

THOMAS HARDYE SCHOOL

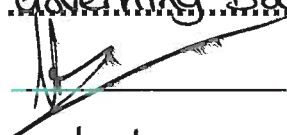
Curriculum Policy



Adopted By:

Governing Body

Signed:



Date:

11/12/2019

Review Date:

10/12/2022

Rationale

The school is committed to providing a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum. At the heart of the curriculum is a strong academic core.

The school curriculum provides opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve so they can develop knowledge, understanding, skills and the attitudes necessary for their self-fulfilment and development as active and responsible citizens. It also makes expectations for learning and attainment explicit to students, parents, teachers, governors, employers and the public, and establishes national standards for the performance of all pupils in the subjects it includes.

The curriculum is logically organised and sequenced to aid students' learning. Content is sequenced to ensure that components of knowledge lead to conceptual understanding with opportunities for students to practise what they know in order to deepen their understanding being built into the curriculum. Layering of knowledge and concepts are organised so that all pupils make progress in the curriculum from their starting points.

The school curriculum comprises all learning and other experiences that the school provides for its students. This includes the National Curriculum, religious education, sex and relationship education, on line safety, and careers education. The school curriculum has two fundamental aims

- To provide opportunities for all students to learn and achieve
- To promote student's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

Curriculum Structure

The subjects studied through the school are as follows:

Year 9

Maths and Science taught in ability groups

English taught in mixed ability groups

Modern Foreign Language taught in ability groups

Design and Technology, History, Geography, ICT/Computing, Art, Drama, Music, Dance, Theology and Ethics, PSHCE, and Business taught in tutor groups

All students also have lessons in PE/Games

Years 10 and 11

Maths and Science taught in ability groups

English language and literature is taught in mixed ability groups

Most students will study a Modern Foreign Language in ability groups. Around 20% of students are offered an alternative, although they can take a language if they choose to. Alternatives currently offered are history, geography, ECDL, and media studies, although this is assessed each year.

Most students will study a Design and Technology subject. Students are able to take music, dance, health and social care, or computing as an alternative.

All students study Theology and Ethics in tutor groups.

Students have two option choices from: Geography, History, Art, Business Studies, Dance, Drama, Health and Social Care, ICT, Computing, Music, and GCSE PE

All students also have lessons in PE/Games

Sixth Form

The Sixth Form curriculum is directed towards level 3 study, with the majority of courses being A level, although a range of BTECs are now available.

Students are able to choose a combination of A levels and BTECs.

Students who have not yet passed GCSE Maths or English are required to continue to study these subjects.

Curriculum Objectives

The school's curriculum meets the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and other relevant legislation, but also has other objectives:

Learning

- To help students to develop lively enquiring minds, to be capable of independent thought and experience the enjoyment of learning
- To enable students to achieve results commensurate with their potential and to develop their motivation
- To encourage the appreciation of the intrinsic value of knowledge and respect the discipline of study
- To enable students to research into learning, learn how to learn, and make the most effective use of the technologies available to them

Provision

- To provide a range of opportunities for students to develop scientific, technological and vocational skills
- To build on all learners successes in the curriculum and provide the best opportunities for them to meet the requirements of society in literacy and numeracy
- To provide a range of opportunities for students to develop scientific and technological skills
- To encourage the awareness of health and fitness through participation in physical activities
- To provide an atmosphere in which spiritual, social, moral and cultural values may flourish
- To provide opportunities for aesthetic development

Curriculum opportunities

The school ensures that students are equipped with essential knowledge that they need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said, helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

A broad and balanced curriculum provides the following opportunities:

- Curriculum choice that is able to meet individual needs and offer clear progression routes, particularly at 16 and 18
- Encouragement to learn in both curricular and extra-curricular activities. strategy
- Work related learning experiences and independent information, advice and guidance
- Preparation for the responsibilities of life and students' cultural development
- Experience of the investigative and enquiry process

Evaluation and Monitoring

The curriculum offered by the school is being monitored and evaluated regularly, particularly in the light of any changes in the statutory expectations of the school. This includes monitoring through regular line management meetings and the school improvement cycle.

Each year the options on offer to Year 9 students are considered in the context of what will best suit the students and the resources that the school has to offer.

The curriculum is considered in the context of achieving value for money, and changes to Sixth Form funding have been reflected in changes to the Sixth Form curriculum. The curriculum is also considered in the context of local employment factors and the economic characteristics of the region.

The curriculum policy should be considered with other relevant documents and complementary policies.

Further Information

School prospectus

Sixth Form prospectus

Year 9 Option booklet

Homework policy

List of extra-curricular activities and clubs

Schemes of work

Performance tables (National and Dorset)

Amendments

