

# Katherine Warrington School

## Curriculum Policy Statement for September 2019



### Curriculum Overview

Through our curriculum at Katherine Warrington School we aim to provide a wide range of learning experiences, both inside and outside the classroom, which allows every student to achieve his or her full potential. We hope to encourage the love of learning by providing a variety of relevant and enjoyable activities, enabling all students to develop their intellectual, moral, social, physical and personal skills to the full.

In order to achieve this we provide a curriculum which:

- Promotes a commitment to lifelong learning and learning for life.
- Is, where appropriate for our students, consistent both with the county curriculum statement and the requirements of the National Curriculum.
- Promotes and supports “Inclusion” at all Key Stages.
- Is perceived by the students to be challenging, inspiring and relevant to their preparation for adult life – thus reflecting the school’s vision, “challenging minds, inspiring success, preparing for life”.
- Is broad, balanced and develops knowledge and understanding regardless of ability, gender, ethnic origin or social background.
- Encourages a spirit of enquiry and an ethos where we have high expectations of all our students.
- Fosters scientific, technological, sporting, creative and cultural achievement.
- Gives the students a sense of success through their achievements.
- Encourages students to appreciate and admire the achievement of others, both in the school community and at a global level.
- Provides active and full cooperation between home, school and the community.
- Provides a wealth of cross curricular activities in terms of period 7, clubs, trips, events and performances, which are open to all students.
- Provides an opportunity for students to gain an insight into the world of work through work experience placements.

The curriculum is organised into the three secondary school key stages

KS3 (years 7 to 8)

KS4 (years 9, 10 and 11)

KS5 (years 12 and 13).

Programmes of study are planned carefully to allow smooth transition between the key stages.

The curriculum is delivered by a weekly 29 x 50 min timetable

### The KS3 Curriculum (Years 7 to 8)

All students follow the same curriculum, which is consistent with the National Curriculum. Whilst all students study the same subjects, the pace of work and depth of content will vary according to differing individual needs and the ability group (where applicable) in which they are taught.

The curriculum is made up as follows: (2019-21)

Subjects	Year 7	Year 8
English	4	4
Mathematics	4	4
Science	4	4
Art	1	1
Design & Technology	1	2
Drama	2	1
Geography	2	2
History	2	2
Computer Science	1	1
Modern Languages	3	3
Music	1	1
PE	2	2
PSHCE	1	1
PRE	1	1
Enrichment 'period 7'		

#### Notes

- When students arrive in Year 7, they are placed in mixed ability tutor groups. They are taught in these groups for all subjects. Core PE will be taught in mixed groups for Yr7 and separate boy/girl groups in Yr8 and beyond.
- Students who are below expectations in English and/or maths will receive catch up intervention during form time in Year 7. They will be given extra maths and/or English as appropriate. Students with a lower ability in English and maths are supported by SEND staff in their English lessons, Literacy coordinator and we can use period 7 as additional intervention if required.
- Support classes are timetabled against form time in year 8 to enable students to receive additional support in maths/English/other areas of the curriculum
- Key Stage 3 will run for two years and towards the end of Year 8 students will have their first opportunity to select option subjects.
- In Years 7 and 8, PSHCE (covering careers, resilience, personal development, health and relationships education and citizenship) is delivered through the timetabled weekly period.
- Although students have discrete Computer Science lessons, ICT capability is developed across the subject areas with all students having their own Chromebook to use at all times in school or at home. All classrooms are equipped with at least one computer and

either an interactive whiteboard or a projector. We will have modern computer suites which are fully networked with the latest software, plus a fully equipped Library and a site wide wi-fi enabled system with BYOD.

- The school has additional chromebooks that will support students in classes who forget their device or are not in a financial situation to be able to purchase one.
- In some year groups, it is anticipated that the ability profile is such that some students will not be served well by our curriculum model. In such cases, we will adapt the structure and delivery to meet the needs of these students, following in-depth consultation with parents / carers
- Students in Year 9 all continue with a MFL.

### **The KS4 Curriculum (Year 9 September 2021)**

In Year 9 students option choices are added to the core subjects to create a bridging year in which they will start to develop GCSE skills while studying more diverse content. Later in the year students will confirm their final choices for their option subjects to take through to GCSE.

Bridging units at the start of Year 10 to allow all students to have the same opportunities to excel at GCSE, regardless of their Year 9 option choices. Where appropriate, students will follow a programme of study that meets the requirements of the EBacc. The vast majority of students will study a programme that ensures all 8 pots in the progress 8 measure are full. However, for a small number of students, this is not the best curriculum to enable them to succeed. These students may be at college or take curriculum support and would therefore have less than the 8 subjects needed to fill all of the progress 8 pots.

#### **Route A**

#### **Route B**

English Language & English Literature (2 GCSEs) 6 periods	English Language & English Literature (2 GCSEs) 6 periods
Maths GCSE 6 periods	Maths GCSE 6 periods
Separate sciences (3 GCSEs) 5 periods	Combined Science (2 GCSEs) 5 periods
RE – Short course GCSE 1 period	RE – Short course GCSE 1 period
PE/Games 2 periods	PE/Games 2 periods
GCSE/Level 2 Option 3 periods	GCSE (from MFL/history/geography/computer science) 3 periods
GCSE/Level 2 Option 3 periods	GCSE/Level2 Option 3 periods
GCSE/Level 2 Option 3 periods	GCSE/Level2/Level 1 Option 3 periods

(A separate handbook will be issued to students in Year 8 covers this in detail).

Students are offered 2 pathways at KS4 – Those who choose to take the separate sciences and those who choose combined science. Students who take the separate sciences have three unconstrained option choices, students taking core and additional have two unconstrained options and one constrained. In this block they need to choose one from MFL/history/geography/computer science.

## The KS4 Curriculum (Year 10 September 2021)

### Route A

### Route B

English Language & English Literature (2 GCSEs) 6 periods	English Language & English Literature (2 GCSEs) 6 periods
Maths GCSE 6 periods	Maths GCSE 6 periods
Separate sciences (3 GCSEs) 6 periods	Science Double Award (2 GCSEs) 6 periods
PE/Games 2 periods	PE/Games 2 periods
GCSE/Level 2 Option 3 periods	GCSE (from MFL/history/geography/computer science) 3 periods
GCSE/Level 2 Option 3 periods	GCSE/Level2 Option 3 periods
GCSE/Level 2 Option 3 periods	GCSE/Level2/Level 1 Option 3 periods

### KS4 Options

#### GCSE

- Art & Design
- Art & Design (Textiles)
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Design & Technology
- Drama
- Food preparation and nutrition
- French/German/Spanish/Mandarin
- Geography
- History
- Music
- PE

- Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry & Physics) (GCSE Level 4 required)
- Spanish
- RE

#### Non-GCSE Courses

- Curriculum Support
- College

#### Level 2 / Level 1 courses

Suitable alternative BTEC courses will be offered depending on the profile of the cohort eg BTEC Business or Media Studies

## Notes

- To assist students and parents, a KS4 Options evening is held in January of Year 8. Students then make provisional choices, which are checked by senior leaders. An interview is offered to parents of those students who the school feels has not made appropriate choices. Students who are identified as needing curriculum support or a college course are met before the options process, parents are also invited in.
- The vast majority of students study for a full GCSE course of between 7 and 9 subjects.
- Curriculum Support is offered to students who need extra support with English, Mathematics. This option is staffed by qualified teachers in those subjects.
- PSHCE is delivered in collapsed timetable days in KS4
- Short course GCSE in PRE is compulsory for all students. Some choose to study additional units in order to achieve the full course qualification.
- Specific vocational courses for Foundation Learners are delivered by Oakland's College with whom we have close relationships.
- Aspects of work related learning are integrated across the curriculum. All students benefit from a one week period of work experience.
- During the course of Years 9, 10 and 11, students receive information, advice and guidance from the Careers Coordinator and a visiting Careers Officer, through Connexions. The Careers Library contains a wide range of literature and students of all ages may use various databases to access information.

### Year 9

Maths	set across whole year
English/PRE	set across whole year
Science	combined science is mixed ability, separate science is 4 sets split into two upper and two lower sets
Games	half year groups

### Year 10

Maths	set across whole year
English/PRE	set across whole year
Science	combined science is mixed ability, separate science is 4 sets split into two upper and two lower sets
Games	half year groups

### Year 11

Maths	set across whole year
English	set across whole year group
Science	combined science is mixed ability, separate science is 4 sets split into two upper and two lower sets
Games	whole year group

## The KS5 Curriculum (Years 12 and 13)

(A separate handbook issued to students in Year 11 covers this in detail)

Students entering the sixth form usually choose to study 3 A levels. Some exceptional students may choose 4 subjects (e.g. further mathematics). Predicted average points score per subject at GCSE is used as a guideline. For an A level course, students are expected to gain at least five GCSEs at 5-9 LEVEL with at least a grade 6 in the subjects relevant to their A level choices. Each A level subject is delivered in 5 x 50 hour lessons.

All students in Year 12 will attend 6<sup>th</sup> form study lessons. They will have a choice from: EPQ, CSLA, Certificate in Financial studies (IFS), Massive Online Open Courses, extra maths. Students have one hour of careers from September through to December. From September to February half term students in Year 12 have PE lessons.

Students who are taking sciences, geography, psychology or economics at A level, and did not attain at least a B/5 grade in GCSE Maths will study extra maths as part of their sixth form studies.

The choice of subjects are as follows:

<b>A Level Subjects delivered at Katherine Warrington</b>		<b>Delivered through Harpenden Consortium</b>
Art & Design	History	Media Studies
Biology	Mathematics	Philosophy & Ethics
Business Studies	Music	Additional Languages
Chemistry	Photography	Textiles
Computer Science	Physical Education*	
Drama & Theatre Studies	Physics	
Economics	Product Design	
English Literature	Psychology	
Languages	Sociology	
Further Mathematics		
Geography		
Government & Politics		
<b>BTEC Level Subjects delivered at Katherine Warrington</b>		
Business (BTEC) (Extended Certificate and National Diploma)		

## Notes

- To assist students in making choices, a Post 16 Information evening is held in January of Year 11. Students have full access to information, both from school and careers staff and from representatives of local FE colleges.
- All applicants to the sixth form are interviewed by one of the Sixth Form Leadership Team, the Deputy Head or the Headteacher to assess the suitability of the courses chosen to the ability, aptitudes and aspirations of the student.
- Student choice of A Level courses is enhanced by the Harpenden Consortium provision.
- Students benefit from a pastoral support programme, delivered through tutorials. External speakers contribute to topics such as self-protection, bereavement, stress management, cancer awareness and drugs awareness.
- An enrichment programme in Year 12 develops breadth of experience. Students have the opportunity to take part in sporting and community activities, within the school or wider community. Timetabled lessons covering a wide variety of topics support the enrichment programme. PRE provision is delivered through the enrichment / tutorial programme and through assemblies.

N.B. The school reviews the examination courses on offer every year in order to make sure that we are delivering the most relevant curriculum to all our students.