**Curriculum Policy**

**Aims**

* For every student to maximise their potential while at our school.
* To employ a graduated approach of assess, plan, do & review.
* To provide an enhanced learning environment, enriched with extra-curricular activities.
* For each student to enjoy their time with us and forge positive relations within the school.
* To foster a desire for lifelong learning and enable the development of active, responsible citizens.

**The school should:**

* Provide personalised learning programmes of a high standard that give all students equal opportunity to progress and succeed.
* Maximise student choices and routes of progression by providing a stimulating, inspiring and challenging learning environment.
* Foster an atmosphere of tolerance and respect, to which everyone contributes by being active and responsible citizens.
* Promote students’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. This includes fostering British Values through all areas of school life.

We drive effective learning though ENGAGEMENT, CHALLENGE, AUTONOMY AND FEEDBACK.

**The children should:**

• Learn how to work independently and as members of a team

• Be eager to try their best in all activities

• Be expected to behave in and an acceptable way and be responsible for their actions

• Be able to listen and read for a variety of purposes

• Be able to convey meaning through speech and writing

• Know how to think and solve problems mathematically

• Know how to apply the basic principles of health, safety and hygiene

• Be capable of communicating their knowledge and feelings through various art forms.

**Records of work completed**

Each student has a folder or workbook for every subject, and this has a record of learning intentions/objectives. All teachers follow departmental schemes of work. Students and teachers share responsibility for recording what work has been completed and how successful the students have been in meeting the learning intentions/objectives.

**Assessment**

The students are given a baseline assessment in English and Maths when they start with us. Following on from this they will be assessed at least on a termly basis in all other subjects. These assessments inform our termly reporting cycle to parents and next steps for the students.

**Curriculum Pathways**

Our baseline assessments, teacher judgements and the amount of time a student is likely to be with us will inform which Curriculum Path a student will take. Subject Leads will decide whether initially; Entry, Intermediate or Higher will best meet the student’s educational needs. Students will subsequently be able to move from one Curriculum Path to the next as they progress.

Entry is designed to help students who may have fallen behind or are with us for a short period. Intermediate is for those working at a Level 1/2 and hoping to progress to GCSE. Higher is designed to allow students to follow a course mainly comprised of GCSEs.

Students who are with us very briefly may be provided with work from their permanent school.

**Curriculum Path 1: Entry**

This path is designed to help students who have missed or have difficulty with specific skills in literacy and numeracy. Students will be delivered literacy catch-up lessons and work towards Entry Level Qualifications in English, Maths, Science and Humanities. They may also supplement these qualifications with Unit Awards and ASDAN Short Courses.

**Curriculum Path 2: Intermediate**

This path is a combination of Entry Level Qualifications; Functional Skills and Level 1/2 Qualifications.

**Curriculum Path 3: Higher**

This plan is designed for students aiming to gain 5 or more GCSEs or equivalent Level 1/2 Qualifications.

**Grouping**

Once a student has been assigned to a particular Curriculum Path they will be placed in a group of a similar age/ability. Full support will be given to students to settle them into their group and to help them feel confident in terms of work covered and assessment ahead.

The Curriculum Paths are not prescriptive and are continually being reviewed and updated. Each student’s pathway will be differentiated according to ability and motivation.

**Schemes of Work**

Schemes of work are the foundation blocks of our students’ individual learning pathways and courses. For all subjects a Scheme of Work will be devised by an experienced Subject Lead and will detail the required Learning Objectives and Assessment Outcomes. Teachers will then have the freedom to devise and adapt individual lessons depend on the learning needs within the group.

Schemes of work and individual lessons will have differentiated outcomes to enable each student works at his or her own pace and ability. Students will self-assess after each lesson in dialogue with the teacher as to how far they progressed towards meeting the specific learning outcomes. This information is recorded on a subject checklist and lesson record sheet. This information is used to assess whether a student has completed a particular unit of work and if they can be awarded the qualification or entered for an exam.

Towards the end of each term, the students’ progress is assessed during whole school exam weeks. This enables us to report to parents and to prepare students for public exams.

Outcomes are marked on a tracking sheet, using National Level Descriptors (WT, EL1-3, GCSE 1-9).

At the end of Y10 and in the Autumn Term of Y11 students take Mock GCSEs this informs the tracking process and enables teachers and students to make decisions on GCSE entries or alternatives.

**Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils**

The KS1 and KS2 students follow the National Curriculum statutory guidance for English, Maths and Science, complimented by a topic-based curriculum for all other subjects.

**Areas of learning:**

We offer an alternative curriculum which includes the essential elements from a mainstream curriculum*.* For Key Stage 3 and 4 this consists of Maths, English, Science, Citizenship, PSHE, History, Geography, RE, IT, Art, Food Tech and Physical Education.

**CurriculumEnrichment:**

Students at all age levels take part in regular PE activities including table tennis, gym, cricket, swimming, tennis and football. Additionally, we have a yearly plan of school visits and educational trips.

**Additional Subjects and ‘A’ Levels:**

If a student joins the school mid-term and wishes to complete a GCSE in a subject not on the core curriculum it may be possible to have individual tutoring.

Our Post 16 students may follow ‘A’ Level courses depending on ability.

**Careers Guidance:**

Our dedicated careers adviser is Sarah Bater***.*** Each KS4 student has an individualised career plan. We work in partnership with local vocational providers (ie for building, mechanics, beauty therapy, music and animal husbandry).

Policy Sign off and review

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|  | By whom | Date |
| Policy signed off by | Julia Low | 07.11.2018 |
| Reviewed by | Emma Clyde | 03.11.2021 |
| Next Review By | SLT & AB | 31.10.2022 |