

York High School



Curriculum Policy

Adopted by Governors: March 2020

Review timetable: 1 year

1. INTRODUCTION

The curriculum at York High School is broad and balanced throughout KS3 with pupils having full access to the National Curriculum through their studies. During Y9, pupils select 4 optional subjects for more specialised study at KS4, whilst maintaining a strong focus around the core subjects of English, Maths, Science, PE and Community and Life

2. INTENTION

Our curriculum is designed to support students to improve their Resilience, Aspiration and Cultural Capital. We passionately believe that high quality teaching coupled with a broad and balanced curriculum; studying subjects which allow students to develop a rounded skillset is vital in preparing students to be successful members of society. We therefore aim to fulfill the following principles:

- To provide a curriculum that is tailored to the needs of our learners; ensuring that all learners, whether those who are gifted and talented, or those with special educational needs and disabilities, are challenged and supported to achieve their very best.
- To engage our students in the classroom and develop them into active learners who ask thought provoking questions to further develop their learning.
- To ensure that our students develop strategies to commit their learning to memory in order that they are fully prepared for the demands of the reformed GCSE's and renewed focus on terminal examinations.
- To ensure that our students benefit from a curriculum which ensures they secure the best possible academic outcomes at the end of Y
- 11.
- To equip our students with the necessary skills for their futures Post 16. This is delivered through individual subjects but also includes the Careers, advice and guidance which is delivered through our aspirations programme that runs throughout the school.
- To promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

At KS3 all students study the following subjects:

- Computing
- English
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Modern Foreign Languages (French or Spanish)
- Performing Arts (Drama, Music)
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Science
- Technology (Art, DT, Food)

Personal Development is also studied and includes activities that improve awareness and identity, facilitate employability and relationship and sexual education (RSE)

We also co-ordinate a programme of literacy and numeracy catch up to support students who start KS3 below the KS2 expected standard.

Curriculum Structure: Key Stage 4

Students in KS4 follow the following pathways:

- All pupils opt for 1 of: Computing, Geography, History or MFL.
- The remaining 3 options come from: Child Development, Computing, Drama, Geography, Health and Social Care, History, I-Media, MFL, Music, PE, Religious Studies, Technology (Art, Food Technology, Material Technology and Visual Communication, Travel and Tourism and Triple Science.

In addition all pupils will also study

- English Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Community and Life (includes Careers Information, Advice & Guidance, Religious and Life studies and Relationship and sexual education)
- Core Physical Education

e) Curriculum Delivery and Entitlement (Teaching Groups)

We believe in the setting of pupils (using KS2 scores initially) so that they can learn with peers of similar ability to ensure that teaching can be targeted to the needs of the pupil. Many pupils are in different sets for different subjects so they can progress at the right pace for them.

From Primary transition we work closely with our higher ability pupils, providing a range of academic and extra curricular opportunities as they move through secondary school. We work closely with the York's Independent State School Partnership, which strives to give

pupils new experiences and build relationships with likeminded young people from across the city. Pupils are invited to attend a variety of Masterclasses and are offered places at a number of conferences throughout the year. In addition, through our Green Apples programme, identified pupils are engaging with Further and Higher education from a young age, giving them a clear understanding of the steps they can take to fulfil their aspirations. For pupils with special needs there are a range of interventions including additional support through specialist teaching and the support of Teaching Assistants. Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) forms part of the curriculum and is delivered through Personal Development and subject contributions.

4. EXTENDED CURRICULUM

There is a range of extra-curricular opportunities available for all our students. The list of our wide range of “After School Clubs and Activities” is available to view on our Website.

The Learning Resource Centre encourages access to books and the internet as sources of information to broaden the knowledge of learners. This is further supplemented by the availability of the I.C.T. at lunchtimes and after the end of the school day. These sessions are in addition to the full range of opportunities offered in the Sports and Arts.

Date of Adoption by Governing Body: _____

Chair of Governors' Signature: _____

Date to be Reviewed: _____