Leeds East Academy

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Everyone Exceptional (E1E)

In 2018/19, Leeds East Academy consulted with parents to discuss the possibility of implementing an exciting extended academy day offer for students. Historically, the academy day finished at 2:40pm with an opt in extra-curricular programme for students to attend which ran from 2:45pm to 3:55pm. When reflecting on this offer, leaders found that, when compared to the entire academy population, only a small number of students would remain behind at the academy to access the extra-curricular offer. Therefore, the decision was taken to seek parents' views on this and look at the possibility of extending the academy day to facilitate a compulsory extended school day offer for all students to attend.

Read on for more information >>

The feedback from parents in response to the consultation was overwhelmingly positive and the academy notified the Local Authority of their intention to extend the academy day by 45 minutes every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to create an additional 2.15 hours of curriculum delivery time each week. Throughout the year, this provides access to approximately an additional 84 hours of dedicated curriculum time for targeted intervention, acquisition of knowledge and exciting enrichment opportunities.

The academy was conscious that the extended school day offer was branded as interesting, engaging and unique for the students who attend the academy which exposes students to new experiences,

the opportunity to develop cultural capital in addition to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of the students who attend. Another key element of the offer is 'equal opportunity' and the academy is committed to providing these opportunities to students for free to ensure affordability is not a barrier to student participation and engagement in enrichment opportunities.

This offer has significantly evolved over the last four years and now aligns with the new academy vision of 'Everyone Exceptional'. The sessions are referred to as our E1E offer and at Key Stage Three is structured under three distinctive strands to create a cohesive and highly structured offer for the students which run from 2:45pm to 3:30pm.

"A programme of activities to develop [our students'] skills, broaden their horizons and support them to be the exceptional learners we know they can all be."

The three strands include;

1. The deliberate teaching of literacy through the exposure to carefully selected fictional and non-fictional texts.

2. The Creativity and Innovation strand which exposes students to a range of creative and enriching opportunities.

3. The Core Values, Health and Wellbeing strand where students have the opportunity to demonstrate and develop the values, attitudes and attributes associated with our core values of Resilience, Integrity, Trust and Ambition.

At Key Stage Four, students participate in a bespoke programme of targeted intervention to support students to meet and exceed their academic potential.

To further enhance our Key Stage Three offer, the academy has established a number of partnerships, so that students have access to high quality coaching through the introduction of the Elite Coaching Pathway. This year

we are working with Leeds United, Phoenix Dance Theatre, Northern School of Contemporary Dance, DBAF (Dale Bottomley American Football), DJ School UK and Yoga Kula.

Sarah Carrie, Leeds East Academy Principal commented: "We are delighted with how the offer is evolving year on year and the scope, quality and range of activities we are able to offer our student body.

"It really is wonderful to know that when many young people are finishing school for the day our students are still on site and accessing a programme of activities to develop their skills, broaden their horizons and support them to be the exceptional learners we know they can all be."

To visit the academy or learn more about the E1E extended academy day please contact Melissa Cox by email on cox.m@whiteroseacademies.org or call 0113 273 1964.

For more information, please visit www.leedseastacademy.org.uk