

<b>Curriculum Synopsis – Senior School and Sixth Form</b>	<b>2 b</b>
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<b>Responsible for Initiating Review of Policy</b>	Assistant Head - Academic
<b>Committee to Review</b>	SLT
<b>Last Review Date</b>	September 2018
<b>Review Period</b>	Annual
<b>Approved by (Committee and Date)</b>	SLT September 2018
<b>Approved by Board of Governors</b>	JEC Spring 2018
<b>Effective Date of Policy</b>	January 2018
<b>Next Review Date</b>	September 2019
<b>Related Policies</b>	Curriculum Policy Statement

**Lower School Curriculum (Years 7 and 8)**

The Lower School schemes of work in the Senior School are informed but not constrained by the National Curriculum. The Lower School schemes of work promote the acquisition of speaking, listening, literacy and numeracy skills. We provide a broad and balanced programme to include Mathematics, English Language and Literature, Science, Technology, ICT, French, Spanish, German, History, Geography, Religious Studies, Art, Music and Physical Education. We also introduce subjects such as Latin and Drama. The three sciences are taught discretely but by the same teacher in Year 7 and by subject specialists in Year 8. All students have a weekly PALS lesson and a Tutor Period that between them cover the mandatory PSHE requirements and include Citizenship aspects. These are also delivered across the curriculum and embedded in schemes of work for RS, Geography and History. Cross-curricular themes are pursued regularly with an emphasis upon breaking down barriers between subjects and the development of cross-curricular projects. Girls select their GCSE options during Year 8.

**Upper School Curriculum (Years 9, 10 and 11)**

The curriculum in Years 9, 10 and 11 is linked to the GCSE syllabi. At present, unless there are extenuating circumstances, all our students follow GCSE syllabuses in English (Language and Literature), Mathematics, a Modern Foreign Language and either the three separate sciences or a Science and Additional Science course. They also have the opportunity to choose other option subjects according to their interests, future career plans and the confines of the timetable. We advise girls to study as broad a curriculum as possible at this stage and they are advised that their choices should include a humanity subject and a creative subject. The option system allows the flexibility for a student to study an additional humanity or a second modern foreign language or an additional creative subject or a third individual science. The majority of students study 9 subjects while a minority studies 8, 10 or 11 subjects. Students with English as an Additional Language are assessed on entry and if necessary, have additional EAL tuition in place of one option subject, usually but not always a Modern Foreign Language option. These students have the option to take an IELTS qualification in addition to GCSE English and English Literature (See separate EAL and MFL policies). If appropriate and subject to ability and demand, students are able to study for an additional GCSE in Statistics, Further Mathematics, Greek, Mandarin or Chinese outside normal curriculum time. Year 10 Students are also able to undertake the Level 2 Project Qualification.

Those on reduced GCSE programmes are given additional tailored support during a proportion of their released lesson time. This core subject support is usually given by the SENCo, the SEND Assistant, a qualified teacher or where necessary personal tutor.

**The Lower School and Upper School Curriculum**

	<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Year 8</b>	<b>9/10/11 TRIPLE SCIENCE</b>	<b>9/10/11 DOUBLE SCIENCE</b>
<b>English</b>	5	5	7 (6 in Y9)	7 (6 in Y9)
<b>Maths</b>	5	5	6	6
<b>Biology</b>	5 science	2	5	3
<b>Chemistry</b>		2	5	3
<b>Physics</b>		2	5	3
			Three of the following option subjects	Four of the following option subjects
<b>Computing</b>	2	2	4	4
<b>Geography</b>	2	2	4	4
<b>History</b>	2	2	4	4
<b>Religious Studies</b>	2	2	4	4
<b>French</b>	3	3	4	4
<b>German</b>	1	either 2	4	4
<b>Spanish</b>	1	or 2	4	4
<b>Latin</b>	2	2	4	4
<b>Art</b>	2	2	4	4
<b>Music</b>	2	1	4	4
<b>Drama</b>	2	2	4	4
<b>DT/Textiles</b>	2	2	4	4
<b>PE GCSE</b>			4	4
<b>PE Core</b>	4	4	4	3
<b>PALS</b>	1	1	2 (3 in Y9)	2 (3 in Y9)
<b>Tutor Period / Assembly</b>	2	2	2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	45	45	45	45

**Religious Education / Ethics**

Irrespective of their personal commitment all girls attend lessons of Religious Education or Ethics up to and including Year 8. Religious Studies is available as a GCSE and A Level option and moral and ethical issues form a core component in the Personal and Life Skills programme for all students in Years 10 and 11. The Sixth Form Life Skills programme includes discussion of ethics and moral issues. The work covered is wide ranging both in approach and content. By studying many faiths it is hoped that the girls develop tolerance of others' views and a spiritual dimension. The School does not ever seek to impose specific views on any of the students but rather to widen their horizons in order that they can make their own choices.

**Computing**

Our high-quality computing education equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world. Computing is taught in Years 7 and 8 and Computer Science is an option subject at GCSE and A level. Computing has deep links with Mathematics, the sciences, and Design and Technology, and provides insights into both natural and artificial systems. The core of computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work, and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.

**Careers Education and Guidance (CEG)**

The School has an extensive programme of CEG which starts in Year 7 in the PALS and Tutorial Programmes and continues throughout the Senior School and the Sixth Form. The Head of Futures and the Sixth Form Tutors are responsible for Higher Education CEG. Two very well equipped Careers rooms, one in the Learning Resource Centre and one in the Sixth Form Centre, are available for use throughout the day and also at other times by arrangement. Parents are welcome to make use of the information in these rooms to help their daughters make informed career choices. The School considers this part of its curriculum to be exceptionally important and prides itself on providing all its students with the best possible individual careers education and guidance at all times.

**The Sixth Form Curriculum**

The Sixth Form curriculum offers a flexible 'Pathways' programme allowing students to choose combinations of subjects and supporting enrichment activities that are appropriate to their individual needs and aspirations. Further details of the Sixth Form subjects and arrangements can be found in the Sixth Form Information Booklet updated each Autumn Term and available from the Admissions Office.

The Sixth Form Curriculum comprises the following 24 A level subjects in 4 option blocks, with a period allocation of 8 x 40 minute periods per week.

<b>Art and Design: Fine Art</b>	<b>English Literature</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>
<b>Biology</b>	<b>Fashion and Textiles</b>	<b>Music</b>
<b>Chemistry</b>	<b>French</b>	<b>PE</b>
<b>Classical Civilisation</b>	<b>Further Mathematics</b>	<b>Physics</b>
<b>Computer Science</b>	<b>Geography</b>	<b>Politics</b>
<b>Design and Technology: Resistant Materials</b>	<b>German</b>	<b>Psychology</b>
<b>Drama and Theatre Studies</b>	<b>History</b>	<b>Religious Studies</b>
<b>Economics</b>	<b>Latin</b>	<b>Spanish</b>

Sixth Form students may also take A level Chinese, the preparation for which takes place outside the timetable.

Sixth Form students attend three periods of PE lessons and two periods of Professional Life Skills or lectures. Students are able to select from a range of voluntary enrichment courses including the Extended Project Qualification, The European Computer Driving License and specific support for university entry and the Engineering Education Scheme. For those taking the EPQ in the Lower Sixth, there are two timetabled EPQ sessions.

A level subjects have a standard allocation of 8 x 40 minute periods per week. Subjects with low numbers may be taught on a reduced period allocation.