

School Curriculum

The management and development of the curriculum is under the direction of Miss J Allan, Deputy Headteacher. She works closely with Heads of Department in all matters relating to the curriculum. A general outline of the curriculum according to Key Stages is as follows:

In Year 7 the following subjects are presently taught: Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, Design Technology, History, Geography, Art, Drama, Music, Physical Education, Personal, Social, Health and Religious Education, French and Computer Science. From about the end of September, girls are set in half year groups according to ability, for English and Maths. DT is taught in nine groups per year; all other subjects are taught in form groups. Drama, Music and Art are taught for half the year each.

In Years 8 and 9, the curriculum is the same as Year 7 except that pupils are set, according to ability, in two half year groups for English, Mathematics and Modern Foreign Language; the top two groups in each half year are able to start a second modern foreign language.

In Year 10 and 11, pupils study a core of: Religious Studies, English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Combined Science, Physical Education, and Personal, Social and Health Education. Girls are set in ability groups for those core subject areas which are examined although there is movement between groups according to performance in assessment. Other subjects selected from option blocks include: Computer Science, History, Geography, Media Studies, Spanish, Polish, French, Drama, Music, Art, Business Studies, Child Development, ICT, Food and Nutrition, Product Design, Textiles and Health and Social Care, Triple Science, Hospitality and Travel and Tourism.

Option choice subjects are generally taught in mixed ability groups. A small number of pupils in Key Stage 4 are guided towards choosing extra English and Maths, with an emphasis on developing skills for work.

Students in Year 12 and 13 are offered 2 year courses at 'A' level. Subjects offered are: Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, English Literature, Film Studies, French, Geography, Government and Politics, History, Italian, Mathematics, Performing Arts, Physics, Polish, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology and Spanish. A level 3 Diploma is also offered in Health and Social Care. All students follow a varied non-qualification curriculum which includes the Pragmatics Theology Programme; voluntary work and service; MOOCs and a course of Personal, Social, Health and Religious Education and a programme of service and work related learning.

In all year groups, the curriculum offered is enhanced by a wide variety of activities. Across the Key Stages these include: liturgical celebrations and sacramental practice, residential experiences, curriculum and work related visits, work experience, field courses, university visits, Envision and master classes, opportunities to develop personal learning and thinking skills, school concerts and productions, fund raising, sports fixtures and links with other schools and universities. Careers, Family Life, Health, Enterprise, Work Related Education and British Values Education are delivered in all Key Stages in a cross curricular way and explicitly in Personal, Social and Health Education.

All staff are involved in the development of the school curriculum through their participation in Curriculum Teams and Development Groups.

A Committee of Governors is responsible to the Governing Body for monitoring the School Curriculum.