

Curriculum Outline

The start of secondary school marks an exciting phase in the lives of our students. It is the period when they build on their primary education in a new environment. Our curriculum in years 7 and 8 is designed so that students can master the basics as well as extend their knowledge. Groups 3, 4 and 5 will be allocated more curriculum time English and mathematics to ensure that all students are supported to climb the mountain to university or a real alternative. Students who are making less progress than we would expect in the core may be expected to attend practice sessions in English, mathematics, science, geography, history and / or Spanish before school (from 7.30am). During Stretch lessons, Groups 1 and 2 are challenged to extend their thinking by participating in weekly dialectic lectures. These lectures will focus on enquiry-based themes around critical thinking, philosophy, politics and ethics.

Our curriculum in Years 9, 10 and 11 is broad and balanced with a strong core in the EBacc (English, mathematics, science, one language and history / geography) and a range of high value subject options such as design and technology, music and PE. We have limited the number of GCSE subjects to be studied by our students. This will reduce the exam burden and help ensure that our students are given the time and opportunity to develop intellectually.

One afternoon per week, students take part in co-curricular. In Years 7 and 8, they have the opportunity to compete in competitive games alongside six additional electives. Students move elective each half-cycle ensuring they study a full and rich curriculum. In games, students compete in seasonal sports, with the opportunity to play both recreationally and / or compete in the Dixons Cup and other competitions across Bradford. Additionally, students can also elect into Rugby Union, delivered by external coaches, mastering a sport we do not currently offer within the PE curriculum. During the remaining electives, students will, for example, study how to communicate and converse using sign or understand key health and safety considerations before embarking on producing healthy meals.

Students continue to take part in co-curricular in Years 9 and 10. In Year 9, all students complete a cycle of Duke of Edinburgh as they work towards their Bronze award. This co-curricular sees students engage in team-building activities, first aid and essential camping skills all focused around our Academy values and drivers. In Year 10, all students complete a cycle of health and well-being focusing heavily on what it means to be physically, socially and emotionally healthy. During this elective, students will understand why it is important to lead a healthy, active lifestyle embarking on activities such as yoga, box fit, strength and conditioning and meditation, a skill set they can take into adult life. Co-curricular electives (CCE) in the arts, sport and science further enhance the education being offered to students at Key Stage 4.

Students can elect to pursue an examined curriculum in one of DT / Art / Textiles or Music or PE; however, they study key content for whichever elements they are not examined in throughout Year 9 and Year 10 through our co-curricular elective offer. From within the co-curricular choices, two are narrowed to ensure students cover the curricular breadth of the subjects they have elected not to be examined in. The remaining choices provide absolute additionality and are structured around students' health, wellbeing and the continuing development of facilitating cultural capital.

Subjects studied and time allocations

	Weekly Lesson Allocation				
Subject	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
English	5/6	5/6	5	5	5
Mathematics	5/6	5/6	5	5	5
Science	4	4	5	6	6
History	1	1	1/2	0/3	0/3
Geography	1	1	2/1	3/0	3/0
RE	1	1	2	2	2
MFL	3	3	3	3	3
Art / DT	2	2	*		
Music	1	1	*		
Examined option(s)			4	3	4
Computing	1	1	*	2	1
Core PE	2	2	2	2	1
Stretch lecture	2/0	2/0			
Co-Curricular	1.5	1.5	1.5		
Drill	0.5	0.5	0.5		
Prep	1	1		1	2
Total	31	31	31	32	32

*studied in examined options / Co-Curricular / Drill

