

Leicester Pledge

""2020" Vision for Leicester

Working for our Children's Future

21.6.00.

Developing Positive Participants for the City of Leicester

Leicester City Council is committed to raising educational standards. Our purpose is to challenge and enable schools to continuously improve and to work with all partners to create solutions and achieve success.

Young people will leave school valuing learning as a way of developing control over their own lives. They will be equipped with the tools and qualifications necessary to make life choices which will enable them to participate fully in a variety of communities in which they live and which they help to create.

Our core values are:

- ***Optimism*** - we have the highest aspirations for learning and highest expectations for achievement for all.
- ***Creativity*** - we value ideas, innovation, consultation and experimentation.
- ***Dignity*** - everyone is entitled to be treated with respect and to have their views taken into account.
- ***Equality*** - an entitlement to a range of high quality experiences for all.
- ***Justice*** - we will prepare all to play a full part in a culturally diverse, democratic society which values everybody equally and accords them equal rights.
- ***Diversity*** - valuing, recognising and supporting the individual needs of every child.
- ***Commitment*** - we welcome the challenge to change and improve. We value our staff and their views and by working together we can meet the growing and changing demands of our city.
- ***Responsibility*** - to each other and for each other.

Adapted from Leicester City Council's Strategic Direction

The work we do with partners draws on shared ideas and best practice, encourages mutual accountability and shared responsibility and has energy and optimism.

Leicester's Pledge for life long learning will include:

- Early Years Pledge
- Primary Pledge
- Secondary Pledge
- Community Pledge

The idea of a Leicester Pledge is to emphasise a few targets which can be monitored so that all partners are seen to be playing their part in producing a better deal for education.

Vision Statement

We pledge to work for a future where everybody can be somebody. To do this we need to:-

Put in place urgent, irreversible and continuous improvements to raise standards. Which means we must:

- Remove failure *and* the causes of failure
- Make all schools good *and* good schools better.

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Every child should have the opportunity to experience:

- a healthy life;
- spontaneous expression
- esteem as an individual
- dignity and autonomy
- self-confidence and a zest in learning
- a stable, caring, learning environment
- sociability, friendship and co-operation with others
- equal opportunities irrespective of race, gender and disability
- cultural diversity
- support as part of a school, family and community
- happiness

as identified by the European Commission Childcare Network (Quality in Services for Young Children)

An example of a Primary Pledge

This will include:

- Education Department Inputs
- School Targets of Process and Experience
- Partnership Targets of Outcome

Primary Targets of Process and Experience

- Children in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will have experience of success in:-
 - developing their own ideas, skills, values, ways of thinking and means of expressing themselves
 - learning how to learn (confidence to develop their own learning styles)
 - working collaboratively with their peers
 - working with, seeing or hearing the work of professional and community artists
- Every child will have an opportunity to perform and exhibit quality work to a variety of audiences in a range of ways.
- Every child, by the end of Key Stage 2 will have carried out a community/environmental project.

Primary Targets of Process and Experience

- All parents will have the opportunity to share with schools information about any area where their child has demonstrated particular interest, skill or motivation. Schools and parents can then actively encourage the development of these strengths.
- Every child will make a book for others to read.
- Every child will have an opportunity for a residential experience.
- Every child will be able to use the Internet to share their learning with children in other countries.

Education Department Targets of Input

- X% a year increase in the budget in Primary schools in real terms over 3 years.
- A pledge of consistent level of support and challenge to schools.
- Develop a leading edge Leicester Learning Grid with access to international, national and local networks and expertise in Teaching and Learning.

Partnership Targets of Outcome

- Each school will audit at Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 the percentage of children at each National Curriculum level in English, Maths, ICT and Science.
- Agree targets for improvement over the years ahead, including targets for specific groups (e.g. gender/race).
- Provide parents and carers with understandable accounts of children's achievement at each level of the National Curriculum for reading, mathematics, ICT and science.

We demonstrate our commitment to working as a learning community by:

- Striving for continuous improvement in all that we do.
- Working collaboratively towards common goals.
- Working together in Development Groups.
- Becoming a life-long learning City.