

CURRICULUM POLICY

For St. James' School



Annual Review
Next Review: February 2013

CURRICULUM POLICY

The school will deliver the National Curriculum at all key stages. In addition we will provide a curriculum, which responds to the needs of all pupils across the full age range of the school.

AIMS OF THE POLICY

To help pupils to:

- develop lively, imaginative and enquiring minds.
- acquire knowledge and skills relevant to adult life.
- have sound numeracy and literacy skills
- develop personal and moral values and respect for other cultures and religions.
- develop an understanding of the world in which they live.
- appreciate human achievements and aspirations.
- take their place in society as informed, confident and responsible citizens.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum should have the following characteristics:

- be balanced, relevant and differentiated.
- provide progression and continuity.
- provide an opportunity for more able pupils to accelerate their learning and acquire both GCSE and Advanced Level qualifications at an earlier stage.
- promote knowledge and understanding.
- promote spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development for all students.
- provide a pathway from early years through to education at Sixth Form level.
- provide the opportunity for students to work at a pace best suited to their own needs.
- provide appropriate tasks and teaching techniques to support high expectations and appropriate challenge.
- should be subject to ongoing evaluation and review.

PROPOSED OUTCOMES OF THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum should:

- deliver current and future statutory requirements.
- enable all students to fulfil their potential.
- prepare pupils to make informed and appropriate choices at post 16.
- meet the needs of the full range of abilities across all age ranges in the school.
- ensure continuity and progression within the school and between the phases of education.
- foster teaching styles, which offer a variety of relevant learning opportunities.

- encourage a respect for the school and its environment so that learning is a positive and pleasurable experience for all.
- ensure effective use of language and numeracy.
- help pupils develop lively, enquiring minds, an ability to question and argue rationally and an ability to apply themselves to academic tasks and physical skills.
- help pupils develop personal moral values, respect for religious values and tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life.
- help pupils to appreciate human achievements and aspirations.

KEY STAGE 1

The following subjects are taught to all children in Years 1 & 2.

Literacy (English)
 Numeracy (Maths)
 Humanities (Geography, History and Religious Education)
 Science
 French
 Art
 ICT
 Music
 Physical Education
 Swimming

KEY STAGE 2

In addition to the above mentioned subjects, children in Years 3,4,5 & 6 are taught:

Geography
 History
 Religious education
 Games

These are taught as separate subjects

KEY STAGE 3

In accordance with the Government initiative to eliminate Key Stage 3 examinations, it is the Schools policy to complete the Key Stage 3 curriculum in English, Maths and Science in Years 7 and 8 and to start the GCSE curriculum in Year 9.

All Year 7 and 8 pupils study the following:

English	Music
Maths	Science
Information Technology	Geography
Home Economics`	History
French	Swimming
Spanish	Games
Religious Education	Art
PSHE	

All Year 9 pupils study the following:

English GCSE to be completed after three years, with the exceptions of those who have been accelerated. These pupils will complete the course after two years.

Maths: GCSE to be completed after three years, with the exceptions of those who have been accelerated. These pupils will complete the course after two years.

Science: GCSE in Separate Science to be completed after two years for the more able students. Less able students will complete the course over 3 years. This course is designed for less able students.

French
German
Art
Music
Religious Education
Games
Swimming
Geography
History
Information Technology
Physical Education.

All Year 10 pupils study the following:

English
English Literature
Maths
Separate Science
Art or Music
French or German
OCR Nationals in information Technology or Physical Education.
Geography or History
Careers
Games

All Year 11 pupils study the following:

English
English Literature
Maths
Separate Science or A Level Chemistry
Careers
Games
Art or French
History or Geography
German or Physical Education

Advanced Subsidiary Level Options:

Currently, the options are as follows;

Physics
Biology
Further Maths or Art
Maths
Chemistry
Business Studies

All Year 12 pupils attend a tutorial session with the Head of Sixth Form each week.

Advanced Level Options:

Currently the options are as follows:

Biology
Chemistry
Art
French or Physics
Maths or Geography
English

All Year 13 pupils attend a tutorial session with the Head of Sixth Form each week

ST. JAMES' SCHOOL TEACHING AND LEARNING POLICY

The Mission of St. James' School is:

- to educate each child entrusted to our care to their full potential.
- to sustain and develop the Christian ethos of the School.

This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for teaching and learning at St. James' School and reflects the beliefs of the Governors and staff.

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all members of the St. James' School Community.

Education is the purpose of our school. We offer a curriculum, which is broad and balanced and meets the requirements of the National Curriculum.

This Teaching and Learning policy lays the foundations for the whole curriculum, both formal and informal and, along with our Mission Statement, forms the context in which all other policy statements should be read. It is written for the benefit of all members of the school community to ensure that all are aware of the fundamental principles underpinning the work of the school.