

Curriculum Statement July 2018

Aims

The purpose of the curriculum is to enable students to:

- Acquire knowledge and skills relevant to adult life and a world of rapid and continuous technological change
- Develop a life-long love of learning
- Develop personal and moral values, respect for shared values and for other cultures, religions and ways of life
- Acquire sound numeracy and literacy skills
- Develop and acquire the qualities and qualifications necessary to enable them to progress to the next stage in their chosen learning or career pathway

Main principles:

- The curriculum should have breadth, balance, relevance, differentiation and allow progression
- The curriculum should promote knowledge and understanding, and allow the development of skills and personal qualities
- Equality of access for all students
- Aspirational expectations of all students
- All students will have an entitlement to work related learning
- A curriculum that offers both academic and vocational qualifications appropriate to individual pupil ability, interest and preferred learning style

Outcomes:

The curriculum should:

- Deliver the current and future statutory requirements, including appropriate careers advice and guidance
- Be broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated
- Enable and support students to achieve their potential
- Meet the needs of the full range of abilities within the school
- Ensure continuity, help support and enable progression within the school and between phases of education
- Help students develop enquiring minds and a love of learning
- Help students acquire understanding, knowledge of key skills relevant to school, adult life and employment
- Help students develop personal moral values, respect for religious values and tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life
- Support raising standards of achievement
- Provide a range of opportunities to students which best meet their needs and interests

Home Learning:

Guideline amounts: note that this may vary slightly week by week and will increase for year 10 and 11 in exam revision periods including for mock exams.

- Key stage 3: (Years 7-8) Individual tasks 30 - 45 minutes (1 - 1.5 hours per day)
- Key stage 4: (Years 9-11) Individual tasks 45 - 60 minutes (1.5 - 2 hours per day)
- Home learning/extended projects may be set over the holidays by subject staff, particularly for those students preparing for examinations, but we are mindful of those students who are away on holiday or have other commitments so may be unable to complete any work set.
- Home learning tasks are set using the online platform www.ShowMyHomework.co.uk and will include clear indications of deadlines, the nature of the task set and any resources necessary for the task's completion

Extra-curricular

- All students can access a rich extra-curricular programme that, together with the curriculum, promotes healthy, spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development, thereby preparing students for the opportunities and responsibilities of adult life.

We are committed to:

- Raising standards of achievement and learning for all our students
- Extending the range of opportunities available to students which best meet their needs and interests
- Benefiting other schools in the area and strengthening the links between school and the wider community

Key Stage 3 - Years 7 & 8 in 2017/18

All students in Years 7 & 8 study a broad and balanced curriculum, studying; English, Mathematics, Science, Modern Foreign Languages, Computer Science, History, Geography, Art, Drama, Music, Technology & Physical Education

Setting in Years 7 & 8

In Years 7 students are taught in set/streamed classes in Mathematics, English and Science -Ability groups are determined by KS2 data, internal assessment and class work. Regular assessments inform change of class according to individual student educational need. In all other subjects, students are taught in mixed ability groupings.

Support with Learning & Access to Curriculum

A flexible support package is in place for each pupil on the SEND Register, focussing on key areas of need. All pupils with SEND access a broad based curriculum with some limited withdrawal for literacy and numeracy support.

Teaching Assistants work closely with class teachers to provide personalised support both in class and in small groups to ensure progress.

Specific literacy and numeracy support is offered by Teaching Assistants and classroom teachers (outside normal curriculum time) to identified pupils to support learning in all areas.

A daily homework club staffed by our team of Teaching Assistants provides opportunities for consolidating learning.

Curriculum for Key Stage 4 students

Key Stage 4 – Year 9 in 2017/18

Students begin their GCSE courses in Year 9 and so begin to follow the requirements of the individual subject specifications alongside the continued study of the Core subjects – English, Mathematics, Science & Physical Education:

The wide range of option choices encompasses both academic and vocational qualifications and allows for learning pathways both within and beyond Key Stage 4.

Option subjects are taught for 2 hours per week in Years 9 & 10, then 5 hours per fortnight in Year 11.

Year 9 option choices for 2018 include:

Music	Film Studies	Computer Science	Photography
Art	Business Studies	Engineering	Psychology
French	Graphics	Food and Nutrition	History
Spanish	Drama	21 st Century Design	Geography
Dance			

Setting in Key Stage 4

In Years 9-11, English, Mathematics and Science are set according to ability based on regular teacher assessments and formal internal examinations.

Option subjects are taught in mixed ability groups although where there is more than one group, setting may take place.

Support with Learning

Teaching Assistants provide high quality differentiation and support throughout Key Stage 4 to ensure success for all students at GCSE.

Flexible Support Curriculum

For a small number of pupils in our GCSE cohorts, a flexible approach with a tailored curriculum maximises potential success. This involves working closely with partner providers such as Abingdon & Witney College to provide opportunities for engagement and future progression. This is complemented by a programme of mentoring to prepare for transition to the next stage of education or employment.

Key Stage 5

We offer both Level 2 and Level 3 programmes of study at Key Stage 5. Students are guided onto appropriate courses depending on ability and future aspiration for career or learning progression.

Level 3 Programme

Advanced Level Pathway

Entry to this programme is determined by GCSE results. It is generally necessary for students to have achieved at least a B grade at GCSE in the subject (or related subjects) they intend to study at A Level.

Proposed subjects offered in 2018 include:

Art & Design	Dance	Government & Politics	Psychology
Graphics	Economics	History	Religious Studies
Photography	Engineering	Further Mathematics	Sociology
Biology	English Literature	Mathematics	Spanish
Business Studies	English Literature & Language	Media Studies	Performing Arts
Chemistry	French	Music	Chinese Mandarin
Classical Civilisation	Geography	Music Technology	
Computing	German	Physics	

Vocational Pathway

The Vocational Pathway consists of subjects that are all equivalent to 3 Advanced Level qualifications and that offer pathways to further education, either as advanced apprenticeships or universities, or employment. Extended work placements are built into all of these courses enabling students to have 'hands on' experiences in real work settings in their chosen area of study.

Proposed subjects offered in 2018 include:

Applied Science Level 3	Information Technology
Health & Social Care	Business National OCR
Sport	

Entry to this programme is determined by GCSE results. It is generally necessary for students to have achieved 5 A*-C (or equivalent) grades at GCSE and B/6 in the subjects they are wishing to follow.

Enrichment Curriculum

All students take part in at least one hour of enrichment per week, in addition to a tutorial programme.

Enrichment activities include:

Sport	Mentoring younger students	Extended Project Qualification
Drama	Community Service	
Music	Subject ambassador	
Leading a club	Debating	
Leadership development programme	Work experience	