



Perth Academy

Ensuring Attainment, Progress and Achievement

Our vision is to improve the life chances of all young people by encouraging and enabling them to exceed their own expectations. We do this by living our values of fairness, ambition and respect.

Young people and parents need to know what to expect of our approaches to ensuring learner attainment, progress and achievement. There are a range of actions and interventions that we take at Perth Academy and in the spirit of partnership we want to make you aware of our ten key commitments to you and your young people in this regard. We expect to be held accountable for the delivery of these commitments.

We will:

1. Make every effort to fully understand the needs of our learners, their levels of prior attainment and their capacity to improve and attain their targets.
2. Support young people in their aspirations wherever possible and realistic to do so, taking into account pupil aspiration when setting target grades.
3. Review progress with young people regularly through the use of quality learning conversations. Pupils should know where they are in relation to their learning and progress and be clear about what they need to do to improve.
4. Provide high quality, well organised communications to young people and parents regarding course deadlines and expectations as well as progress reports.
5. Communicate and liaise with parents prior to any changes to levels of study.
6. Intervene early if pupil progress is faltering and follow up on this regularly, raising any issues pertaining to effort, behaviour or homework with parents as soon as possible.
7. Offer a range of suggestions, activities and support when issues or barriers to attainment arise for young people.
8. Be solution-focused and relentlessly positive in trying to obtain all possible accreditation for pupils.
9. Ensure equity for learners so that financial circumstances are not a barrier to learning.
10. Ensure all learners have appropriate arrangements for assessments.

We recognise that the success of our young people relies, not only on young people taking responsibility for their learning but also on a strong partnership between school and home.

We aim to be clear in our expectations of young people and we aim to support this important partnership between school and home. For this reason, we have developed a charter for young people and carers. This charter is based on our analysis of research and recognised good practice of key characteristics and actions that can support positive attainment and progress outcomes for young people.

Better outcomes occur when young people:

1. Aim high.
2. Recognise their role in making decisions about learning.
3. Carefully consider any professional advice offered to them in relation to their level of study and the commitment required on their part to achieve in the course of study.
4. Commit to the time and focus necessary to achieve their targets, managing their time and extra-curricular commitments appropriately.
5. Take on board teacher feedback and respond positively wherever possible to recommended next steps and referrals to engage in supportive interventions.
6. Keep a positive, growth mindset about their learning even when things may be difficult. Persevere and stay on the course of study they sign up to at the start of the academic session.
7. Meet deadlines.
8. Take responsibility for recording their own personal record of learning and next steps, reflecting regularly on where they are, where they want to get to and how they are going to get there.
9. Push themselves to achieve their goals and complete tasks set.
10. Are proactive in seeking advice or support.

Parents and carers can work effectively in partnership with the school by:

1. Highlighting any issues, in school or out of school, which could be preventing their child from achieving their target and goals for the session.
2. Becoming familiar with course deadlines and key assessment dates.
3. Supporting young people to apply themselves and prepare suitably for course assessments.
4. Helping and encouraging pupils by having regular discussions at home about progress and concerns, prompting them to seek advice from teachers as necessary.
5. Contacting the school promptly should there be concerns in relation to their child's progress.
6. Taking on board the professional judgement and advice of our staff.
7. Attending parent contact evenings with their children.
8. Working in partnership with the school to resolve issues that arise in a timely and positive way in order to secure their child's attainment.
9. Encouraging attendance at after school supported study where appropriate and recommended.
10. Supporting your child with homework, by taking an interest in homework tasks and deadlines, for example looking together with their child at the assignments in Teams.
11. Encouraging young people not to take on too many extra-curricular activities, including paid work, which might have a detrimental impact on their progress and achievement.

I hope this information is useful in providing an opportunity for discussion with your child.