

## **CURRICULUM POLICY**

### **Introduction**

Luckley House School is committed to providing a rigorous academic and intellectual education which will challenge and engage pupils, offer continuity and progression of learning to foster a life-long love of learning for its own sake and provide them with a secure foundation on which to continue to Higher Education and into the careers of their choice.

All pupils of compulsory school age receive a full-time supervised education. This education is intended to give pupils experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative aspects (ISSR (2)(2)(a)).

In years 7 – 11, the core curriculum of subjects provides the opportunity for pupils to acquire skills in speaking and listening, literacy and numeracy (ISSR (2) (2) (b)). These are further developed in other subjects beyond the core. Pupils are taught 52 periods per fortnight (mostly in 60 minute periods, with some 55 minute periods).

Almost all pupils study a core curriculum of Mathematics, English, Science, a Modern Foreign Language (French, Spanish or German) and a Humanity (RS, History or Geography) with general RE studied until the end of Key Stage 4, and there is also the opportunity to build other subjects in from the option choices. As far as possible and quite deliberately, the school chooses each year to build the timetable around pupil's choices and so there are no predetermined 'Option Blocks'. The school aims to accommodate these choices as far as possible and in accordance with sufficient demand.

All curriculum subject matter is appropriate for the age and aptitudes of the pupils in each school year, including any pupils with English as an Additional Language and any pupils with a statement of special educational needs/disability whose needs are reviewed annually (ISSR (2)(2)(g)). Our curriculum provision enables all pupils to have the opportunity to learn and make progress including those with special educational needs/disabilities (ISSR (2)(2)(h)). Every opportunity, for all pupils, is provided to enable pupils to develop their speaking, listening, Literacy and Numeracy skills, as set out in schemes of work for each curriculum area.

The curriculum provides for the teaching of Personal, Social, Health, Economic and Citizenship Education (PSHECE). The PSHECE curriculum reflects the school's aims and ethos. Great care is taken to encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the 2010 Act (ISSR (2)(2)(d)). One of the core values of the school is 'love and service' and love and respect is continuously promoted in academic lessons, in extra-curricular activities, through House activities, through charitable activities such as RAG weeks, through pastoral time and through Assemblies. A number of elements of the PSHECE curriculum are covered within the teaching of other academic subjects in all years, including the Sixth Form. Form tutor times and Assemblies are also used for this purpose.

The curriculum provides for pupils to receive access to accurate, up to date careers guidance that is presented in an impartial manner, enables them to make informed choices about a broad range of

career options and helps to encourage them to fulfil their potential (ISSR (2)(2)(e)). A wide range of resources are used to deliver careers in from school alumni.

The curriculum ensures the effective preparation of pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in British society (ISSR (2)(2)(l)). Pupils are well prepared through a broad and well-balanced curriculum that enables them to gain good examination results as well as wider skills required for success at university, in the workplace and beyond.

The school actively promotes British values:

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process; this is achieved, for example, through the study of the development of democracy in History and through the work of the elected Head Pupil team. At times of general elections, for example, mock elections are held to expose pupils to the process of electing a government.
- An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their well-being and safety.; this is achieved, for example through the discussion of school rules and through work in the RE curriculum.
- An understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account by parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence. This is achieved through the PSHECE curriculum and can form parts of discussions in tutor time.
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths or beliefs (or having none) is protected in law; this is achieved, for example, through work within the RE curriculum and through encouraging respect for other people in the classroom, during tutor time and through assemblies.
- An acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour; this is achieved through work within the RE curriculum and through encouraging respect for other people in the classroom, during tutor time and through assemblies.
- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination. All teaching staff would challenge discrimination and discriminatory attitudes as a matter of course.

### **Years 7, 8 and 9**

In years 7, 8 & 9 all pupils study the same subjects. Subjects covered include English, Mathematics, Science, Modern Languages, Classics (year 7 only), Humanities (Geography, History and RE), Aesthetic subjects (Art, Food Technology, Textiles Technology, Drama and Music), ICT, PE and Games (ISSR (2)(2)(a)).

French, Spanish and German are studied in years 7 in a carousel with pupils choosing two languages to study in year 8. For those with an identified need it may not be appropriate to study two modern foreign languages, in which case guided study time with support for literacy and numeracy will be provided.

English and Mathematics are set from year 7 and Science is set from year 9.

Aspects of PSHECE are taught via Form Tutors during tutor time as well as in dedicated lessons.

Latin is available in the extended day for those with particular aptitude.

## **Years 10 and 11**

All pupils follow a significant core GCSE curriculum of English (Language and Literature), Mathematics, Science (IGCSE Separate Sciences in the first instance, some pupils may take IGCSE Double Award Science according to aptitude)\*. The majority of pupils will also take a Modern Foreign Language (French, German or Spanish) and a Humanities subject (RS, Geography or History). They also have PE and Games lessons. PSHECE is taught in tutor time and in dedicated lessons.

At least the top set in Science will take three separate Science IGCSEs, with the lower set taking IGCSE Double Award Science. All Science is taught by specialists.

Having a core curriculum (including MFL and a Humanity subject) ensures a broad and balanced curriculum. Pupils have a choice of two further GCSE subjects from the following:

- A second Modern Foreign Language
- A second Humanities subject
- Art
- Computer science
- Food Technology
- Design and Technology
- Business Studies
- Drama
- Music
- PE

Latin GCSE is available in the extended day provided pupils have studied it since year 8.

A small number of pupils may not opt to study a Modern Foreign Language, or a Humanities subject. In these cases three options can be chosen from the above list, and guidance is offered at the time this choice is made. In many cases a reduced number of GCSE subjects is taken because of an identified need in which case a support programme will be in place along with extra time for private study.

## **Years 12 and 13 (Sixth Form)**

Most year 12 pupils study 3 A2 subjects through to year 13. It is possible, for particularly able pupils to 4 subjects to A level. All Sixth Form students attend enrichment sessions, and Games lessons and a significant number study the Level 3 Extended Project Qualification course in year 12 and the first term of year 13

Subjects available:

Art and Design, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Economics and Business, Classical Civilisation, Computer Science, Design and Technology, Textiles, Drama and Theatre Studies, English Literature, French, German, Spanish, Geography, History, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Psychology, Philosophy and Ethics.