



FINHAM PARK SCHOOL

A Mathematics and STEM College



FINHAM PARK SCHOOL

Curriculum Policy

Finham Park School
Green Lane
Coventry, CV3 6EA

Tel: 024 7641 8135
Email: headteacher@finhampark.co.uk
www.finhampark.co.uk

Headteacher: Chris Bishop
Chair of Governors: Jenny Mclean



Overall Statement of Curriculum Intent

Founded in our core values of courageousness, perseverance, integrity, humility and kindness, Finham Park's curriculum is accessible to all, providing our young people with the support they need to equip them for the adventures ahead. A broad offer matches the diverse needs of our pupils, helping everyone to discover their strengths and experience success.

Fostering a reading culture and making links across the subjects, we provide opportunities for all, both within and outside of the classroom. We aspire to give our pupils the time of their lives and empower them to be scientifically, mathematically and culturally literate. By providing a compassionate, vibrant learning environment and passionately delivering the powerful knowledge necessary for our pupils to become well rounded, independent thinkers, we believe that we offer a world class curriculum which prepares them to participate in local, national and global communities.

Aims of the Policy

The purpose of the curriculum is to help pupils to:

- develop lively, imaginative and enquiring minds
- acquire knowledge and skills relevant to adult life and a world of rapid and continuous technological change
- have sound numeracy, literacy and ICT skills
- develop personal and moral values, respect for shared values and for other cultures, religions and ways of life
- develop an understanding of the communities in which they live-both locally and the wider world
- appreciate human achievements and aspirations
- take their place in society as informed, confident and responsible citizens

Main Principles

- The curriculum at Finham Park School has the following characteristics: breadth, balance, relevance, differentiation; progression and continuity; coherence.
- The curriculum builds the following skills: reflection, research, problem solving strategies and independent learning.
- The curriculum develops creativity, instilling a sense of wonder in all pupils

- The curriculum promotes knowledge and understanding; mastery of Intellectual, physical and interpersonal skills and personal qualities, values and attitudes.
- The curriculum provides experiences to reflect on for the future
- The school has a commitment to provide equality of access for all pupils to academic experiences
- We provide appropriate tasks and learning opportunities to support high expectations and appropriate challenge
- All pupils have an entitlement to work related learning at KS4
- Parents are provided with curriculum information relevant to their child
- The curriculum is subject to planned evaluation and review

Outcomes

The curriculum:

- delivers the current and future statutory requirements
- is broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated
- enable pupils to fulfil their potential
- prepares pupils to make informed and appropriate choices at all relevant stages of their education
- meets the needs of the full range of abilities within the school
- ensures continuity and progression within the school and between phases of education
- fosters teaching styles which will offer and encourage a variety of relevant learning opportunities
- encourages a respect for the school and its environment so that learning is a positive and pleasurable experience for all
- helps pupils develop lively, enquiring minds, an ability to question and argue rationally and an ability to apply themselves to tasks and physical skills
- helps pupils acquire understanding, knowledge and key skills relevant to school, adult life and employment in a fast-changing world
- helps pupils to use language, number and ICT effectively
- helps pupils develop personal moral values, respect for religious values and tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life
- helps pupils understand the community in which they live and also the wider community
- helps pupils to appreciate human achievements and aspirations

The School therefore endeavours to provide:

- an environment in which young people of all abilities are able to develop the skills and attitudes which will facilitate lifelong learning and sustained personal development.

Finham Park School remains committed to the delivery of STEM subjects whilst also supporting creativity across and within the creative arts curriculum. As such we are committed to:

- raising standards of achievement for all pupils;
- extending the range of opportunities available to pupils which best meet their needs and interests;
- developing a unique identity which reflects the School's STEM focus;
- benefiting other schools in the area, both secondary and primary;
- strengthening the links between school and the wider community.

Each area of the curriculum is allotted sufficient time to make its specific contribution, but not so much that it squeezes out other essential areas. The amount of time allocated to each subject will be reviewed annually. There are 50 one hour lessons in a two week (10 day) timetable.

Provision is made within the school for all pupils with special needs.

Additional support is provided for some pupils from TAs within the classroom and within the Special Needs department's own facilities. Teachers use pupil support plans to target support effectively, fully understand the needs of the pupil and differentiate appropriately to ensure all pupils experience success.

Along with the progressive introduction of setting in Mathematics and Science, the provision of four foreign languages, the three separate GCSE science subjects, and Further Mathematics GCSE stretches the most able pupils and enables them to achieve in excess of 11 GCSEs by the end of Key Stage 4.

Year 7

In Year 7, pupils broadly follow the National Curriculum. The lesson structure is as follows:

- Mathematics, English, Science,
- IT,
- PE,
- Modern Foreign Languages,
- History, Geography RE and PSHE,
- Art, Drama, Music and Technology,

- World Class Studies including Discovery (a combination of Mathematics and Science)

Pupils are taught in mixed ability classes except for Mathematics, where they are set by ability in the October half term.

Discovery has been part of the curriculum for several years and is well established. It links the real world to the Mathematics behind it.

Our World Class studies programme is designed to introduce pupils into areas that are not normally covered by the National Curriculum. Pupils opt for the areas they would like to study and are taught in mixed ability groups. Included within these sessions is an emphasis on developing a pupil's learning skills which should impact upon their progress across all subjects and the opportunity to experience a subject area that they may wish to pursue in their future learning. All year 7 pupils will study a 12 week module in Mandarin, learning about the culture of China and some simple language skills.

From Year 7, pupils can choose to opt for Mandarin Chinese instead of French, German or Spanish. They will receive 8 hours contact time every two weeks as well as a series of extra-curricular enhancement opportunities funded by an external grant.

The World Class Studies programme includes:

- Drama – Theatre in Education
- Mandarin
- Media – Film and Video Making
- Philosophy for Children
- Psychology
- Discovery

Year 8

This year, pupils study:

- Mathematics, English, Science,
- IT, PE,
- Modern Foreign Languages,
- History, Geography, RS, PSHE, Art,
- Drama, Music, Technology.

All subjects are taught in mixed ability groups except for Mathematics.

All subjects complete the National Curriculum for Key Stage 3 by the end of Year 8.

Year 9

During this year subjects begin the transition to KS4 GCSE Programmes of study. There are opportunities for students who stop the formal teaching of a subject to continue their experience of it in Year 9. Examples of this include experiencing language and culture through the curriculum enhancement programme or through attendance at ' Out of School Hours Learning' activities as published online in all subjects.

Pupils follow:

Core - examined:

- Mathematics, English,
- Either Biology, Chemistry and Physics or Combined Science
- Modern Foreign Languages, (French, German, Spanish or Mandarin)
- History / Geography
- Religious Studies

Optional – examined:

- IT
- Computing
- Business Studies
- Drama
- Film Studies
- Art – Fine
- Art – Graphic Communication
- Art – Photography
- Food and Nutrition
- Engineering
- Product Design
- Music
- History
- Sports Studies
- Spanish / French / German
- Psychology

Core – non-examined

- PE

- PSHRE

Optional – partially assessed

- Curriculum enhancement – NCFE courses, 'Amazing Apprenticeship' pathways.

Pupils are taught in sets in Mathematics and Science according to the curriculum course they are studying within that subject and are taught in mixed ability groupings in all other areas.

Years 10-11

All GCSE examined subjects are now following the KS4 GCSE programmes of study.

Alternative Routes

Pupils have access to a wide range of vocational courses as well.

Some pupils have a bespoke pathway constructed to support them in fewer GCSE subjects, giving them access to curriculum tutorial time with staff. We have strong partnerships with local colleges and work-related providers from the Local Authority. They attend these courses one day per week and work towards a recognised qualification.

Courses at KS4

Course	Qualification
Art - Fine Art	GCSE
Art - Graphics	GCSE
Art - Photography	GCSE
Biology	GCSE
Business	GCSE
Chemistry	GCSE
Computing	GCSE
Drama	GCSE
Engineering	BTEC
English	GCSE
English Literature	GCSE
Film Studies	GCSE
Food Technology	GCSE

French	GCSE
German	GCSE
Geography	GCSE
History	GCSE
IT (Digital Media)	GCSE
Mandarin	GCSE
Mathematics	GCSE
Media Studies	GCSE
Music	GCSE
Philosophy and Ethics (Religious Studies)	GCSE
Physics	GCSE
Product Design	GCSE
Psychology	GCSE
Science (double)	GCSE
Spanish	GCSE
Sport	GCSE
PHSRE	Not assessed
Core PE	Not assessed

Post-16 Curriculum

Pupils either follow the A level route or the A level and BTEC route. The decision about the programme of study in year 12 will be dependent on the wishes of the pupil and prior academic achievement. It will be overseen by the Head of the sixth-form in consultation with Subject Leaders and will be conditional upon meeting entry requirements.

1) A level

In year 12 pupils are expected to choose a minimum of 3 A levels and an enrichment course. Pupils have access to a broad range of A levels delivered here on site (30 courses) but also have access to all A levels offered across the Federation (and sometimes across Coventry). The advantage of working within Coventry is that pupils have relatively easy access to all Coventry schools so that compromises can be kept to a minimum.

2) Applied A Levels and/or BTEC Route

Some pupils wish to follow a more vocational route and can combine the level 3 BTEC courses with an A level programme. The expectation is that pupils will follow the equivalent of 3 A Level subjects in years 12 and 13.

All pupils follow the Enrichment programme which offers a wide range of opportunities to ensure they have a broad range of experiences to take to the next stage of their career. This will include re-sitting GCSE Mathematics or English for those pupils who did not achieve a grade 4 or higher in year 11.

Courses at KS5

Course	Qualification
Applied Science	BTEC
Art (Fine)	A Level
Biology	A Level
Business Studies	A Level
Chemistry	A Level
Computing	A Level
Design	A Level
Economics	A Level
English Literature	A Level

English Literature and Language	A Level
Film Studies	A Level
French	A Level
Food Science and Nutrition	BTEC
Further Mathematics	A Level
Geography	A Level
Graphics	A Level
History	A Level
ICT	Cam Tech
Law	A Level
Mandarin	Pre-U
Mathematics	A Level
Media Studies	Cam Tech
Music	A Level
Philosophy and Ethics	A Level
Art – Photography	A Level
Physical Education	A Level
Physics	A Level
Psychology	A Level
Sociology	A Level
Spanish	A Level
Sport and Exercise Science	BTEC
Theatre Studies	A Level

Written by V Maginnis
Reviewed by A Ditch
Review by S Megeney

September 2015
September 2018
September 2021

Next review date:

September 2024

Signed:

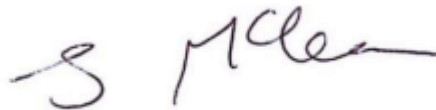


CHIRS BISHOP

Headteacher

Date: September 2021

Signed:



Jenny Mclean

Chair of Governors

Date: September 2021