

# The Duchess's Community High School

## Policy - Curriculum

### Aims of the Curriculum

The curriculum at DCHS supports the aims, ethos and values of the school by:

- Promoting the intellectual, aesthetic, moral, physical and social development of all students.
- Providing opportunities for the creative and performing arts to make a contribution to the education of young people.
- Ensuring that equality of opportunity in access to the curriculum is an entitlement.
- Ensuring that extra-curricular activities play an important part in school life.
- Providing students with every opportunity to be happy and successful learners.

### Organisation of the curriculum at DCHS

Our taught curriculum is delivered through a weekly timetable with each day divided into 6 periods.

The timing of the day is as follows:

Early Lunch			Late Lunch		
REG	08:50	09:05*	REG	08:50	09:05*
P1	09:10	10:00	P1	09:10	10:00
P2	10:00	10:50	P2	10:00	10:50
BREAK	10:50	11:10*	BREAK	10:50	11:10*
P3	11:15	12:05	P3	11:15	12:05
LUNCH	12:05	12:55*	P4	12:05	12:55
P4	13:00	13:45**	LUNCH	12:55	13:45*
P5	13:50	14:40*	P5	13:50	14:40*
P6	14:45	15:35	P6	14:45	15:35

### Year 7-9 (Key Stage 3)

All students in Years 7-9 follow a broad and balanced curriculum which builds on work done in primary/middle school in key stage 2. Regular liaison and planning meetings between primary/middle and high school colleagues from some departments ensures that transition and progression are smooth.

Subject	Periods per Week	Subject	Periods per Week
English	5	RE	1
Maths	5	Languages/Literacy*	2
Science	4	Art	2
PE	2	IT	1
Humanities	4	Life Studies*	1
Music	1	Technology	2

Year 7 and 8 only, have a life studies lesson. In year 9 we increase Languages/Literacy delivery to 3 periods per week in place of Life Studies.

## Years 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4)

The curriculum in Years 10 and 11 gives students further choice but within an overall framework that ensures they enjoy a broad and balanced education. All students follow a common core of subjects and supplement this with four option choices. A structured guidance programme ensures that option choices meet the needs of the individual student with learning pathways identified. Students must choose one ebacc subject along with one technology subject and two others.

Subject	Periods per Week
English and English Literature	5
Maths	5
Science	6
Pe	2
Option A	3
Option B	3
Option C	3
Option D	3

Options currently available are as follows:

### EBacc Options:

Geography, History, French, Spanish

### Technology and Arts Options:

Food Preparation & Nutrition, Engineering, Fashion & Textiles, Materials Technology, Music, Drama, Art, Craft & Design, Photography.

### Other Subjects:

Religious Studies, Uniformed Services, Child Development & Care, Health & Social Care, Hair & Beauty, Business Studies, PE, IT and Computer Science.

## Post 16 (Key Stage 5)

The post-16 curriculum is designed to ensure progression from Year 11 and on to university, further education, training or employment. We offer programmes of study at Level 3 and provide a wide range of academic and vocational qualifications. Prior to choosing their options all Year 11 students have two individual interviews with a senior member of staff before making their final choices along with the opportunity to meet with external agencies and an open-evening for student/parental advice on suitability of courses.

Subject	Periods per Week
Option A	5
Option B	5
Option C	5
Option D*	5
Additional Learning	2

\*Students are expected to study towards 3 A-levels unless further maths is studied as a 4<sup>th</sup> option.

### Additional Learning Options:

Maths GCSE Re-sit, English GCSE re-sit, Extended Project, Work Experience, Alnwick Gardens Volunteer work, Community Service, Sports Leadership, Supporting Teaching & Learning.

## Year 12

Most students in Year 12 take 3 subjects (two year courses) with an additional learning option.

This additional learning option includes GCSE English and GCSE Maths which is a compulsory lesson for students in the sixth form yet to secure a grade 4 or 5 in year 11.

## Level 2

We also have links with James Calvert Spence College where some students can choose to follow level 2 BTEC courses. These courses include: Fashion, Engineering & Construction. Students travel to James Calvert Spence College two days per week to access these courses and then complete the rest of their curriculum with us with access to a full day Work Experience to supplement their chosen course.

## Year 13

Students complete their studies in Year 13.

This additional learning option includes GCSE Maths – compulsory lessons for students in the sixth form yet to secure a grade 4 or 5 in year 11 or 12 and continuation of Extended Project if incomplete within one year.

**In addition to the above curriculum all post 16 students are expected to use at least one period of their week for supervised study time for each subject area.**

Revision Record of Issued Versions			
Author	Creation Date	Version	Status
JMS	June 2017	1	Posted to website and Group Shared
Changed by	Revision Date		June 2018

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