

CURRICULUM DESIGN KEY PRINCIPLES

REFERENCE Wiliam, D. (2013) Principled Curriculum Design.
SSAT (The Schools Network) Ltd

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A curriculum breathes life into a school's or teacher's philosophy of education; it is purpose enacted. Different philosophies of education – personal empowerment; cultural transmission; preparation for work or preparation for citizenship – place different emphasis on aspects of curriculum design. Curriculum design involves seven key principles which operate in tension with each other.



BALANCED

Promotes intellectual, moral, spiritual, aesthetic, creative, emotional and physical development as equally important.



RIGOROUS

Seeks to develop intra-disciplinary habits of mind; the subject matter is taught in a way that is faithful to its discipline.



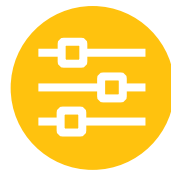
COHERENT

Makes explicit connections and links between the different subjects/ experiences encountered.



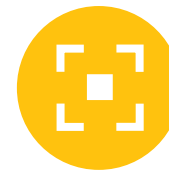
VERTICALLY INTEGRATED

Focuses on progression by carefully sequencing knowledge; provides clarity about what getting better at the subject means.



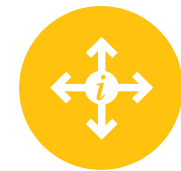
APPROPRIATE

Looks to avoid making unreasonable demands by matching level of challenge to a pupil's current level of maturity/knowledge.



FOCUSED

Seeks to keep the curriculum manageable by teaching the most important knowledge; identifies the big ideas or key concepts within a subject.



RELEVANT

Seeks to connect the valued outcomes of a curriculum to the pupils being taught it; provides opportunities for pupils to make informed choices.