



**MARICOURT**  
CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL  
& SIXTH FORM CENTRE

# CURRICULUM POLICY

## Mission Statement

Maricourt seeks to provide a living Catholic community which is rooted in Christian values and where growth and knowledge, respect love and fellowship are shared by all.

**INSPIRE**  
WITH  
MARICOURT

POLICY REVIEWED: March 2019  
SCHEDULED REVIEW: March 2022

## Table of Contents

Introduction.....	2
Principles.....	2
Religious Education.....	3
The curriculum at key stage 3 (Years 7 to 9).....	3
The curriculum at KS4 (Years 10 and 11) .....	3
The sixth form curriculum .....	3
Personal, Social, Health, Economic Education and Citizenship .....	4
Careers Education.....	4
Year 8 Curriculum Diagram (periods per fortnight in brackets) .....	6
Year 9 Curriculum Diagram (periods per fortnight in brackets) .....	7
Year 10 and 11 Curriculum Diagram (periods per fortnight in brackets) .....	7
KS4 Option Subjects .....	8
GCSE/BTEC Option Enrolments (three-year trend).....	9
Sixth form Curriculum Diagram (periods per fortnight in brackets).....	10

## Introduction

In accordance with the aims and mission of the school pupils should be provided with a curriculum to develop the whole person so that at the end of their school lives our students should be well 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 development 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'.

If you require further information about our curriculum, please contact the relevant subject leader or Mr Varey, Deputy Headteacher. ([vareye@maricourt.net](mailto:vareye@maricourt.net))

## Principles

- 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 includes opportunities for the effective spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils including extra-curricular, sporting and volunteering opportunities which develop character and resilience
- the curriculum actively promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs
- the curriculum focuses on the necessary priorities for ensuring that all pupils make excellent progress in reading, writing and mathematics
- each subject, where appropriate should develop mathematical fluency and confidence in numeracy and other mathematical skills
- the curriculum develops pupils' spoken language, reading, writing and vocabulary as integral aspects of the teaching of every subject
- the curriculum promotes high levels of achievement and good behaviour
- the curriculum links to the school's system of assessment and that together they set out what pupils are expected to know, understand and do, and when
- the curriculum is based on a balance between academic and vocational courses
- all pupils have an entitlement to the whole curriculum provision irrespective of their ability, gender or ethnicity.
- 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> and LINCOS<sup>2</sup> partnerships.

Pupils study all subjects in the national curriculum.

The year 7 curriculum includes a weekly 'Connections for Learning' lesson. This is designed to support thinking skills, social and emotional aspects of learning and to provide students with the opportunity to understand how they learn, learn from their mistakes, make connections and support the transference of skills across subjects and build resilience.

### 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. Where appropriate, pupils begin GCSE courses during Year 9

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 timetabled PSHE lessons. Students are allocated to tutor groups and attend a 15-minute tutorial session at the start of each day.

---

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

<sup>2</sup> Leadership in central Sefton Schools collaborative

The curriculum includes a balance of academic and vocational subjects. A number of subjects are offered within 2 option blocks in partnership with Deyes High School and 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 students throughout the year. 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 governor 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 career's 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.

## Curriculum Diagram (periods per fortnight in brackets)

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

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

## Year 8 Curriculum Diagram (periods per fortnight in brackets)

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

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

## Year 9 Curriculum Diagram (periods per fortnight in brackets)

RE (4)		PSHE (2)	Spanish / French (4)	
Maths (7)			History (3)	
English (7)			Geography (3)	
Art (1.3)	Music (1.3)	Drama (1.3)	Science (6)	
Computing (2)	Tech Or Mandarin (2)	PE (4)		Careers (1)

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

Pupils may take Mandarin instead of Technology in Year 9



## Year 10 and 11 Curriculum Diagram (periods per fortnight in brackets)

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

### 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 History (EBAC subject) GCSE

Geography (EBAC subject)GCSE

Spanish (EBAC subject) GCSE

French (EBAC subject)

*Pupils must select one of the following subjects*

GCSE Spanish (EBAC subject)

GCSE French (EBAC subject)

GCSE Music

GCSE Triple Science (EBAC subject)

GCSE Computing (EBAC subject) or Edexcel Certificate in Digital Applications

*Pupils must select one of the following subjects*

GCSE Computing (EBAC subject) or Edexcel Certificate in Digital Applications

GCSE Art and Design

GCSE Textiles

GCSE Product Design

GCSE Food Nutrition and Cooking

GCSE PE

GCSE Music

GCSE French (EBAC subject)

GCSE Spanish (EBAC subject)

GCSE History (EBAC subject)

GCSE Geography (EBAC subject)

GCSE Mandarin (EBAC subject)

GCSE Business Studies

BTEC Health and Social Care

BTEC Sports Studies

BTEC Dance

BTEC Performing Arts

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

	GCSE Year		
	2018	2019	2020
Cohort	219	243	223
History	128	99	99
Geography	120	82	86
French	25	32	27
Spanish	28	44	100
Art	41	36	46
Music	8	19	19
PE/Sport	50	38	27
Textiles	0	0	0
Food	10	10	4
Product Design	15	17	10
Computing	60	61	50
Separate Science	0	22	17
Mandarin			3
ICT	119	128	75
Business	57	39	45
Performing Arts	19	12	7
Dance	7	8	11
Health & Social Care	17	17	31

2020 data from Year 9 option choices, March 2018

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

	Periods Allocated Per Fortnight
3 Option Subjects	9
PSHE	1
RE	1
Enrichment (Year 12 only)	3
Private Study	17

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

**Year 12 Option Choices (2017/2018)** (Vocational subjects are show in italics)

<b>Option A</b>	<b>Option B</b>	<b>Option C</b>	<b>Option D</b>
Maths <b>18</b>	Physics <b>16</b>	Biology <b>15</b>	Chemistry <b>16</b>
English Lang and Lit <b>12</b>	History <b>15</b>	Spanish <b>8</b>	Geography <b>17</b>
<i>OCR CTEC ICT</i> <b>12</b>	English Lang and Lit <b>7</b>	Sociology <b>24</b>	Applied Business <b>8</b>
<i>BTEC Business</i> <b>21</b>	<i>BTEC Business (Double)</i> <b>22</b>	Computing <b>15</b>	<i>BTEC Business</i> <b>20</b>
<i>BTEC Health Studies</i> <b>20</b>	<i>BTEC Health Studies (Double)</i> <b>9</b>	<i>BTEC Sport</i> <b>11</b>	Psychology <b>17</b>
	<i>BTEC Sport (Double)</i> <b>4</b>		Art <b>9</b>
	Psychology <b>21</b>		<i>OCR CTEC ICT</i> <b>5</b>
Further Maths <b>13</b>			

English Literature and RE A Level will be included in the 2018/20 offer