

Curriculum Aims:

- Fully support our students to be happy, healthy and safe in the modern world.
- Empower our students to know more, remember more, and be able to do more.
- Inspire our students to strive for excellence and success throughout their lives.
- Prepare our students to be both literate and numerate.
- Do our best to ensure our students aspire, thrive and belong to our school community.

Our broad and balanced curriculum concentrates on developing our students' key knowledge and skills, and enhances their understanding of the world around them.



	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
Number of Students	180	180	210	180	150	125	100
Minimum Viable Classes	6	6	7	6	5	N/A	N/A
Bespoke Banding System	No	No	Yes	No	No	New 5 Block System	Old 4 Block System





	Hours Per Fortnight	Number of Classes
English	8	8
Maths	8	7
Sciences	8	6
ADT	3	8
PE	4	6
Spanish	4	4
French	4	2
Computing	2	6
Geography	3	6
History	2	6
RE	2	6
Drama	2	6
Music	2	6
PSHE	2	6

Eng | Ma | Sci
Percentage:

48%

French is taught by SHR, one class on either side of the year group.

ADT is on rotation and maintains 8 classes to spread out numbers (For Health and Safety in Workshops / Kitchens)

RE requires two hours a fortnight, and Humanities has 7 hours to use.

In Year 7, Geography is on 3 Hours.



90 Students,
split into three
or four

English
Set 1 - 4

Maths
Set 1 - 4

PE
Class 1 - 3

ADT
Class 1 - 4

Science
Set 1 - 3

X

90 Students,
split into three
or four

English
Set 1 - 4

Maths
Set 1 - 4

PE
Class 1 - 3

ADT
Class 1 - 4

Science
Set 1 - 3

Y

- **PSHE** is taught in **tutor groups every Monday Period 1** following the morning huddle.
- **Banding structure** is following our default 180-intake pattern.
- Any class with “x”, “y” or “z” in the name are **set based on ability**. Other ‘alphabet’ classes are **mixed ability**.
- **All other subjects** have **6 classes** split across the fortnight and share the same students per class. Banding affects them, with classes A, B and C in X-band. D, E and F in Y-Band.

7a/Hi1

7b/Hi1

7c/Hi1

7d/Hi1

7e/Hi1

7f/Hi1

Banding will be organised by the transition team using their knowledge of the students, in combination with their KS2 SATS scores.



	Hours Per Fortnight	Number of Classes
English	8	8
Maths	8	7
Sciences	8	6
ADT	3	8
PE	4	6
Spanish	4	4
French	4	2
Computing	2	6
Geography	2	6
History	3	6
RE	2	6
Drama	2	6
Music	2	6
PSHE	2	6

Eng | Ma | Sci
Percentage:

48%

French is taught by SHR, one class on either side of the year group.

ADT is on rotation and maintains 8 classes to spread out numbers (For Health and Safety in Workshops / Kitchens)

RE requires two hours a fortnight, and Humanities has 7 hours to use.

In Year 8, History is on 3 Hours.



90 Students,
split into three
or four

English
Set 1 - 4

Maths
Set 1 - 4

PE
Class 1 - 3

ADT
Class 1 - 4

Science
Set 1 - 3

X

90 Students,
split into three
or four

English
Set 1 - 4

Maths
Set 1 - 4

PE
Class 1 - 3

ADT
Class 1 - 4

Science
Set 1 - 3

Y

- **PSHE** is taught in **tutor groups every Monday Period 1** following the morning huddle.
- **Banding structure** is following our default 180-intake pattern.
- Any class with “x”, “y” or “z” in the name are **set based on ability**. Other ‘alphabet’ classes are **mixed ability**.
- **All other subjects** have **6 classes** split across the fortnight and share the same students per class. Banding affects them, with classes A, B and C in X-band. D, E and F in Y-Band.

8a/Hi1

8b/Hi1

8c/Hi1

8d/Hi1

8e/Hi1

8f/Hi1

Banding and grouping of students should be mostly identical to 2024-25, with minor tweaks from pastoral team. There is currently an imbalance with more students in Y than X.

Key Adaptations and Choices in Key Stage 3:

Booster Classes for English and Maths

To better support our lowest ability students in Key Stage 3, we run a fourth class in English and Maths, ensuring they receive more tailored and focused instruction from experienced professionals. These students often require a slower pace, greater scaffolding, and more opportunities for one-to-one guidance to build confidence and essential skills. By reducing the class size and adapting the curriculum to meet individual needs, we aim to close foundational gaps and prepare them for future learning.

Art, Design and Technology Provision

In KS4, our curriculum offer is incredibly diverse. We want to ensure the flavour of Key Stage 3 is equally as broad. Part of this is giving everyone the opportunity to go beyond Art and experience the full range of our ADT department via a half-termly rota.

Modern Foreign Language & Science

We've invested in expanding our languages offer over the past few years and now we offer two subjects from the start of Year 7. Students are given the freedom to choose which language they would prefer. Science has a greater than average allocation of hours due to the growing demands in STEM and the variation in Science experience from Primary.

Increase in RE Provision

Following guidance from SACRE, we've increased the hours in humanities to better accommodate the teaching of Religious Education. However, to make sure it doesn't reduce the scope of Geography and History, we've opted to give Geography an additional hour in Year 7 and History in Year 8.

Meeting the needs of the future

Skills in Technology and Craft are becoming more sought after in the market of tomorrow, particularly with the growing trends in AI. A student in Key Stage 3 will engage in 5 hours of lessons a fortnight developing their computing and ADT proficiencies, going through the basics they'll need in a modern job as well as providing inspiration for what they wish to do in the future.

Community and fostering communication skills

Drama, Music, and PSHE work together to develop students' communication, empathy, and social awareness. Drama fosters collaboration and emotional, Music enhances self-expression and teamwork and PSHE provides a structured space for exploring relationships, mental health, citizenship, and career pathways. Students at RFSS engage with this for 6 hours a fortnight.



	Hours Per Fortnight	Number of Classes
English	8	8
Maths	8	8
Sciences	9	7
ADT	3	8
PE	4	8
Spanish	4	5
French	4	2
Computing	2	7
Geography	2	7
History	2	7
RE	2	7
Drama	2	7
Music	2	7
PSHE	2	7

Eng | Ma | Sci
Percentage:

50%

French is taught by SHR with two classes – 9a and 9e

ADT is on rotation and maintains 8 classes to spread out numbers (For Health and Safety in Workshops / Kitchens)

Science needs to go up to 9 hours in Year 9 onwards, to cover GCSE content. Humanities then goes down to six hours, 2 hours shared across each subject.



105 Students,
split into three
or four

English
Set 1 - 4

ADT
Set 1 - 4

PE
Class 1 - 4

Maths

Vertical
Group
Setting

Science

Vertical
Group
Setting

X

105 Students,
split into three
or four

English
Set 1 - 4

ADT
Set 1 - 4

PE
Class 1 - 4

Y

- **PSHE** is taught in **tutor groups every Monday Period 1** following the morning huddle.
- **Banding structure** has been tweaked further to accommodate a vertical set of Maths classes. The only subjects affected by banding are **English, ADT and PE**.
- **All other subjects** have **7 classes** split across the fortnight and share the same students per class. Students can be moved between any class without affecting banding:

9a/Hi1

9b/Hi1

9c/Hi1

9d/Hi1

9e/Hi1

9f/Hi1

9g/Hi1

Banding and grouping of students will be reviewed more heavily to better accommodate SRP students transition into Mainstream.

Additional adaptations and choices for Year 9 Specifically

210 Student Cohort

Due to the larger size of the year group, we've had to separate the banding system between departments which offered 8 classes and those which we don't have 'booster' classes for. We need scope for extra flexibility due to the larger presence of students with additional needs (those within our Specialist Resource Provisions). This has meant a non-traditional approach to how the population is managed, and no banding for the 'alphabet' subjects.

Art, Design and Technology Choices

Subjects within this department are very popular during the options process, so all students in Year 9 get to choose which branches to study from September to better prepare them for their decisions in January.

Modern Foreign Languages

We now offer two languages through to KS4, an investment which will increase the number of students leaving with improved communication skills necessary to be a global citizen.

Increase in Science Provision

Due to the volume of content in the Science GCSE courses, and to help bridge the transition between KS3 and KS4, Science increases its hours to **9 hours a fortnight** in Year 9.

Balancing KS3 and KS4 curriculums

Some schools start KS4 in Year 9, some in Year 10. Our Year 9 cohort graduate to KS4 officially at Easter, to enable them to access the full breadth of the KS3 curriculum and go into KS4 with all the foundational skills needed to succeed. Starting at Easter also enables slightly extra time to fit the ever-expanding KS4 curriculum in. This has been particularly useful for coursework heavy subjects.

Maths and Science Vertical Classes

From Year 9, all Maths lessons are taught 'vertically', with no division between x-band and y-band. This allows for great adaptability where students have 8 classes to move between on the timetable. Science follows the same approach, meaning that finding the right 'set' for students is much easier without disrupting any other subjects. This also improves our ability to offer Triple Science without disrupting class lists.



Core	Hours Per Fortnight	Number of Classes
English	8	7*
Maths	8	7*
Sciences	9	6
PE	3	6
PSHE	2	6

Eng | Ma | Sci
Percentage:

50%

Options			21 Subjects offered, five hours per class
Art	Geography x 3	Textiles	
Business Studies x 2	Health and Social	Sociology x 2	
Computer Science	History x 4	Spanish x 3	
Drama	Hospitality	Study Support	
Food Technology	Media	French (NEW)	
GCSE PE x 2	Music	RE SC (NEW)	
Sport Studies x 2	Psychology		
	Resistant Materials		

*English and Maths will run an Entry-Level class (Set 7) each, with a view to get some students to step up to the full GCSE before end of Year 11



75 Students,
split into three
classes

English
Set 1 - 3

Maths

Vertical
Group
Setting

PE
Class 1 - 3

Science

Vertical
Group
Setting

X

75 Students,
split into three
classes

English
Set 1 - 4

PE
Class 1 - 3

Y

- **PSHE** is taught in **tutor groups every Monday Period 1** following the morning huddle.
- **Science in Year 10** will have **6 classes** in a **vertical structure** (all taught at same time). Maths are vertical in KS4 too, with **7 classes**.
- **English** has their 7th class in the Y half, meaning that they will band select students specifically into Y to be in this class.
- **RE Short Course** will be in place of **one PSHE** lesson and **one Core-PE** lesson. This means that Short course students will also need to be in the same band.

Individual classes will remain similar, but banding will be refreshed between the pastoral team and English department



Core	Hours Per Fortnight	Number of Classes
English	8	6
Maths	8	6
Sciences	9	6
PE	3	6
PSHE	2	5

Eng | Ma | Sci
Percentage:

50%

Options			19 Subjects offered, five hours per class
Art	Geography x 3	Textiles	
Business Studies x 2	Health and Social	Sociology x 2	
Computer Science	History x 3	Spanish x 3	
Drama	Hospitality	Study Support	
Food Technology	Media	Resistant Materials	
GCSE PE	Music		
Sport Studies x 2	Psychology		

*ASDAN has been taken off of timetable due to lack of students to place in class.



75 Students,
split into three
classes

English
Set 1 - 3

Maths

Vertical
Group
Setting

PE
Class 1 - 3

Science

Vertical
Group
Setting

X

75 Students,
split into three
classes

English
Set 1 - 3

PE
Class 1 - 3

Y

- **PSHE** is taught in **tutor groups every Monday Period 1** following the morning huddle.
- **Science in Year 11** will have **6 classes** in a **vertical structure** (all taught at same time). Maths are vertical in KS4 too. This is one more class than required, to better accommodate entry-level students.
- **All other subjects** are taught in subject blocks, so are no longer dependent on banding. It is down to English to decide on X and Y banding.

For example, The teacher for 10x/En1 in 2024-25 will be teaching 11y/En1 in 2025-26. This will mean swapping the bands of these affected students.

Individual classes will remain similar, but banding will be refreshed between the pastoral team and English department

Key Adaptations and Choices for Key Stage 4:

Broad and Balanced

Whilst we require that students pick one subject from the Ebacc category for P8 and A8 reasons, we do not force any student to enrol on the full Ebacc certification. Students are allowed to make four option choices going into KS4, which will result in most students achieving **9 GCSEs at the end of Year 11** – English Language, English Literature, Maths, 2 or 3 Science grades, and their other choices.

Mix of GCSE and Vocational Courses

We offer and encourage students to maintain a diverse skillset, which often means picking vocational courses such as Sport Studies, Health and Social Care, and Media.

Personal Development

PSHE continues to be delivered by form tutors, who have got to know the students' needs, weaknesses and concerns across years by this point. This is particularly informative during Year 11 when prospects, applications and future decisions require assistance from staff that know them well.

Timings for Options

All option subjects are given five hours a fortnight for delivery. This comes at the cost of reducing general PE to 3 hours a fortnight, but allows all subjects equal weighting in their time.

Subjects which are more coursework heavy have to also be accommodated for with the facilities available. For example, Sport Studies is a popular course but requires availability of both IT rooms and Sport Facilities.

Subjects with heavy practical elements such as ADT are timetabled to ensure they have at least one **double period** in the cycle, so they are able to do practice and assessed practical work without disruption to other lessons.

English Timetabling

English and Maths continue to be the key qualifications for students nationally, and by timetabling under this structure, both English and Maths have the flexibility to move and adapt students between all classes without disrupting their learning elsewhere. Whilst English isn't taught vertically, it is only banded against recreational PE so it gets priority on where students will learn best.



Year 12
168 Students

- **New Five Block Structure** for Post-16 going forwards, to alleviate clashing lesson issues and allow students more flexibility in their choice combinations.
- **Block E** is 9 hours maximum, and independent study will now also follow block timetables.

Year 12 Option Blocks September 2025					
	A	B	C	D	E
A Levels	Chemistry History Maths Psychology	Geography Physics Sociology EPQ (MCH)	Biology Computer Science English Literature Product Design	English Lang & Lit Maths Philosophy & Ethics Sociology	Art Psychology EPQ (SBG) Further Maths
Vocational L3	AAQ Health & Social Care OCR Business	OCR Digital Media WJEC Criminology	WJEC Criminology BTEC Health & Social Care (Double)	OCR Sport	BTEC Health and Social Care (Double) OCR Sport (Double) AAQ Applied Science
L2 Pathway	GCSE Maths	L2 Health and Social Care	GCSE English	L2 Health and Social Care	L2 Health and Social Care

- **Enrichment** will have a rotating timetable, as different blocks take turns to only have 9 hours instead of 10.
- **Mentoring/PSHE** down to **one lesson a fortnight (Week 1 Monday P1)**. Will look to see how Sixth Form teachers can be utilised to cover any gaps that may arise.



- **Old Four Block Structure** for Year 13, continuing what they started in September 2024.
- **Transition Interviews** take place at end of Year 12 to assess student curriculum and pastoral needs going into their final year.

Year 13 Option Blocks September 2025				
	A	B	C	D
A Levels	Art Chemistry History Psychology Maths	Drama Product Design Physics Sociology	Biology English Literature Geography Psychology Comp Science	English Lang & Lit Maths Philosophy & Ethics Sociology
Vocational L3	BTEC Applied Science BTEC Health and Social Care (double) OCR Business	OCR Digital Media OCR Sport (double) WJEC Criminology	BTEC Food Science WJEC Criminology	OCR Sport BTEC Health and Social Care