

CURRICULUM POLICY

The curriculum at Loughborough High school aims to provide for:

- full-time supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age;
- pupils to experience linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical, and aesthetic and creative education;
- subject matter appropriate for the ages and aptitudes of pupils;
- pupils to acquire skills in speaking and listening, literacy and numeracy;
- personal, social and health education which reflects the school's aims and ethos;
- appropriate careers guidance;
- a programme of activities which is appropriate to the needs of pupils above compulsory school age;
- all pupils to have the opportunity to learn and make progress;
- adequate preparation of pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

The curriculum

In **Year 7** all girls study the following subjects, in groups of equal ability:

English, French, mathematics, science

History, geography, religious studies, art, music, food technology, ICT, creative textiles, drama, physical education

In **Year 8** all pupils continue with these subjects and take up Latin. Pupils are regrouped for English, French and mathematics. GCSE short course preparation starts in ICT.

In the **Year 9** a second modern language, either German or Spanish, is added. Pupils are regrouped for science, with biology, chemistry and physics taught as separate subjects. Latin is taught to the majority of the pupils, with a group opting to study classical studies in place of Latin. GCSE ICT short course is taken. The CIEH (Chartered Institute of Environmental Health) Food (Level 2 Award in Healthier Foods and Special Diets) course is also taken.

In the **Years 10 and 11** the majority of pupils study nine subjects at GCSE level.

Four of these are the core subjects of English, English literature, French and mathematics. The remaining core subject is science, which girls may study as science and additional science (leading to two GCSE grades) or the three separate sciences (leading to three GCSE grades in biology, chemistry and physics).

Option choices are: history, geography, religious studies, art (fine art or textiles), home economics (food and nutrition), drama, music, classical civilization, Latin, Greek, German, Spanish, ICT (AS).

All pupils also have religious education and physical education lessons.

In the **Sixth Form** all students pursue AS courses in the year 12 and A2 courses in the year 13. Most students choose four subjects for AS and continue with three of these in year 13.

The subjects offered are: English literature, French, physical education, economics, business studies, mathematics, further mathematics, psychology, sociology, computing, drama and theatre studies, government and politics, history, geography, religious studies, art (fine art or textiles), drama, music, home economics (food, nutrition and health), Latin, classical civilisation, German, Spanish, Greek, biology, chemistry and physics.

The Sixth Form timetable is constructed as far as possible around the students' choice of subjects but groups for subjects need to be viable, usually at least five students. Some subjects are taught jointly with Loughborough Grammar school.

To broaden their horizons further all students in the sixth form follow a course of Enrichment (non-exam) or critical thinking (AS) in year 12 and take general studies to advanced level in year 13. One afternoon a week is spent on recreational activities throughout the sixth form.

All year 7-13 groups follow a PSE programme appropriate to their age and needs. This consists of work in groups with a specialist PSE teacher, form tutors and other staff (including matron). Visiting speakers and external agencies work with whole year groups on appropriate occasions. Topics covered include relationships, drink and drugs education, personal security, healthy eating, study techniques and learning styles.

The curriculum is reviewed frequently to ensure that changing needs are addressed and where relevant changes are implemented to promote the pursuit of excellent standards for all the pupils.

The curriculum committee made up of staff at all levels from all departments meets under the chairmanship of the Director of Studies to discuss matters of interest before referring them to the HoD Meetings.

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