

# Maricourt Catholic High School Curriculum Policy 2020/2021



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## **Introduction**

In accordance with the aims and mission of Maricourt, pupils should be provided with a curriculum to develop the whole person so that at the end of their school lives they are fully equipped intellectually, spiritually, physically and morally for the next stage in their education and life beyond.

The curriculum includes all the taught subjects but goes beyond these to include the formation of a clear moral code in line with Gospel Values so leading the individual young person to 'have life and have it to the full'. (John 10:10), to come to know God and fulfil His call to serve others in the service of the common good.

If you require further information about our curriculum, please contact the relevant subject leader or Mr Varey, deputy headteacher. (vareye@maricourt.net)

## **Principles**

- the curriculum reflects the aims and ambition of the National Curriculum
- the curriculum at KS3 spans three years and includes every subject in the National Curriculum
- the curriculum at KS4 has an academic core of EBAC subjects and wide range of option subjects
- the curriculum is sequenced and developmental, building each term on prior knowledge thus ensuring pupils become fluent and knowledgeable in every subject domain
- the curriculum includes opportunities for the development of pupils' cultural capital through an extensive programme of visits and trips both locally and globally
- the curriculum is adapted, remaining ambitious, to meet the needs of SEND pupils
- curriculum plans include clear end points in each subject which identify the standard expected
- the curriculum is broad and balanced, provides a wide range of subjects, preparing pupils for the next stage in their education or training and to be active citizens both in Britain and globally
- the curriculum develops pupils' spoken language, reading, writing and subject-specific vocabulary as central to the teaching of every subject
- the curriculum is clearly defined in schemes of learning by each subject area

Information about what is taught in the curriculum each year and in each subject is set out in detail on the school website. Information on extra-curricular activities and clubs is also published on the school website.

## **Religious Education**

Maricourt is a Roman Catholic school and the religious education it provides, within the timetable, is in conformity with the teaching of the Catholic Church. The aim of Religious Education, flowing from the school's mission statement, is to enable pupils to experience an awareness of a personal and loving God. It should help them to make a positive response to this love, thereby nourishing their faith and assisting them to be aware of a spiritual dimension of life. The whole curriculum is infused with the ethos of the mission statement and a distinctive Mercy ethos. Religious Education is taught by subject specialists at all key stages and includes approved qualifications at level 2 and level 3 for all pupils.

### **The curriculum at key stage 3 (Years 7 to 9)**

Curricular transition from KS2 is developed in partnership with our partner schools and through the MADCOS<sup>1</sup> partnership

Pupils study all subjects in the national curriculum.

### **The curriculum at KS4 (Years 10 and 11)**

Pupils study 9 GCSE/BTEC subjects. The curriculum includes separate science and the opportunity to study a second Foreign Language.

Pupils may study a range of academic and vocational subjects matched to their abilities and interests. RE, English and English Literature, maths, science, citizenship and PE remain part of the core curriculum. The availability of option subjects may be subject to demand.

### **The sixth-form curriculum**

Acceptance into the sixth form is by application. Entry requirements are set at qualification and subject level and are contained within the sixth form prospectus. A range of subjects are taught which build on students' prior learning and ensure progression to higher levels. The curriculum offer is designed to meet the needs, expectations and future study plans of each student. Students' personal, social and academic development are supported through PSHE days and as part of the Year 12 Enrichment programme. Students are allocated to tutor groups and attend a 15-minute tutorial session at the start of each day.

The curriculum includes a balance of academic and vocational subjects. A number of subjects are offered within 2 option blocks in partnership with Maghull High School. The quality of this provision is monitored closely and includes lesson visits and regular collaborative meetings. Joint curriculum planning between the 3 schools ensures that this offer operates effectively and maximises choice for students. The curriculum includes RE taught by specialist teachers leading to a recognised Level 3 qualification. A number of students complete the Edexcel Extended Project. Study programmes include planned, supervised private study where appropriate.

The sixth form curriculum includes an extensive programme of non-qualification activity, including work experience. This includes activities which prepare students for life in modern Britain. Sixth form enrichment takes place each Wednesday afternoon for all Year 12

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<sup>1</sup> Maghull and collaborative community of schools

students throughout the year and during designated days in Year 13. The curriculum content for this programme is available on the school website. A schedule of student-led assemblies takes place throughout the year. A rich offer of extra-curricular activities and trips are available, detailed in the sixth form section of the school website. Students are encouraged and invited to contribute to the wider life of the school community including as prefects, learning researchers, mentors and members of the school council. The head boy and head girl attend the Governors' curriculum committee.

GCSE mathematics and English are timetabled for students who have not achieved a good pass in these subjects

The sixth form offer includes Further Maths for suitably qualified students

## **Personal, Social, Health, Economic Education and Citizenship**

The school places great emphasis on the personal and social education of its pupils. There is a thorough programme of study across all key stages, which aims to prepare pupils for life in modern Britain and its challenges.

Citizenship is a national curriculum subject, delivered in the school by a combination of discrete lessons, as part of other subjects and by whole year events.

### **Careers Education**

Careers education starts in Year 7 through introductory lessons allowing the children to reflect on where they are now and on what they want to do in the future. The careers curriculum is designed to help the pupils plan and take control of their future. In Year 9, all students receive careers education lessons. The work is designed to help the children prepare for their options at both 14 and 16. Pupils in year 11, have access to an impartial careers advisor, who will interview some students formally on a one-to-one basis and others informally. At the end of year 11 students present their careers management file, which has been compiled over the three years, to the Sefton Education Partnership employer in order to gain an accreditation. Mock interviews with employers take place for year 11 and sixth form students

All year groups have the opportunity to develop their employability and enterprise skills through taking part in various activities on the whole school activity days. Examples include teamwork, presentation, finance, listening skills and creativity.

The three secondary schools in Maghull join together for a careers convention each year. Pupils and parents of students in years 11 and the sixth form are encouraged to attend. A sixth form information evening is held each January for prospective students. At the end of Year 10, all pupils take part in a two-week work experience programme. The aim is to give pupils first hand experience of the world of work. During each year, a variety of external providers speak to year groups between year 8 and 13 about employability including vocational, traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities.

**Year 7 Curriculum Diagram (Periods per Fortnight in brackets)**

RE (4)	Maths (6)		
PSHE (2)	English (6)	Music (2)	
Science (7)		Art (2)	Reading (1)
Spanish (4)	PE (4)	Computing	
History (3)	Geography (3)	Technology (3)	Drama (1)

Pupils are taught the following subjects in ability sets: English, Maths and Computing

**Year 8 Curriculum Diagram (Periods per Fortnight in brackets)**

RE (4)	Maths (6)	
PSHE (2)	English (6)	Music (2)
Science (7)		Tech (1) Computing (2)
Spanish (4)	PE (4)	Tech (2)
History (4)	Geography (4)	Art (2)

Pupils are taught the following subjects in sets: English, Science, Spanish, Computing, MFL and maths.

**Year 9 Curriculum Diagram (Periods per Fortnight in brackets)**

RE (4)		PSHE (2)	Spanish (4)		
Maths (7)				History (3)	
English (7)				Geography (3)	
Art (2)	Music (2)	Science (6)			
Computing (2)	Tech (2)	PE (4)	Careers (1)	Science (1)	

Pupils are taught the following subjects in sets: English, Science, Maths, MFL. History, Geography and Computing.

**Year 10 Curriculum Diagram (Periods per Fortnight in brackets)**

Combined Science (10)	
Option A (5)	RE (5)
Option B (5)	Option C (5)
English & English Literature (8)	PE (2)
Maths (9)	PSHE (1)

**Year 11 Curriculum Diagram (Periods per Fortnight in brackets)**

English & English Literature (9)	Science (1)
Option A (5)	RE (5)
Option B (5)	Option C (5)
Science (8)	PE (2)
Maths (9)	PSHE (1)

## KS4 Option Subjects

### Core Subjects

PSHEE / Citizenship

GCSE RE

GCSE Mathematics

GCSE English Language (EBAC subject)

GCSE English Literature (EBAC subject)

GCSE Combined Science (EBAC subject) or Triple Science (EBAC subject)

### Option Subjects

*Pupils must select one of the following subjects*

GCSE Spanish (EBAC subject)

GCSE Latin (EBAC subject)

GCSE Triple Science (EBAC subject)

GCSE Computing (EBAC subject)

GCSE History

GCSE Geography

*Pupils must then select 2 of the following subjects*

GCSE Computing (EBAC subject) or OCR National Certificate in Computer Use

GCSE Art and Design

GCSE Textiles

GCSE Constructing the Built Environment

GCSE Food Nutrition and Cooking

GCSE PE

GCSE Music

GCSE Spanish (EBAC subject)

GCSE History (EBAC subject)

GCSE Geography (EBAC subject)

GCSE Latin (EBAC subject)

GCSE Business Studies

BTEC Health and Social Care

BTEC Sports Studies

BTEC Dance

BTEC Performing Arts

BTEC Enterprise

\*a small group of pupils follow the ASDAN Certificate in Personal Effectiveness qualification across 2 option blocks.

## GCSE/BTEC Option Enrolments (four-year trend)

	GCSE Year			
	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Cohort</b>	218	243	221	236
History	98	126	97	56
Geography	114	81	90	127
<b>Humanity</b>	97%	85%	85%	78%
French	25	31	19	
Spanish	27	43	81	42
Mandarin			8	5
<b>MFL</b>	24%	30%	49%	20%
Art	40	37	65	64
Music	7	19	16	10
Performing Arts	12	18	8	14
Dance	8	7	14	17
<b>Expressive Arts</b>	31%	33%	47%	44%
Textiles	0	0	0	17
Food	9	10	10	13
Product Design	17	15	13	19
<b>Technology</b>	12%	10%	10%	21%
ICT	126	120	76	57
Computing	61	58	39	35
<b>ICT/Computing</b>	86%	73%	52%	39%
PE/Sport	37	50	30	63
Separate Science	0	22 (9%)	17 (8%)	24 (10%)
Business	37	54	47	97
Health & Social Care	17	17	30	29

### Sixth form Curriculum Diagram (periods per fortnight in brackets)

	Periods Allocated Per Fortnight
3 Option Subjects	9
RE	1
Enrichment (Year 12 only)	3
Private Study	18

Students continuing to study GCSE English and/or maths take these subjects in addition to 3 option subjects

**Year 12 Option Choices (2020/2021)** Vocational subjects are show in italics

<b>Option A</b>	<b>Option B</b>	<b>Option C</b>	<b>Option D</b>
Sociology	Physics	Psychology	Psychology
<i>Criminology</i>	<i>Business DBL</i>	<i>Business</i>	<i>Criminology</i>
Chemistry	<i>Health</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Dance</i>
<i>Health DBL</i>	Applied Business	Biology	<i>Business</i>
<i>ICT</i>	Further Maths	Geography	Maths
Computing	English Literature	<i>Sport</i>	Art
<i>Sport DBL</i>			History