



Teaching and Learning

The aims of Orchard Community Trust (OCT) are to provide high quality teaching and learning experiences that lead to a consistently high level of pupil attainment and achievement.

Our schools promote calm, safe learning environments where pupils are encouraged to explore, investigate and become independent learners. Our schools have high numbers of disadvantaged pupils, high numbers of pupils with special educational needs and there are high numbers of mobility. All of our pupils deserve the highest quality teaching that we can provide.

The trust defines high quality teaching as:

- Subject knowledge which is consistently supported with effective and timely CPD
- Pedagogical choices which create challenge and enable success for all our pupils
- Feed-back which is insightful, impactful and timely
- Appreciative, understanding and considerate of individual pupil's needs
- An in-depth knowledge of the content being taught
- Having a clear picture of our pupils', knowledge, skills and understanding so that all pupils are successful and challenged
- Providing high quality feedback which moves learning forward
- Recognising the needs of our children allowing us to offer an inclusive provision

All schools in the OCT are inclusive and are committed to recognising the needs and aspirations of unique individuals by explicitly providing opportunities, and expecting, all pupils to make the best possible progress and attain the highest personal achievements.

Note:

Each school is responsible for developing their own teaching and learning, behaviour and curriculum and subject policies based on their agreed frameworks and the needs of the pupils which they each serve. Each LGB is responsible for approving such policies. The policies must adhere to the overall OCT vision and priorities and follow the outline given in this document.





Curriculum

The curriculum aims of the Orchard Community Trust (OCT) are for our pupils to grow into resilient, articulate, independent individuals who are respectful of others. Each school’s curriculum is designed to develop citizens of the future who have a clear sense of their potential within it. – our overarching aim is always to prepare our pupils to thrive and flourish, regardless of their background.

OCT schools offer a coherent, inclusive and relevant curriculum. We provide first hand, practical, creative opportunities that allow for pupil choice. They are taught and learn to work collaboratively and independently. Pupils are encouraged to communicate, explore, think, predict, question, enquire, explain, debate and challenge and be aspirational for life within and beyond school.

The curriculum engages and inspires the pupils to be learners for life by increasing their knowledge and skills, preparing them to contribute to, and understand, the world around them.

Reading

Reading is taught systematically, including the teaching of Phonics, in all of our schools. Programmes, schemes of work and approaches are all individual to each of our 7 schools and are based on best practice and the needs of our children. Please see details of the approach to the teaching of Reading taken by each school on the individual school website and within school-based policies and documentation.

Each school will have an accredited phonics scheme in place by the 31st December 2021



