

Curriculum Policy

Reviewed by:	Teaching, Learning & Curriculum Committee
Signed (Governing Board):	
Date:	September 2019
Next Review due:	September 2020

**Produced by Turton School
(To be reviewed annually)**

Curriculum Policy

The curriculum policy should be read in conjunction with the Learning and Assessment Framework, which details the purpose of a Trivium based curriculum at Turton.

The curriculum time at Turton is arranged via 50 one hour lessons timetabled over a two week cycle. Scholars' Pathway classes have extra lessons after school. All lessons are of one hour, complemented by a 20 minute tutorial period between 8.50 and 9.10am each day. During tutorial students study aspects of citizenship, PSHEE, literacy, numeracy and character education with their form tutors. In years 7-9, a scholars' pathway form is created after entrance via a test, all other forms are then created in line with the others in the school: approximately 30-32 students, and giving a representative mix of the general school population.

Key Stage 3

Key stage 3 builds the foundations for lifelong learning, adding to the work done in primary school. Each subject has clear progression routes to ensure that students meet their age related expectations. We initially develop the grammar of each subject: the knowledge and skills needed as building blocks for future learning. Upon a solid foundation we can encourage students to develop the dialectic of each subject, creating links between pieces of knowledge and creatively using skills to learn more. Students can then learn how to express themselves within each subject area, creating a specific rhetoric with which they can share their learning at a high academic level.

Some students are withdrawn for lessons in nurture group, support groups, literacy and numeracy enhancement.

Year 7

Year 7 students are mainly taught in form groups, apart from Art and Technology where they are taught in mixed groups of around 20 students and in Maths and Spanish where they are placed into 5 ability sets for each half year group from early October. English and Science have a bottom set for the weakest students to provide extra support. The Scholars' pathway is taught separately for everything apart from PE.

Y7	Scholars' Pathway	Main Pathway
Maths	3 hours	3 hours
English	3 hours	4 hours
Science	3 hours	3 hours
Geography	2 hours	2 hours
History	2 hours	2 hours
French + Latin	4 hours	
Spanish		3 hours
PE	2 hours	2 hours
RE	1 hour	1 hour
Computing	1 hour	1 hour
Art	1 hour	1 hour
Drama	2 hours	1 hour
Music	1 hour	1 hour
Technology		1 hour
After School Study	2 hours	

Year 8

Year 8 students are taught in mixed groups of around 20 for Music, Art and Technology. They are placed in sets for Maths, Science and Spanish, with 5 sets per 4 forms, and are in mixed ability groups for English, although a set is formed of the weakest students to provide extra support. All other subjects are taught in form groups. The Scholars' pathway is taught separately for everything apart from PE.

Y8	Scholars' Pathway	Main Pathway
Maths	3 hours	3 hours
English	3 hours	3 hours
Science	3 hours	3 hours
Geography	2 hours	2 hours
History	2 hours	2 hours
French	2 hours	
Spanish	2 hours	3 hours
Latin	1 hour (after school)	
PE	2 hours	2 hours
RE	1 hour	1 hour
Computing	1 hour	1 hour
Art	2 hours	1.5 hours
Drama	1 hour	1 hour
Music	1 hour	1 hour
Technology		1.5 hours
After School Study	1 hour	

Year 9

In year 9, students take 'mini' options. Maths, Science and Languages are all set. English is mixed-ability with a separate set for the weakest students. RE, Geography and History are taught in forms groups. The Scholars' Pathway are taught separately for the core subjects – English, Mathematics, Science - and for humanities.

Year 9

Subject	Hours Taught per week
English	4
Maths	4
Science	3
French or Spanish	3
History	2.5
Geography	2.5
FE	1
Option 1 – students choose 2 from Art, Technology, Drama and Music.	2 x 1.5
Option 2 – Students choose 1 from PE, Dance, ICT and Computing.	1
PE	1

Key Stage 4

Learning at key stage 4 builds on the strong foundations developed at key stage 3, gaining further knowledge (the grammar) and developing the dialectic and rhetoric aspects of the subject.

Year 10 and 11

Students are placed in 6 groups for 4 forms in English (mixed ability), Maths and Science (both in ability sets). They have core PE and FE (where they study full or short course GCSE RE). The top half of the ability range are in the Ebacc Pathway, and the remainder of students is in the Open Pathway. Ebacc Pathway students all study a language and make two choices: Geography or History, and a free choice; for the Open Pathway one subject from the English Baccalaureate, and two free choices. Some students have lessons with learning support and a small number attend a local college for vocational courses and work experience.

The curriculum offer at key stage 4 is GCSE qualifications in:

English Language

English Literature

Maths

Double Science or Biology, Chemistry and Physics

French

Spanish

History

Geography

Computer Science

Art and Design

Art and Design Graphics

Art and Design Photography

Business Studies

Dance

Drama

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Music

Physical Education

Product Design

In addition, vocational qualifications are offered in:

BTEC Level 2 Health and Social Care

BTEC Level 2 Technical in Digital Technology

BTEC Level 2 Business Studies

BTEC Level 2 Physical Education

Y10/Y11	Ebacc Pathway	Open Pathway
Maths	4 hours	4 hours
English	4 hours	4 hours
Science	5 hours	5 hours
PE	1 hour	1 hour
RE	2 hours	2 hours
Geog/Hist	3 hours	
Language	3 hours	
Ebacc subject		3 hours
Free Options	3 hours	6 hours

Post 16

The post 16 offer is available to students who have attended Turton School in year 11 and meet the entry grade requirements, as well as students who have attended other providers. Students apply during year 11 and have a final interview just after GCSE result day. Again the curriculum offer is broad, and builds on the foundations developed at key stage 3 and 4, ensuring that students have the grammar, dialectic and rhetoric for each subject they study and are well prepared for their future careers. This is enhanced by a tutorial programme, which covers PHSEE topics and entry to university and work at 18.

The curriculum offer includes both academic and vocational/technical subjects and qualifications. EPQ is available for all students.

A Level (5 teaching hours per subject per week)	Level 3 BTEC (5 hours per A level equivalent per week)
Biology Chemistry Physics Maths Further Maths English Language English Literature French Spanish History Geography Government and Politics Fine Art Art Graphics Art Textiles Art Photography Product Design Religious Studies Computer Science Dance Music Theatre Studies Physical Education Business Studies Economics Psychology Sociology Environmental Sciences	Applied Science (Double) Business Studies (Single and Double) ICT (Single) Health and Social Care (Single and Triple) Media (Single)

Literacy and Numeracy

Young people at Turton experience a knowledge-rich curriculum that helps them grow into competent lifelong learners and become confident, caring and responsible citizens. Good literacy and numeracy skills enhance a child's opportunity to progress, not just in an educational setting, but throughout their life. Being literate and numerate is an essential life skill, which allows young people to flourish both intellectually and emotionally, raising not only self-esteem but also opening doors to help them access a plethora of opportunities; it also encourages positive relationships. All teachers are teachers of literacy and numeracy.

All staff and governors have a responsibility, collectively and individually to contribute to the delivery of a broad, challenging and knowledge rich curriculum. Individually staff have a responsibility to strive to deliver lessons where literacy and numeracy is of the highest quality and where all students are equipped with the skills and knowledge to access the learning across all subject areas.