

## Senior School Curriculum Policy

*(to be read in conjunction with Promoting British Values Policy, SEND Policy, EAL Policy, PSHE Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy, Careers Policy and Transgender Policy)*

### Introduction

In accordance with Section 8 of the Education Act 1996, we aim to offer a varied and balanced curriculum which allows pupils to achieve their potential in a stimulating and supportive atmosphere.

Pupils gain experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education and acquire speaking, listening, literacy and numeracy skills.

Careful attention is paid to the needs of the individual pupil and wherever possible, a tailored programme will be created to stretch the most able or support the least confident. Schemes of work take into account the ages, aptitudes and needs of all pupils, including those pupils with an EHC plan and do not undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Comprehensive Careers advice is presented in an impartial manner, enabling pupils to make informed choices about a broad range of careers options and helps to encourage them to fulfil their potential.

Pupils below the compulsory school age enjoy a range of activities appropriate to their educational needs in relation to personal, social, emotional and physical development and communication and language skills. Likewise for pupils above the compulsory school age, a programme of activities is devised which is appropriate to their needs.

All pupils have the opportunity to learn and make progress and receive effective preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in British society.

### Timetable

The school week consists of 32 one-hour lesson blocks which includes a compulsory lesson of PSHE for one hour each week from Remove through to Upper Five. A full academic programme is taught on Saturday mornings, which consists of three one hour lessons for Remove through to Lower Sixth. Saturday morning school operates on a two-week timetable to ensure an even allocation to subjects.

### The Curriculum

The curriculum begins with a wide range of compulsory subjects, developing broadly based skills and interests. As pupils progress through the school their choice of subjects becomes increasingly specialised, culminating with their A Level choices. The subject matter will be appropriate for the ages and aptitudes of pupils, including those pupils with a statement and ensures that all pupils acquire speaking, listening, literacy and numeracy skills. In addition, pupils receive appropriate personal, social and health education which reflects the school's aims and ethos and appropriate careers guidance is provided. It is our intention that all pupils have the opportunity to learn and make progress and that they are adequately prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

From Moreton Hall Prep onwards the school strives to go beyond the National Curriculum, offering over 20 subjects at both GCSE and A Level; average class sizes of 15 and a strong personal tutor system.



## PSHE/RSE

The school has created a comprehensive PSHE/RSE curriculum that is delivered across all year groups. The PSHE co-ordinator has worked closely with the PSHE association as well as utilising key Government recommendations for PSHE, RSE and Citizenship delivery in order to make the PSHE curriculum broad enough to prepare students for life in British society. PSHE topics are broken down to the relevant year group and then a select team of PSHE teachers deliver the lessons to students in a protected one hour lesson delivered each week.

In order to ensure that students are receiving PSHE in all areas of the school, all Heads of Department have had the opportunity to see the PSHE/RSE programme as well as the topics that are needed to be taught to prepare students properly. All Heads of Department provide the PSHE co-ordinator with information regarding how individual lessons within their subjects can aid the delivery of PSHE/RSE elements to show students that the topics we cover have real cross-curricular relevance and key messages are further reinforced.

Throughout the PSHE programme for all year groups the PSHE co-ordinator has built in topics that prepare students for life in British Society and reinforce British Values. Topics covered range from Politics and voting, environmental needs, respect and the need for working together, gender and sexuality, online pornography and its consequences, money matters and debt to name just a few. In addition to a range of relevant topics, the PSHE co-ordinator has also worked closely with the Careers team to incorporate relevant career lessons in order to fully prepare students for the many choices they will face throughout their school lives and the world beyond.

### Next Steps (Careers)

The work of the department is shaped by the Gatsby Benchmarks and allows all pupils to progress to their chosen next steps after Moreton. The information, advice and guidance encompasses 4 distinct strands:

- Careers
- Higher Education
- Work Experience and Apprenticeships
- Gap Years

Led by the Head of Department and supported by the Senior Sixth Form Tutor, the extensive Next Steps Programme is embedded throughout the curriculum and across all year groups. Colleagues throughout the school contribute to the programme through the PSHE curriculum, the Rylands Diploma, use of the Unifrog platform, Oxbridge tutoring and in their role as academic tutors. In the Sixth Form, tutors are experienced in supporting students with their university applications or alternative post A level plans.

All pupils benefit from the variety of activities arranged by the department including Unifrog personality and psychometric testing (L5/U5), the Annual Careers Fair (U5 & L6) and talks from outside speakers. Equally, all students have access to information in the Next Steps (Careers) Room in the Library and on the school's VLE, Firefly. The online booking system on Firefly allows all students to have open access to staff.

Engagement with parents is a vital part of the department's work and regular briefings are offered at every key stage of the school journey. The department also engages in a significant amount of outreach work with the local community including at the Careers Fair, through weekly talks and with bespoke events such as the Careers Roadshows and Medicine Conference.



## **Remove, Lower Four, Upper Four (Years 7, 8, 9)**

A broad curriculum is maintained in these years to encourage pupils to explore their interests and strengths whilst starting to develop their skills and knowledge for the GCSE years ahead. The curriculum includes core subjects: Mathematics, English and Science, which is taught as three separate subjects. The GCSE syllabus is started in U4 in Mathematics. Additionally, pupils study Art, Design and Technology, Drama, Food Technology, Spoken English, Geography, History, Classical Civilisation, Computing, Latin, Spanish, French, Mandarin Chinese, Music and Religious Studies. PSHE and PE is a compulsory part of the curriculum for all year groups.

Students in Remove, L4 and U4 are set by ability in all subjects.

## **GCSE Curriculum Lower Five – Upper Five (Years 10-11)**

Students in L5 and U5 are set by ability in Mathematics, English and Science. Mathematics and English are allocated four teaching hours per week; each Science subject in Lower Five is allocated three hours. In the Upper Five, those pupils studying Combined Science drop from three to two hours in each Science subject, with the third hour converted to a prep session which is allocated to a specialist Science teacher; the Separate Sciences remain as three hours per week for each Science subject. Most students choose to study nine GCSEs, although some take more. Most students start with nine GCSEs in the first term of Lower Five and then they may drop one in the first term. Three hours per week are allocated to each GCSE optional subject.

*Core subjects for all students include:*

Mathematics

English (Language and Literature)

Science (either Combined award or three Separate Subjects)

*Students can then choose from the following optional courses:*

Art (and Textiles)

Business

Computer Science

Drama

Food Preparation and Nutrition

French

Geography

Greek

History

Latin

Mandarin Chinese

Music

PE

Religious Studies

Spanish

Welsh





## **A Level – Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth (Years 12 and 13)**

Most students choose to study three A Levels, although some take four. Most students start with four A Levels in the first term of Lower Sixth and then continue with three of those subjects to A Level after dropping one in the first term. Those who wish to can continue their fourth subject to A Level. Five hours per week are allocated to each A Level subject.

*Subjects currently offered at A Level include:*

Art and Design  
Biology  
Business  
Chemistry  
Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin)  
Classical Civilisation  
Economics  
English Literature  
Further Mathematics  
French  
Geography  
German  
Greek  
History  
History of Art  
Japanese  
Latin  
Mathematics  
Music  
Photography  
Physics  
Physical Education  
Psychology  
Religious Studies  
Russian  
Spanish  
Textiles  
Theatre Studies

