

### 3.11

## THE CURRICULUM

### AIMS

The school aims to:

- ensure that pupils develop the essential literacy and numeracy skills;
- provide pupils with a full and rounded entitlement to learning;
- foster pupils' creativity and develop essential skills, including learning skills;
- promote a healthy lifestyle;
- inspire pupils to a commitment to learning which will last a lifetime;
- promote high standards in all learning and teaching; and
- promote community cohesion.

The school's curriculum is balanced and broadly based, and promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of our pupils and of society and prepares our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Pupils are expected to acquire skills in speaking and listening, literacy and numeracy skills.

Personal, social, health and citizenship education reflect the school's aims and ethos. This includes an emphasis upon community cohesion.

Religious education is also provided for all pupils.

Appropriate careers guidance is offered including advice when making options for GCSE or A level courses and when making applications to Higher Education.

### Curriculum Booklets

More detailed aims and the full details of the curriculum can be found in the three Curriculum Booklets, one for Years 7 to 9, one for Years 10 and 11 and one for the Sixth Form. These booklets are available to view on the School's website. However, listed below are the aims for Year 7 to 11 and the Sixth Form.

### Aims of the Curriculum (Years 7 to 11)

- To encourage enthusiastic, enquiring and informed minds
- To foster all forms of communication: in oral and written English; through drama, music and art; in at least one foreign language; and through mathematical, scientific and technological discovery
- To provide opportunities for self expression and aesthetic appreciation
- To promote individual excellence through the pursuit of sporting, recreational and cultural activities
- To develop moral and spiritual values within a Christian environment, and to teach tolerance of others' views
- To provide a balance between the various areas of learning, and to allow an informal choice for further study
- To foster a continuous and progressive acquisition of knowledge and concepts, and a development of skills and attitudes.

- To provide a rich educational environment which encourages a range of teaching and learning styles
- To create carefully defined schemes of work which allow for differentiation of teaching matched to the abilities of the pupils
- To enable pupils to develop their special interests up to and beyond GCSE with a view to A level courses.

### **The aims of the Sixth Form Curriculum**

- To provide the opportunity to study subjects in depth through and beyond A level, and to conduct research as a foundation for future courses in Higher Education.
- To develop the skills of time management and to promote through self-discipline, self-motivation and self assessment the management and responsibility for students' own learning.
- To provide a diagnostic assessment of skills and aptitudes related to further study and future careers.
- To encourage enthusiastic, enquiring and informed minds.
- To provide opportunities for self-expression and aesthetic appreciation.
- To promote individual excellence through the pursuit of academic, sporting, creative, recreational and cultural activities.
- To develop moral and spiritual values within a Christian environment, and to teach tolerance of others' views.
- To foster a continuous and progressive acquisition of knowledge and concepts, and a development of skills and attitudes.
- To provide a rich educational environment which encourages a range of teaching and learning styles.
- To foster a sense of community within the College and provide the opportunity to contribute to the community outside.
- To provide the opportunity to play a key role in leading through example of behaviour, commitment and participation.
- To enable students to adapt comfortably to the more liberal atmosphere encountered at university.

## **PSHE**

The School has a Personal, Social and Health Education programme which is delivered in ranging forms to all years of the School under the direction of Mr Tom Mitchell.

In years 7-9 pupils' PSHE is delivered by the Form Tutor.

In years 10-11 a carousel system is employed. Issues involving citizenship, global concerns, careers, sexual health, drug education, study skills and personal finance are explored by a team of specialist teachers.

In the Sixth Form PSHE issues are dealt with through a variety of lectures and seminars and through the Community Service Programme.

Full details of the policy can be found on the school's web-site.

Reviewed May 10