

## Curriculum Policy

A strong curriculum sits at the heart of every successful school and here at LPW School we are extremely proud of the curriculum on offer to our students. We believe it is truly unique, not just in Bristol but nationally, and supports the young people we work with far beyond simple academic needs.

We recognise that education has failed most young people that attend LPW School. The majority have attended multiple secondary schools, have experienced repeated exclusions and have extensive gaps in their learning.

We also recognise that almost all of our school cohort have experienced multiple, significant childhood traumas and that this has impacted on their learning and development, their social and emotional health and their responses to the structures and challenges posed by the education system.

For us, our role is to support the whole child. This means far more than simply teaching them core curriculum subjects, it means supporting them to attend, helping them to develop trusting relationships with both adults and peers, empowering them to take risks in a safe way and helping them to reflect and recognise.....

It is also about providing opportunities that they would not otherwise have and

Beyond the formal curriculum

To fully understand/appreciate our curriculum and it is crucial that you understand our core values and also the beliefs and research that underpins the approach we take to education at LPW. In addition, this policy should be read alongside our Relationships & Behaviour Policy.

At the heart of our school are our 5 core values:

1. Curiosity
2. Compassion
3. Respect
4. Ambition
5. Reflection

These values shape every decision that we make, both about our curriculum and in wider school life. We firmly believe that our staff epitomise these values and use their experience and passion to embed them within daily school life and routines. We want our students to flourish and to become:

1. Curious learners
2. Compassionate young people
3. Respectful members of their community
4. Ambitious in all they do
5. Reflective in their approach

However, we cannot escape the fact that almost all of our students, and also their families, hold a negative view of the education system. Since the age of five their experiences include frequent visits to a senior leader's office to be told off, repeated spells spent in isolation, failures to identify additional learning needs, exclusions and 'managed moves' to other settings where they are removed from peers, forced to travel long distances and are singled out as 'bad' simply by virtue of being there.

It is equally important to consider the communities we serve and the impact this has on education. As of September 2023 the majority of our cohort come from four of Bristol's wards:

- Filwood: 20%
- Hartcliffe and Withywood: 32.5%
- Lawrence Weston and Avonmouth: 20%
- Southmead: 20%

This is significant as all four consistently feature in the very top tier of the indices of multiple deprivation and identify some of the key factors that may impact on the life chances of our young people, indeed Hartcliffe & Filwood and Filwood are both identified as being in the top 1% most deprived areas in the UK.

The inequalities gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas in Bristol is 9.9 years for men and 6.9 years for women with a wide range of contributing factors.

Across the city of Bristol, 74% of people are satisfied with their local area as a place to live, however, this figure falls to just 51% in the most deprived wards. The percentage of people in these deprived wards who say their day day-to-day life is affected by fear of crime has risen to 36%, which is double the city average. It is hard to imagine that the two are not connected.

Despite Bristol being famed for its universities, significantly less young people in the city go on to Higher Education (31.6% compared to 42.2% in England). However, significantly, in South Bristol participation is only 22.3%, including Hartcliffe, which at 8.7% has the lowest participation rate in the country.

Bristol is also regularly celebrated for being a vibrant and progressive city that celebrates culture and the arts and yet just 11.7% of Hartcliffe residents report participating in a cultural activity at least once within the past month, a figure that is over 20% lower than the city average.

All figures are courtesy of Bristol City Council (Key Facts, July 2022), <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/files/documents/1840-bristol-key-facts-2022/file>

Further detailed figures can be found in Appendix 1.

Research...

Bravery...

## Appendix 1

A comparison of data from across Bristol's wards:

	Ward				
	Hartcliffe & Withywood	Filwood	Southmead	Lawrence Weston	Bristol Average
% of children living in poverty	34.1	31.2	29.5	23.8	21.8
Rate per 1000 with child social care involvement	43.2	45.4	25.5	30.1	22
Rate per 1000 that have experienced crime	131.2	114.1	96.1	104.2	113.8
% Education (attainment 8 score)	34.1	35.6	41.9	41.3	47.7
% of households with health issues or disability that affects day-to-day activities	23.8	22.3	21.3	19.8	17.2
% in good health	68.4	86.5	83.5	78.3	83.1
Rate per 1000 of premature mortality	555.2	482.5	437.7	445.6	377.5
Rate per 1000 claiming unemployment related benefits	77.1	53.7	39.6	40.1	33.5
% people with a degree or higher	15.8	23.5	30.7	26.4	44.1

Quality of life questionnaire	Hartcliffe & Withywood	Filwood	Southmead	Lawrence Weston	Bristol Average
% whose fear of crime affects their day-to-day lives	35.7	35.3	26.1	15.4	17.4
% who visit Bristol's parks and green spaces at least once a week	29.6	41.4	54	54	56
% who participate in cultural activities monthly	11.7	29.8	23.8	16.4	31.9
% who find it difficult to manage financially	19.1	11.8	12.6	9.7	10.2
% of households that used a food bank in past 12 months	5.6	2.8	0.5	2.7	1.9
% of households which have experienced moderate to severe food insecurity	27	8.1	12.5	3.6	8.1
% of households that have bought less healthy food in past year	27.2	17.7	8.9	9.1	10.5
% of households with a smoker	31.2	21.9	14.6	15.5	15.5
% who do enough regular exercise each week	40.4	54.5	60.5	50.9	63.7
% satisfied with life	46.4	59.9	57.6	59.4	62.4

