

# Curriculum Overview

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum based on the National Curriculum. We follow a 2-week timetable that consists of 40 one-hour lessons and ten 50-minute lessons. The numbers on the tables below indicate numbers of sessions per fortnight

## Key Stage 3

### Year 7

English	Maths	Science	MFL (French or Spanish)	RE	History	Geography	DT	PE	Art	Music	Computing	ViP
6	6	6	5	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	1

### Year 8 and 9

English	Maths	Science	MFL (French or Spanish)	RE	History	Geography	DT	PE	Art	Music	Computing	ViP
6	6	6	6	3	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	1

### Setting and Banding

There is some setting in year 7 in Maths and additionally from Year 8 there is banding in Modern Foreign Languages.

# Curriculum Overview

## Key Stage 4

Core examined subjects are: Maths, English Literature, English Language, Science. Core non-examined subjects are: PE, ViP and RE. Students also select up to 3 additional GCSE options from: History, Geography, Separate Sciences, French, German or Spanish, Computing, Design Technology Product Design, Textiles, Art, Photography, Music, Physical Education, Food and Nutrition (ends 2024), Business Studies, Media Studies and Drama with Technical Awards in Health and Social Care, Child Development and Hospitality and Catering (first exam 2025). Most students sit 9 GCSEs or equivalent.

We also offer twilight options in German (current Year 10) and Spanish, German, French and a Technical Award in Engineering (first exams 2025) and Entry Level Computing for all KS4 students by the end of Year 10 (input in Terms 5 and 6 – delivered in non-lesson slots: Eucharists and tutor time). We offer a total of **22 GCSEs and 3 Technical awards**.

Teaching is in mixed ability groups except for Maths (which has ability sets 1 to 8 with some parallel setting within), RE (which has a “top set” and three mixed ability groups in each band) and Science (which has higher and lower groups). We are running small groups in English, Maths and Science from 2023 for SEND students who also benefit from time devoted to developing life skills and supporting the curriculum in one or two option blocks on a case-by-case basis. Students can also study one of 17 community language GCSEs.

Years 10 and 11

English	Maths	Science	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Values in Practice	Core Physical Education	Twilight GCSEs (optional)
7	7	10	5	5	5	2	4	5

# Curriculum Overview

## Key Stage 5

Students select 3 or 4 A Level/L3 BTEC options from the choice of **34 options** in our prospectus. Most will reduce to three subjects when they are confident that this is the right combination for their strengths and future plans.

All students have 1 lesson per week of Core/Tutorials with their personal tutor in addition to morning registration and assembly time.

All students are expected to take a supplementary option for at least one period per week to develop their wider skills and awareness – for most of Year 12 this is either our Extension Studies programme (citizenship, thinking skills etc) or an additional Maths course (GCSE resit or Maths Studies), by Year 13 this might also be the Extended Project Qualification or regular work-experience, volunteering, in-class support of younger students or online learning.

All students are expected to engage in some work-related learning and/or volunteering during their period of study.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4 (if chosen)	Core/Tutorial	Supplementary options
Year 12	9 *	9 *	9 *	9 *	2	2-4
Year 13	10	10	10	10	2	2-4

\* 10 periods if Maths in Year 12