



CURRICULUM INTENT AT PENKETH HIGH SCHOOL

At Penketh High School we recognise the importance of curriculum in setting out the principles, aims and content of the subjects students will encounter during their time as a student here.

Additionally, this core academic learning experience will be supplemented with curricula for personal development, social and health education, engagement with current affairs and the wider world as well as bespoke careers guidance. We believe in providing our students with intellectual, artistic and physical nourishment in order for them to leave with a rounded set of knowledge and skills that will enable them to thrive while in school and beyond.

Our curriculum is designed to reflect our high expectations that all students at Penketh High School are capable of accessing a suite of subjects that prepares them for the next stage in their education and/or career.

CURRICULUM COHERENCE AND SEQUENCING

The curriculum at Penketh High School will to provide all students with a learning experience that builds skills that are vital for success at school and beyond. However, Cognitive science also shows us the critical importance of students acquiring knowledge is also crucial to the acquisition of skills. This is summed up clearly by Daniel Willingham:

"Data from the last thirty years lead to a conclusion that is not scientifically challengeable...the very processes that teachers care about most – critical thinking processes such as reasoning and problem solving – are intimately intertwined with factual knowledge that is in long-term memory."

At Penketh High School each curriculum area has ensured its curriculum structure and narrative ensures that students encounter the content necessary to develop the deep knowledge and broad range of skills crucial to develop within their own subjects as well as encounter a broad range of challenging texts that develop their reading and vocabulary as they move through school.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

The curriculum is organised into 25 periods per week comprising 5 x one-hour sessions each day. Years 7, 8 & 9 form part of a foundation GCSE study and Year 10 and 11 are when students are fully beginning GCSEs across the full suite of subjects. The curriculum is tailored to meet the needs of individual students and maximise their achievement. The school believes in equality of opportunity for all students and that all students are capable of success.



CURRICULUM PLAN

The Curriculum Overview outlines the frequency of subjects taught over each year group:

KEY STAGE 3

SUBJECT	HOURS
Art & Design	2
Computing	3
Drama	1
English	8
Geography	4
History	4
Languages	3
Learning for Life	3
Mathematics	8
Music	1
Physical Education	4
Science	8
Technology	1

KEY STAGE 4 - E BAND

SUBJECT	HOURS
Computer Science	8
English	4
Learning for Life (RE & PHSE)	3
Mathematics	9
Physical Education	2
Science	8
Option: Humanities	6
Option: Language	6
Option: Open	4



KEY STAGE 4 - P BAND

SUBJECT	HOURS
English	8
ICT	4
Learning for Life (RE & PHSE)	3
Mathematics	9
Physical Education	2
Science	8
Option: Humanities	6
Option: Language	6
Option: Open	4

KEY STAGE 4 - S Band

SUBJECT	HOURS
English	10
Humanities	6
ICT	4
Learning for Life (RE & PHSE)	4
Mathematics	10
Physical Education	2
Science	10
Option: Open	4