



KING HENRY VIII SCHOOL

Curriculum Policy July 2022

Name of policy	Date reviewed	By whom	Next review	Responsibility
Curriculum	July 2022	R G Sewell Deputy Head P M Dearden Headmaster	Annually July 2023	R G Sewell

Introduction

The curriculum at King Henry VIII School is accessible to all pupils and is underpinned by the school's statement of aims. All pupils are entitled to a curriculum which is appropriate to their age, needs and abilities. This includes any pupil with SEND, ALN, EAL and those with an EHC plan. The education provided should be interesting and worthwhile in itself and sufficiently challenging to enable pupils to reach their full potential. As well as preparing pupils for the next stage in their lives it should form the basis of a lifetime of learning. In brief, we aim to offer every pupil the opportunity to make the most of their abilities in academic work and through participation in a wide range of extra curricula activities. Although this document concentrates on the academic path through the school, it is important to realise that the same teaching staff deliver the wider curriculum, and the time available has to be managed to maximise the overall quality of the educational experience we offer.

Individual departments should have a curriculum that is inclusive, celebratory and representative of diversity within the school and wider society.

Overview/ Aims of the Curriculum

The academic curriculum enables pupils to be educated in a range of areas of experience. These include:

- **Linguistic/oracy:** we develop pupils' command of language and their communication skills through speaking, listening, literacy including reading and writing.
- **Mathematical & Scientific:** here we develop pupils' numeracy and ability to frame a hypothesis, to conduct experiments, to analyse results, to solve problems, to think logically and to conduct calculations. In addition, pupils learn to understand and appreciate relationships and patterns in both number and space. This is achieved through a variety of ways, including practical activity, exploration and discussion.
- **Technology:** this area is taught through a variety of media, from ICT, through electronics, control systems and making in a variety of media (wood, metal, plastic and food). The key skills of planning, design, making and evaluating underpin many of the activities in this area.
- **Human and social:** pupils are encouraged to look at the human and social aspects of the world both today and how the past has shaped the world through a rich curriculum mainly delivered within PSHE and the humanities subjects. This includes support for British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- **Aesthetic and Creative skills** are encouraged throughout the curriculum, with specific opportunities within Art, Music, English Literature, Classical Subjects, Drama and PE. Here pupils can respond in a personal and imaginative way to stimuli set before them.
- **The physical/PE and Games curriculum** is wide, enabling pupils to experience a variety of team and individual sports, all of which develop the pupils' physical control and co-ordination as well as their tactical skills and imaginative responses and to help them to evaluate and improve their performance, and knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of fitness, and health as well as the ability to work with others.

General points about the Curriculum

- Each day is split into 6 periods of 50/55 minutes - introduced in 2009. In addition to this, all pupils also receive a PSHE lesson on a Wednesday during extended morning registration.
- The above areas of experience are part of the core curriculum of every pupil throughout Key Stages 3 and 4 (Shells – Y11) at King Henry VIII School.
- The academic curriculum allows for an increasing degree of specialisation as pupils move through the school. Breadth is provided for at Sixth Form level by means of a programme of Extended Studies
- Assemblies and tutor periods form an essential part of the curriculum.
- The spiral PSHE programme reflects the school's aims and ethos. It includes citizenship, careers education, sex & health education as well as personal and social education.
- Careers guidance is led by specialist **careers advisors** who operate from their dedicated department which is accessible to pupils at any time (outside of lessons). The careers advisors are employed with the remit of ensure pupils have access to accurate, up-to-date careers guidance that is impartial and enables pupils to make informed choices upon a broad range of career options and helps to encourage them to fulfil their potential.
- Within all subjects the mutual respect and tolerance of each pupil regardless of faith, culture or belief is part of what makes King Henry VIII such a supportive community.
- The curriculum is designed to allow equality of access, yet within that to include the flexibility to display some elements in agreed cases. This is subject to individual needs. Any pupil who has an EHC plan will receive education to fulfil their requirements under the guidance of Learning Development.
- Every effort is made to assist those in need of learning support and to challenge the most able. The Head of Learning Development (SENCo) works with HODs and wider staff to ensure strategies are utilised to support SEND **and EAL** pupils and ensure reasonable adjustment is made as required. Learning Development is overseen by a member of SLT.
- There is contact with the Prep School to ensure linkage between the curriculum at Key Stages 2 and 3. The curriculum at Key Stage 3 is designed to allow pupils to gain a grounding in a wide range of subjects and to discover where their own interests and aptitudes lie.
- At the end of each Key Stage specialist guidance is available on option choices, although access to such guidance is available at any time.
- Option blocks are not predetermined, but are constructed on the basis of the choices made by pupils in any one year.
- If a subject has only a very small take-up at A Level it is attempted to keep the subject available. The number of teaching periods may be reduced in the interest of economic viability or some combined teaching of groups in Years 12 and 13 may take place.
- A report on the curriculum is provided routinely to the Academic and Resources Committee of the King Henry VIII School Governors.
- The curriculum is reviewed from time to time - **whole curriculum was reviewed in 2018-2019 with minor amendments implemented in Sept 2019, inc.: as ICT moved to Computing, teaching of software packages for: spreadsheets, presentations and word processing became the responsibility of Maths, PRE, and English respectively. In 2020-21 an extra lesson in a 2-week cycle was introduced for Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. To accommodate this Speth lessons were removed & SS reduced to every other week**

- It cannot be guaranteed that the available curriculum will not change during the time of a pupil's attendance at the school.
- A spreadsheet showing detail of the curriculum is available from the Deputy Head, Academic.

King Henry VIII Curriculum Overview

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Y7	GA	GA	PE	PE	EN	EN	EN	MA	MA	MA	PH	CH	CH	BI	FR/GM	FR/GM	FR/GM	LA	LA	HI	HI	GG	PRE	PRE	MU	DR	AR	AR/DT	DT	CO	
Y8	GA	GA	PE	EN	EN	EN	MA	MA	MA	PH	PH	CH	BI	BI	MFL1	MFL1	MFL2	MFL2	LA	LA	HI	GG	GG	PRE	MU	AR	AR	DT	DT	CO	
Y9	GA	GA	PE	EN	EN	EN	EN	MA	MA	MA	MA	PH	PH	CH	CH	BI	BI	2 of FR / GM / LA*			HI	HI	GG	GG	PRE	PRE	AR/MU/DT	CO			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Y10	GA	GA	PE	EN	EN	EN	EN	MA	MA	MA	MA	BI	BI	CH	CH	PH	PH	FR/SP/GM			B1	B1	B1	B2	B2	B2	B3	B3	B3	SS	
Y11	GA	GA	PE	EN	EN	EN	EN	MA	MA	MA	FR/SP/GM			PH	PH	CH	CH	BI	BI	B1	B1	B1	B2	B2	B2	B3	B3	B3	SS	SpEth	
Y12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	GA	GA	OPTION 1						OPTION 2						OPTION 3						EPQ	EPQ	ES								
Y13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	GA	GA	OPTION 1						OPTION 2						OPTION 3						ES										

Subject Studied

Year 7

Art, Biology, Chemistry, Design Technology, Drama (new 2017), English, French, German, Games, Geography, History, ICT, Latin, Mathematics, Music, PE, PSHE, Physics, Religious Studies.

Year 8

As Year 7, except pupils will choose two Modern Languages from French, German and Spanish. with an opportunity to keep all 3 languages through a twilight session.

Year 9

As for Year 8, but pupils choose any two of French, German, Spanish and Latin, and any two of Art, Design Technology and Music. There is the opportunity to keep all three modern languages through twilight courses. Some setting is done in Mathematics, English and Languages (where timetabling permits).

Year 10 and Year 11

Core non-examined subjects taken by all pupils

Games, PE, PSHE, a Study Skills (SS) course.

Core GCSE Subjects taken by all pupils (a * indicates IGCSE taken)

English*, English Literature*, Mathematics*, Biology*, Chemistry*, Physics*, a Modern European Foreign Language (currently French or German or Spanish).

Optional GCSE subjects (Most pupils choose a modern foreign language plus 3 other subjects)

Art (including a photography option), Classical Civilisation, Computing, Design & Technology (Electronics, Food Technology or Resistant Materials), French, Geography*, German, Greek (twilight), History, Latin, Music, Religious Studies, Spanish. Added in 2018 for Y10 Drama and Academic PE.

The typical pupil will study 10 GCSE subjects. There is some setting in Mathematics, English, and MFL, where the timetable allows.

In 2020/2021 an extra lesson in a 2-week cycle was introduced for Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. To accommodate this Speth lessons were removed & SS reduced to every other week

Year 12

The majority of pupils select three A level subjects chosen from the list below plus they study for the EPQ and have 1 period of extended studies.

Core non-examined subjects taken by all pupils: Games, PSHE and an Extended Studies programme.

A Level subjects offered: Art, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Classical Civilisation, Computer Science, Design Technology, Drama and Theatre Studies, Economics, English Language, English Literature, French, Geography, German, Greek, History, Latin, Law, Mathematics, Mathematics & Further Mathematics (one choice), Music, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies.

Year 13

Core non-examined subjects taken by all pupils: Games, PSHE and Interest Options are taken in addition to the above.

Pupils normally continue with three subjects to Advanced Level. They complete any EPQ started in Year 12.