



## **St Richard Reynolds Catholic High School**

**Policy:** Secondary Curriculum Statement

**Date of publication:** September 2018

**Date of approval by Governing Body:** September 2018

**Date of next review:** September 2019

### **Aims:**

Our College Vision forms the basis upon which our curriculum is based, so that the children entrusted to us will:

- experience the benefit of positive relationships
- develop 'bucketloads' of confidence
- attain the academic outcomes they need and are capable of
- develop the skills and attributes that will help them succeed in tomorrow's world
- grow in faith and strive to live their lives as the person God has created them to be

Our core purpose is to provide outstanding learning and teaching opportunities for all our students. Our curriculum aims to offer challenge, leading to the highest standards of personal achievement through the recognition of individual needs and provides varied co-curricular experiences as well as progression within and between the Key Stages.

At St Richard Reynolds we aim to offer to all students an interesting, broad and balanced curriculum: a curriculum which promotes examination success and recognises personal achievement at all levels. Religious Education is at the heart of our curriculum and lessons are carefully planned to ensure that all areas of the Bishops' Curriculum Directory are met i.e. Revelation, Church, Celebration and Life in Christ. "The outcome of excellent Religious Education is religiously literate and engaged young people who have the knowledge, understanding and skills – appropriate to their age and capacity – to reflect spiritually, and think ethically and theologically, and who are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life". (The Bishops' Curriculum Directory 2012). Catholic Social Teaching is also embedded in our Programmes of Study to ensure that engagement with religious teaching is not solely the preserve of RE lessons but part of the development of the whole person.

### ***To put our curriculum into practice, staff will:***

- Have high expectations of students
- Employ a variety of appropriate teaching and learning methods
- Ensure that students Including those with SEND are found means to access the curriculum and given opportunities to succeed
- Deliver program of study which build upon students' previous experiences
- Provide work which offers depth, challenge, motivation and inspiration
- Provide regular feedback through assessments and encourages students to evaluate their own learning
- Develops students' skills to become independent learners.
- Reward and value student achievement
- Work in partnership to keep parents informed regularly

The curriculum is reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

### **Key Stage 3 Curriculum**

The formal curriculum is divided into 30 periods a week with each lesson lasting 50 minutes. All National Curriculum subjects, Religious Education and Latin are taught alongside opportunities to develop spiritually, socially, morally, physically, culturally and academically.

<b>Year 7</b>		<b>Year 8</b>		<b>Year 9</b>	
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Lessons</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Lessons</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Lessons</b>
Religious Education	3	Religious Education	3	Religious Education	3
English	4	English	4	English	4
Mathematics	4	Mathematics	4	Mathematics	4
Science	4	Science	4	Science	4
Art	2	Art	2	Art	2
Drama	1	Drama	1	Drama	1
Geography	2	Geography	2	Geography	2
History	2	History	2	History	2
Latin	1	Latin	1	Latin	
MFL French	2	MFL French or Spanish	2	MFL French or Spanish	3
Music	1	Music	1	Music	1
Physical Education	2	Physical Education	2	Physical Education	2
Technology *	2	Technology *	2	Technology *	2

\*1 term each of Food Technology, Product Design and Computing

PSHCE forms 1 lesson a week (rotating on a weekly basis) and includes education on British Values and SRE. Careers education is taught within the PSHCE curriculum, as well a Year 9 Careers Information Day.

### **Key Stage 3 groupings**

Year 7: all students are taught in mixed ability groupings.

Year 8: Maths is taught in ability groupings, all other subjects in mixed groupings

Year 9: Maths and Science taught in ability groupings, all other subjects in mixed groupings. Year 9 is positioned as a pre GCSE year where many subjects introduce the GCSE curriculum.

### **Key Stage 3 Co-curricular**

All students are encouraged to take part in co-curricular activities offered within the school which we believe will help them develop fully as individuals and establish the habit of being a life long learner.

All KS 3 students are encouraged to learn an instrument, and approximately 75% of our Year 7 students do so. Four choirs, guitar ensemble and orchestra are offered as well as Theory and Advanced Musicianship Clubs. There are many opportunities to participate in music through our gig nights and regular concerts.

All KS 3 students are encouraged to participate in sport outside of PE lessons. 16 clubs are offered, from golf to archery, rugby to basketball with 56% KS3 students actively participating, an even distribution between boys and girls

We put on a bi-annual drama production, the most recent of which was Oliver! Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award is offered to Year 9 students with 85% participating. We also offer a broad range of clubs and societies, currently on offer are: Debating, Drama, Chess and Aid to the Church in Need.

## Key Stage 4 Curriculum

The formal curriculum is divided into 31 periods a week with each lesson lasting 50 minutes. Students study for 6 compulsory GCSEs and chose an additional 4 GCSE subjects. The choice is open to allow students to tailor the curriculum to their needs and interests, this is done in partnership with parents and teachers. The following subjects are currently available as Option subjects:

Art, Drama, Food Preparation and Nutrition, French, Geography, History, Latin, Music, Physical Education, Product Design, Spanish and Triple Science. Some students will be invited to study additional English and/or Mathematics in place of one GCSE option, receiving an additional 3 periods per week teaching in these subjects.

Compulsory		Optional	
Subject	Lessons	Subject	Lessons
Religious Education	3	Option1	3
English (Language &	5	Option 2	3
Mathematics	4	Option 3	3
Science	5	Option 4	3
Physical Education	2		

PSHE forms 1 lesson a week (rotating on a weekly basis) and includes education on British Values and SRE. Careers education is taught within the PSHCE curriculum, as well as students attending a careers fair, 1:1 careers meetings and completing a week of work experience at the end of Year 10.

Some students will follow an alternative curriculum outside of the compulsory curriculum. This will involve the study of vocational subjects.

## Key Stage 4 groupings

Mathematics and Science are taught in ability groupings all other subjects are taught in mixed ability contexts.

## Key Stage 4 Co-curricular

Approximately 25 % of KS4 learners continue with instrument tuition and there is strong participation in orchestras and choirs in our older years. We have had notable success with two of our choir members gaining places at the London Youth Choir and continuing to sing with her ensembles.

Many KS4 students are encouraged to participate in sport outside of PE lessons. We have successful Basketball, Football (girls and boys) and Rugby (girls and boys) clubs who have won District competitions and we have at least 3 athletes competing at National level.

Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award is offered to Year 10 students with over 47% participating.

KS4 students are also encouraged to become Prefects getting involved in the wider life of the school, for example Mental Health mentoring, hearing children read in our Primary school and presenting on school life for parents and perspective parents. Over 25% of our Year 11 students chose to be involved in the school in this way.

At Sixth Form the formal curriculum and co-curricular activities come together and are divided into 31 periods a week with each lesson lasting 50 minutes. Students study 3 A level courses and each is given 6 lessons a week. The following subjects are currently available:

Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Economics, English Literature, French, Geography, Government and Politics, History, Mathematics, Media Studies, Physics, Psychology, Religious Education and Sociology.

Students then partake in core Religious Education lessons (Faith in Action) once per week. Students can select the strand they want to follow and choices include:

- Ethics of crime and punishment: research and discuss the Catholic Church’s views on big questions and issues
- Lourdes Pilgrimage: spend a week in the South of France assisting with the care of disabled children
- Heart to Heart: nurture and encourage the faith of the SRRCC Primary School pupils teaching a set of RE lessons from Reception to Year 5

The SHaPE (Self-help and Positive Engagement) programme runs for two periods per week and provides the opportunity for students to develop the wider skills they need to prepare for adult life and includes the following types of activities which will be led by our own staff and external visitors and speakers:

- Study skills
- Careers
- Trips and visits
- Universities and UCAS
- Student societies
- Social, emotional, community awareness
- Leadership

Students have six timetabled, supervised study periods in a week. These provide students with the facilities, opportunity and support to undertake independent, self-directed study. During these lessons students will either complete specific homework tasks given by teachers or undertake wider research, examination practice, reading or skills development. A range of subject specific resources are provided for students via Google Classroom.

Within the students’ timetables, one period is allocated to Service. This gives the students the opportunity to contribute something to our College community, develop interpersonal skills and be involved in something they enjoy.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Lessons</b>
A Level 1	6
A Level 2	6
A Level 3	6
Core Religious	2
SHAPE	2
Study Periods	6
Service	1

<i>Year</i>	<i>Autumn Term</i>	<i>Spring Term</i>	<i>Summer Term</i>
Year 12	What Career, What Uni visit 121 Interviews with Innervate	Employability workshop UCAS Conference Futures Workshops Unifrog Introduction	Application workshops – personal statement writing, student finance workshops, UCAS application support University Visit – whole year group Work Experience Specialist support for Oxbridge, med, den, vet candidates
Year 13	121 Interviews with Innervate 121 Tutor Meetings to support Personal Statement writing		Post-results day support