



Curriculum Policy

1. AIMS

The aims of this Policy are supported through the school's Teaching and Learning Policy.

1.1 The school aims to:

- Ensure that students develop the essential literacy and numeracy skills;
- Provide students with a full and rounded entitlement to learning;
- Foster students' creativity and develop essential skills, including learning skills;
- Promote a healthy lifestyle;
- Inspire students to commitment to learning which will last a lifetime; and
- Promote high standards in all learning and teaching.

1.2 The school's curriculum follows statutory requirements and the requirements of the National Curriculum.

It is balanced and broadly based, and promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of our students and of society and prepares our students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

- Students are expected to acquire skills in speaking and listening, literacy and numeracy skills.
- Personal, social, health and citizenship education reflects the school's aims and ethos.
- Religious education is also provided for all students.
- Appropriate careers guidance is given
- An appropriate programme of enterprise education is included.

2 Equal Opportunities

Entry to all programmes of study is based on academic suitability and appropriateness, regardless of sex, race, disability, religion or belief.

Disabilities: In accordance with the statutory requirements the school aims to make the curriculum accessible to all students as far as is reasonably practicable. The school has an Accessibility Plan which is available to parents on request.

3 Differentiation

A variety of differing teaching and learning methods and materials are used in all courses to suit students' different needs.

4. Subjects Offered

4.1 The subjects offered can be seen in the relevant Key Stage booklets.

4.2 Disapplication

In accordance with the law, the school has the right to respond to individual needs by modifying the National Curriculum programmes, or disapplying the National Curriculum for the duration of Key Stage 4, to:

- Allow a student to participate in extended work-related learning;
- Allow a student with individual strengths to emphasise a particular curriculum area; and
- Allow a student making significantly less progress than other students of his his/her age to consolidate his/her learning and progress across the curriculum.

Decisions about any of the above will only be made after discussion with the student and parent.

4.3 Religious Education

Religious Education is available to all students. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from religious education (see Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural Policy.)

4.4 Collective Worship:

All students are expected to take part in daily collective worship. The school has a programme of collective worship based around Year Groups.

4.5 Sex Education

The school provides sex education in the basic curriculum for all students, in which students are encouraged and guided by moral principles and taught to recognise the value of family life.

A full statement of the school's Sex and Relationships Education Policy is available separately.

In accordance with the law the biological aspects of human reproduction remain compulsory for all students, but parents may withdraw their children from any other part of the sex education provided without giving reasons.

4.6 Political Education:

The promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the school is forbidden by law. Political issues are introduced in a number of courses and are presented in a balanced manner.

4.7 PE and Games

All students are expected to take part in the school's Physical Education and Games programme. Students can only be excused from PE and Games lessons for medical reasons, for which a note from a parent will suffice, or other reasons agreed with the school (see PE Policy and Actions for Fixtures)

5. Extra Curricular Activities

The school has a wide and varied programme of cultural and sporting activities that take place outside the formal curriculum. All students are encouraged to take part in the programme (see Out of Lesson Policy)

6. Out of Lessons Learning

The school expects Out of Lessons Learning to be set as appropriate (see Homework Policy)

7. Special Educational Needs

The school has a special educational needs policy for statemented and non-statemented students. The school will determine the appropriate courses in consultation with the parents (see SEN Policy)

8. Concerns and Complaints

Parents who have concerns about any aspect of the curriculum should discuss these in the first instance with the relevant teacher or student's Year Head.

If the issue is not resolved parents should make an official complaint in writing to the Headteacher (see Complaints Policy)

9. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored by the Deputy Head (Student Provision), who will report to the Headteacher on its implementation on a regular basis.

The Headteacher will report to the Governing Body's Curriculum Committee on the progress of the policy and will recommend any changes.