

# Ark



## **Pathways & Enrichment Policy**

## PURPOSE

This policy provides a detailed description of the responsibilities for staff and governors involved in Pathways and Enrichment in school. It complies with statutory requirements for Careers Education for schools in England, especially those relating to legislation contained in the Education Act 1997 (sections 42A, 42B and 45A) and the Education and Skills Act 2008 (section 72). This policy should be published on school websites as part of the statutory requirement to display information on careers provision and student destinations.

Date of last review:	July 2022	Author:	Head of Pathways & Enrichment
Date of next review:	July 2023	Owner:	Education Directors
Type of policy:	<input type="checkbox"/> Network-wide <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tailored by school	Approval:	Management team
School:		Key Contact Name:	Head of Pathways & Enrichment
Key Contact Email:	pathwaysandenrichment@arkonline.org	Key Contact Phone:	N/A

## POSITIONING WITHIN ARK OPERATIONAL MODEL

Component	Element
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Leadership & Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring, Reporting & Data <input type="checkbox"/> Governance & Accountabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching & Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum & Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Culture, Ethos & Wellbeing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pathways & Enrichment <input type="checkbox"/> Parents & Community <input type="checkbox"/> Finance, IT & Estates <input type="checkbox"/> Our People	Pathways & Enrichment Planning

## Introduction

At Ark Pioneer, we will work tirelessly to deliver an exceptional standard of education and realise every pupil's potential to be a knowledgeable, articulate and successful individual. **When pupils leave us, they will do so with real options: to go onto the best universities and courses in the country or embark on the career path of their choice.**

Our '*High Aspirations*' pillar outlines our commitment to supporting our pupils to make the best choice regarding pathways and careers, for each individual.

First and foremost, we will inspire pupils to think more deeply and more broadly about the world around them and the opportunities it presents. Ark Pioneer pupils will understand the impact that school and further education can have on their future life.

We guarantee our pupils access and exposure to the experiences that will help them to shape a vision for their own future and guide their decisions about their university or career pathway after school. Teachers will introduce and discuss further study, career options and aspirational role models. Guest speakers will share their career insights.

Pupils will visit a university each year or tour one virtually, with visits increasingly tailored to individual aspirations as they get older. They will learn about a range of careers and the qualifications, skills and experiences they need in order to pursue them. This will include learning about the apprenticeship route, how it works and the career paths apprenticeships can build towards.

We are committed to building the habits and skills most desired by employers and universities – our ‘key learning dispositions’. Pupils will learn to be independent and organised. We will teach them how to take notes and conduct research, how to listen, discuss and debate; they will be confident speaking in public. Our pupils will also recognise how their learning, character and personal development support their future prospects and will reflect on this when making decisions about their future.

Lastly, Ark Pioneer will offer an extensive enrichment programme timetabled into the school day so it is accessed by all children every week. This will give our pupils the opportunity to develop lifelong talents, skills, interests and passions.

## Named personnel with delegated responsibility for Pathways and Enrichment:

Role	Delegated Person	Contact Details
Pathways & Enrichment Lead (s)	Rachel Britton	<a href="mailto:r.britton@arkpioneer.org">r.britton@arkpioneer.org</a>
Enrichment programme lead	Chloe Harris	<a href="mailto:c.harris@arkpioneer.org">c.harris@arkpioneer.org</a>

### 1. Roles and Responsibilities

#### 1.1. Pathways & Enrichment Lead (s)

##### ***Strategic Responsibilities***

- Ensuring a full understanding of the [Gatsby Benchmarks for Good Career Guidance in schools](#), as the framework used to guide Pathways and Enrichment in Ark schools.
- Creating a cycle of activity and meetings with those responsible for delivery in school to drive the planning and monitoring of Pathways & Enrichment.
- Interrogating student destinations and the Pathways & Enrichment audit to ensure strategic plan is evidence-led, focused on key priority areas and is mission aligned.
- Ensuring timely and relevant messaging around Pathways & Enrichment to LGB, SLT and key staff as appropriate to gain buy-in and embed knowledge and understanding of pathways & enrichment across the whole school.
- Ensuring that pastoral and CPD activity is linked to needs identified in the pathways and enrichment priorities for the year.
- Identify need and access relevant Pathways & Enrichment support from Ark. Drawing links between other schools and proactively addressing overlap or duplication.

##### ***Operational Responsibilities***

- Ensuring a full understanding of the [Gatsby Benchmarks for Good Career Guidance in schools](#), as the framework used to guide Pathways and Enrichment in Ark schools.
- Ensuring the strategic plan includes independent guidance for all students in years 8-13, and access for further education and technical providers to speak with students (see Annex 1 for Baker Clause policy statement and text for your school website).
- Ensuring that relevant evidence is recorded against the strategic plan and programmes and activities are regularly evaluated for quality and monitored for impact.
- Engaging with external businesses, further and higher education institutions and third sector organisations to create purposeful partnerships and secure high quality student opportunities.
- Facilitating and coordinating events and opportunities for students and ensuring that all safeguarding and health and safety requirements are met, particularly for off site visits.

- Overseeing personal guidance opportunities for students to secure positive and appropriate destinations at the end of Year 11 and Year 13 and manage the destinations data collection process.
- Developing and managing the alumni community within the school, ensuring that they are used within Pathways and Enrichment events.
- Making strong links within the academy to ensure Pathways and Enrichment provision is embedded across all key stages, including liaising with heads of departments and colleagues delivering PSHE and enrichment programmes.

### **1.2. Pathways & Enrichment Link Governor**

The Pathways and Enrichment Link governor works on behalf of the Local Governing Body (LGB) to ensure a strategic approach to Pathways and Enrichment at the school and support for the operational and strategic leads. Key responsibilities include;

- Ensure a full understanding of the [Gatsby Benchmarks for Good Career Guidance in schools](#), as the framework used to guide Pathways and Enrichment in Ark schools.
- Ensure the school is meeting the statutory duty to provide independent careers advice to pupils from Y8-Y13 and are providing opportunities for FE and Technical providers to speak to pupils about pathways.
- Support and challenge on the design and ongoing development of the school Pathways and Enrichment strategy. Monitor the effectiveness of delivery and seek out appropriate opportunities to talk to learners about their experience of the school's Pathways provision.
- Support school to forge purposeful links and partnerships with universities, colleges and employers.
- Ensure destinations data is recorded, interrogated, and used to measure impact of the school's Pathways and Enrichment provision.

As we are a brand new school, the Pathways & Enrichment Link role will be appointed as our LGB grows.

### **1.3. The Principal**

The Principal has overall responsibility for the strategic planning and day-to-day delivery of pathways & Enrichment provision.

## **2. Our mission, values and aims**

We know there is more to success than academic achievement alone. Education isn't simply about passing exams; it's about enabling students to learn the skills and qualities they need to be successful at school and beyond. We want every pupil to do well enough to go to university or pursue the career of their choice. To support this, our schools ensure that alongside setting high expectations for academic progress, we also focus on building the habits and skills most desired by employers and universities, guarantee access and exposure to the experiences that will help them to shape a vision for their own future and guide their decisions about their university or career pathway after school.

In pursuit of our mission, Ark will support staff leading and coordinating Pathways & Enrichment in schools, by;

- Developing a common approach to collecting, analysing and reporting on destinations of students at Year 6, 11 and 13.
- Supporting effective planning, delivery and evaluation against the Ark Pathway & Enrichment framework through one-to-one coaching, a programme of continuous professional development and provide opportunities to explore sector best practice, and develop creative and collaborative solutions between schools.
- Developing and delivering network programmes, opportunities and partnerships to address the biggest progression barriers our students and alumni are facing.
- Influencing the development of the Ark curriculum model to ensure it aligns with the needs of all Ark student groups and labour market.
- Developing online content and resources to share national and network best practice.
- Analysing sustained destinations of Year 11 and Year 13 leavers to inform school practice.
- Building our alumni community to support school programmes, and to help us measure the impact of our approach to Pathways and Enrichment.

## **3. Requirements for Pathways & Enrichment in Ark schools**

Ark schools will align their planning, delivery and evaluation of pathways & enrichment to the [Ark Pathways & Enrichment framework](#), which is modelled on the Gatsby Benchmarks for Good Career Guidance. Within this framework, Ark schools commit to the following statutory requirements for schools, regardless of whether or not the statutory requirement applies to MATs in England. Every Ark school will;

- Appoint a named person to lead the pathways & enrichment programme.
- Ensure that pupils are provided with independent careers guidance from year 7 to year 13.
- Ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access all pupils in year 7 to year 13 for the purpose of informing them about approved technical education qualifications or apprenticeships.
- Publish a policy statement setting out their arrangements for provider access and ensure that it is followed.
- Provide at least one employer encounter per year, for every student in years 7-13.
- Publish details of their careers programme for young people and their parents.

In addition to statutory requirements, Ark schools also commit to;

- Appoint a Link Governor for Pathways & Enrichment.
- Appoint a named Strategic Lead who has oversight for school pathways & enrichment strategy.
- Collect student destinations data for Year 11 and Year 13 leavers in line with Ark's guidelines for destinations data

## **University & Careers Policy Statement**

As stated above, Ark Pioneer Academy uses the Gatsby Benchmarks as a guide to plan our *Pathways and Enrichment* programme. As part of our commitment to informing our pupils of the full range of learning and training pathways on offer to them, we are happy to consider requests from training, apprenticeship and vocational education providers to speak to pupils.

Ark Pioneer Academy also proactively seek to build relationships with these partners as we plan our Pathways and Enrichment activity throughout the school year to ensure that providers have multiple opportunities to speak to pupils and their parents across years 7-13, to offer information on vocational, technical and apprenticeship qualifications and pathways.

Ark Pioneer will ensure that Academy staff involved in personnel guidance and pastoral support are up to date on their knowledge of these post 16 and post 18 pathways, through our staff training programme.

Opportunities for providers to speak with pupils may include school assemblies, employer and provider engagement events or opportunities to speak with pupils and parents on a one-to-one basis supporting GCSE, post 16 or post 18 option choices.

Ark Pioneer's Pathways and Enrichment programme is monitored for quality and impact by the Academy's Senior Leadership and Governance Teams and monitoring of access to and opportunities to engage with, technical, vocational and training providers will form part of this process. In the first instance, requests by providers should be sent to the Academy's Career & University Pathways Lead, James Mc Carville ([j.mccarville@arkpioneer.org](mailto:j.mccarville@arkpioneer.org)) with a minimum of 6 weeks' lead time.

All requests will be considered on the basis of:-

- Staffing availability to support the activity
- Clashes with other planned activities on the school calendar
- Trips or visits to the Academy
- Interruption to preparation for examinations
- Rooming and space availability to host the activity.

For questions on this or Ark Pioneer's wider Pathways and Enrichment programme, please contact the Academy's Pathways Lead, Rachel Britton.

#### **4. Destinations Data**

We expect all Ark secondary schools to collect the intended and final destinations of their Year 11, 12 and 13 students and share with their local authorities as part of their statutory responsibility.

- Tools are made available for schools to collect analyse their destinations data on an ongoing basis and we strongly recommend that schools take stock of intended destinations after February half term to understand if any additional guidance conversations are required with students.
- We expect schools to support students on results days with any changes to destination decisions and to remain in contact for up to 6 weeks after results days to confirm where and what students have gone on to do after school. If students at KS5 leave during the year, schools must record where they have gone on to study.
- Network analysis of destinations will take place in Autumn term and be shared with school leaders before Christmas.