

Upper School Character Development Curriculum

The Ark Boulton Character Development Programme is made up of **9 strands** and is our commitment to the students of the academy to ensure they have a broad and enriching curriculum. We believe this is important, as these experiences will help to shape young people's aspirations, build cultural capital, give students an equality of opportunity and actively practise virtues so that they are well placed to compete for the best university places with students from across the country.

Upper School Narrative	Shaping our Future and the influencing the ever-changing world around us	
Strand	Year 10 Preparing for the future: Financial Literacy.	Year 11 Critical Thinking: Understanding others and building independence.
Strand 1 Standards	All students have a clear understanding of the high expectations regarding equipment, behaviour, attendance, and punctuality . Students will also engage in at least one act of collective worship (assembly) based on virtues per week.	
Strand 2 Future Skills: Personal	All students are able to utilise their core Maths skills (intellectual virtue) by applying these to 'real life' situations that will prepare them for a secure financial future .	All students are exposed to a range of non-fiction texts which address an array of challenging topics such as mental health, gambling and addiction. Students will become critical thinkers and learn how to use their moral virtues to understand others and build independence as they think about their future life .
Strand 3 Future Skills: Academic	All students will purposefully practise, intentionally planned tasks to close gaps in knowledge, thus achieving mastery. Repetition will ensure students are increasingly resilient, independent and able to think critically, creatively and solve new problems .	Students will demonstrate self-discipline as they purposefully practise, intentionally planned tasks to close gaps in knowledge, thus achieving mastery. Repetition will ensure students are resilient, independent and able to think critically, creatively and solve new problems .
Strand 4 Personal Wellbeing	All students will have the opportunity to take part in super-curricular activities that will widen their intellectual understanding of the subjects they are studying. This will help them to learn and remember more. They will develop relaxation techniques through workshop opportunities .	
Strand 5 Careers and Aspirations	All students are well prepared for the process of applying for their post 16 pathway and can articulate their strengths and areas for development , both in terms of character and academics .	All students will meet higher education providers and attend employability workshops, securing two successful, appropriate post 16 applications and are positive about their futures.
Strand 6 Cultural Enrichment	All pupils to gain cultural enrichment through a planned educational visit to underpin the PDP curriculum .	
Strand 7 Year Group Transitions	All students will develop their abilities as independent learners, understanding their personal requirements to be successful throughout the year.	All students will be supported through opportunities to be successful in their applications to higher education providers or traineeships . Students will demonstrate independence and proactivity, taking responsibility for their own learning .
Strand 8 Student Leadership	Students are ambassadors for the academy and partake in a student leadership programme in which they can demonstrate the academy virtues . They lead by example influencing the behaviour of others and share their reflections of how to be successful both characteristically and academically .	
Strand 9 In Our Community	Parent Groups and Sibling support Link to Strand 1: selected students repeatedly causing concern but not in receipt of support from the Welfare Team are identified, group support is planned and evaluated to engage our sibling community and raise parental awareness .	