

# LITERACY POLICY

## **Principle:**

At The County High School, Leftwich, we recognise that language is the prime medium through which students learn and literacy underpins the school curriculum by developing students' abilities to speak, listen, read and write for a wide range of purposes, using language to learn and communicate, to think, explore and organise. Helping students to communicate effectively enhances and enriches teaching and learning in all subject areas.

When evaluating student progress data both nationally and our own, it is evident that strong literacy skills are a determining factor in GCSE success rates. Literacy skills are rightly identified as crucial to students' learning in all subjects across the curriculum. Consequently, improving literacy standards is a priority for this Academy in order to provide the best possible opportunities for students to leave school with literacy skills which will enable them to enter into further education, training and employment.

These views are underpinned by the White Paper, *The Importance of Teaching* (November 2010), which states: 'When young people compete for jobs and enter the workplace, they will be expected to communicate precisely and effectively.' (Para. 4.50) Furthermore, the new Teachers' Standards (DFE V1.0 0711), DfE, 2011 make it plain that all teachers should: '... demonstrate an understanding of and take responsibility for promoting high standards of literacy and the correct use of Standard English, whatever the teacher's specialist subject' (Part 1, point 3).

## **Purposes:**

To support and challenge all students in both key stages by improving literacy skills to provide greater access to the curriculum and learning. Therefore:

- Attainment in literacy (reading, writing and communication) will be raised allowing students to fully access the curriculum.
- Students will leave school with literacy skills which will enable them to enter into further education, training and employment.

## **Accordingly the school will:**

- Ensure that all students have high levels of literacy appropriate to their age.
- Facilitate students' opportunities to read widely and often across all subjects.
- Encourage students to develop and apply a wide range of skills to great effect in reading, writing and communication.
- Ensure that teaching of reading, writing and communication is highly effective, cohesively planned and implemented across the curriculum.

Approved at Full Governors' Meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Review Date: Summer Term 2020

This document is part of the group which include Additional & Special Educational Needs, Learning and Sex Education Policies.

This document is also part of the group which include Education for Life and Information, Advice & Guidance Policies.