



Waltham Toll Bar  
Academy

## Implementing the Curriculum: Pedagogy

To create opportunities and develop the confidence to excel - together.



Lincolnshire Gateway  
Academies Trust



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Quality First Teaching is our main priority in the classroom. To facilitate this, we have identified seven principles that define how we can achieve excellent lessons at the academy. By making these principles clear, we have created a common language that can be adopted by all as a basis for all our continued professional development. Each subject is a member of a professional association to ensure that staff within each department are kept informed of best practice and connect with other expert practitioners. We also have a highly structured and developed Professional development programme for colleagues, including Early Career Teachers.

### Our seven principles to deliver excellent lessons.

<b>1.Be Interested. Be Interesting.</b>	Develop relationships with all students, get to know their background. Be clear to the students that they are your priority. The subject you are teaching is your passion and you want to it share with others. Be prepared to take risks in the classroom to make your lessons a success.
<b>2.Consistent routines create positive learning environments.</b>	Maintain the high expectations of student behaviour in your lessons. Hold the students to account if they fall below the level expected. If we, as an academy, are not relentless in demanding the highest standards for our students, then we are letting them down.
<b>3. Build in thinking time</b>	Key knowledge must be identified, taught and retained by our students. Plan to revisit key ideas and use a range of retrieval activities, including various questioning strategies, to ensure that learning involves change in their long-term memory. Use formative and summative assessments to understand the key knowledge students know and yet to know.
<b>4. Provide Support</b>	Provide the new knowledge in a clear and accessible way. Model your thinking and provide the information in small steps to support the students. Be aware of the students' working memory and prevent it from being overloaded.
<b>5. Celebrate the positives.</b>	Identify and celebrate good behaviour or deep learning. Highlight desirable behaviours expected of our students once they leave the academy. Celebrate their learning successes in the classroom.
<b>6. Invest in yourself.</b>	You, the teacher, are the most important resource in the room. Learning about your subject does not finish when you have qualified. Maintain a secure understanding of your own subject; be abreast of changes in your subject and in teaching.
<b>7. Share your love for reading.</b>	Weave the reading of relevant academic texts into lessons to support subject content and improve reading fluency. Expose students to subject-specific terminology to broaden students' use of language and enhance the quality of communication skills.

