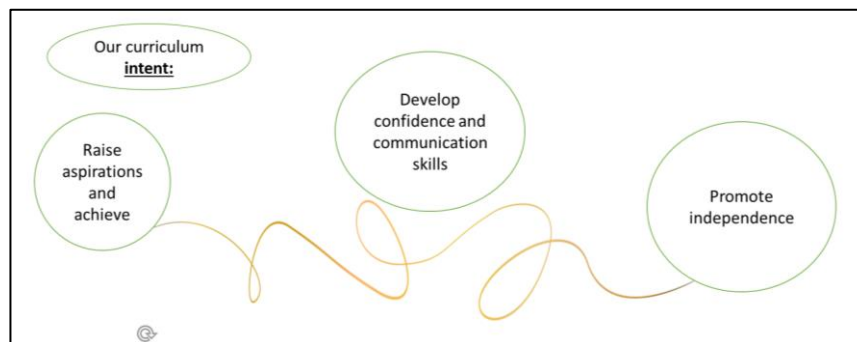
## 5.3 Monitoring

The school's usual monitoring activities ensure that the curriculum offered is progressive and appropriate, enabling all pupils to achieve positive outcomes. Such monitoring activities include planning and work scrutiny, lesson observations and learning walks, which are carried out by leaders.

Luxborough Court School will review this local protocol annually to ensure it continues to reflect its best practice and that it meets the requirements of the Witherslack Group Curriculum Policy.

## 6. CURRICULUM MODEL

### 6.1



## 7. REFERENCES

- Assessment Policy and Local Protocol
- SMSC and British Values Policy and Local Protocol
- RSE Policy and Local Protocol
- PSHE and Citizenship Policy and Local Protocol
- Futures, Careers and Work-Related Learning Policy and Local Protocol

## 8. ASSOCIATED FORMS

N/A

## 9. APPENDICES

Appendix A: Extended Curriculum Model

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Our school values:

To Learn

To Care

To Succeed

Our curriculum  
intent:

Raise  
aspirations  
and  
achieve

Develop  
confidence and  
communication  
skills

Promote  
independence

**We want pupils to:**

- Develop a love of learning and reading
- Make progress across the curriculum, remembering what they learn
- Develop awareness and respect for a diverse society
- Achieve positive outcomes, including accreditation and qualifications where relevant
- Experience the community, further education and the workplace

**We want pupils to:**

- Express their wants, needs and views effectively
- Manage emotions and interact with others positively
- Develop a positive perception of themselves as a person and as a learner
- Optimise their own safety, well-being and resilience

**We want pupils to:**

- Make their own choices and decisions
- Know their rights and responsibilities
- Make a meaningful contribution to society
- Develop functional skills required for adulthood and the world of work, including literacy, numeracy, creativity and community travel
- Be ready for life beyond school, accessing reduced support over time

**Our approach to curriculum implementation:**

Pupils access small classes in their key stages, where there are high staff-pupil ratios:

KS1  
(Years 1-2)

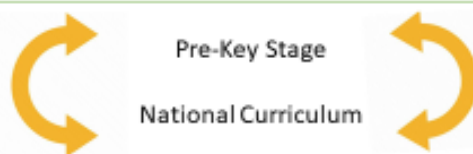
KS2  
(Years 3-6)

KS3  
(Years 7-9)

KS4  
(Years 10-11)

KS5  
(Years 12-14)

All pupils access an age-appropriate and progressive curriculum route, suitable for wherever they are on their learning journey. This route may change over time. Each curriculum route provides access to a wide range of subjects, activities and experiences linked to our curriculum intent and is adapted according to pupil needs:



All pupils work towards their own personalised goals linked to their EHCPs, which are embedded into different learning experiences. Pupils access clinical input pertinent to their individual needs and some pupils also access additional interventions in order to 'close gaps' in learning. Pupils access a robust and progressive PSHE and Citizenship programme, alongside Life Skills and Careers lessons which help to support personal development and preparation for adulthood.

All pupils access a range of creative teaching approaches suitable for their needs. This may include the use of cross-curricular themes, workstations, learning 'chunks' and choose time, interactive games, practical, sensory and creative activities, reading and writing tasks, exploration of vocabulary, worksheets and booklets, retrieval practice (eg. entrance and exit tickets), outdoor learning and visits, Attention Autism, TEACCH, picture exchange systems, intensive interaction, role-play and discussion.

What we hope to see as the **impact** of our curriculum:

Raise aspirations and achieve



Develop confidence and communication skills

Promote independence



**Pupils will:**

- Show enjoyment in both learning and reading
- Make excellent progress from their starting points
- Demonstrate respect and tolerance for all members of society
- Be ambitious for themselves and achieve accreditation and/or qualifications reflective of their abilities and interests
- Demonstrate awareness of how to conduct themselves in the community, further education settings and the workplace

**Pupils will:**

- Communicate their wants, needs and views using language and/or alternative methods
- Utilise positive coping strategies for managing emotions
- Interact with others positively in a range of settings
- Demonstrate improved confidence and self-esteem
- Take steps to keep themselves safe, as well as physically and mentally healthy

**Pupils will:**

- Demonstrate an ability to make choices and decisions relevant to them
- Show understanding of their rights in different circumstances
- Know what it means to be a responsible citizen and how they can proactively make a positive contribution to their community
- Be able to read to a functional level or beyond and able to apply their acquired literacy, numeracy and creativity skills to further learning, employment and daily life
- Demonstrate increasing independence, as well as readiness to transition successfully