



Curriculum Statement – 2014-15

St Richard Reynolds Catholic High School

Policy: Secondary Curriculum Statement

Date of publication: October 2014

Date of approval by Governing Body: November 2014

Date of next review: July 2015

Our College Vision forms the basis upon which the curriculum is based. Our core purpose is to provide outstanding learning and teaching opportunities for all of our pupils. Our curriculum aims to offer challenge leading to the highest standards of personal achievement through the recognition of individual needs, according to ability and aptitude, and provides varied co-curricular experiences, as well as progression within and between Key Stages.

The Curriculum is reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

Key Stage 3:

Formal Curriculum:

The formal curriculum is divided into a 31 period week at Key Stage 3, with each lesson lasting 50 minutes. Its purpose is to give a broad and balanced education to all our students which includes Religious Education, all National Curriculum subjects and Latin. Pupils are also given opportunities to develop spiritually, socially, morally, physically, culturally and academically.

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)

At Key Stage 3 all pupils are taught in their forms for most subjects. Each form has a maximum of 26 pupils. All classes are taught in mixed ability groupings, some of which are form groups and others are mixed-form groups. Peripatetic music instrumental lessons are delivered by the Richmond Music Trust for those pupils who opt to take these additional lesson up.

The allocation of periods to each subject is as follows:

YEAR 7		YEAR 8	
Subject	Lessons	Subject	Lessons
Religious Education	3	Religious Education	3
English	4	English	4
Mathematics	4	Mathematics	4
Science	3	Science	4
French	2	French	3
Latin	1	Latin	1
Physical Education	2	Physical Education	2
Excel	2	ExcelR8	1
History	2	History	2
Geography	2	Geography	2
Art	2	Art	2
Music	1	Music	1
Drama	1	Drama	0
Technology	2	Technology	2
	31		31

Opportunities for extended learning outside of the traditional subjects have also been embedded in the College's formal curriculum, known as 'Excel' for Year 7 and 'ExcelR8' for Year 8. These lessons aim to aid a smooth transition from primary to secondary school and to support pupils' personal development, through increasing their self-confidence and their ability to interact with others.

Pupils with special educational needs are given varying amounts of support both within and outside of lessons depending on their need. All pupils are supported and stretched through challenging class and homework activities, which are differentiated to meet children's differing abilities and needs.

Informal Curriculum:

The formal curriculum is supplemented by the informal curriculum, which contributes greatly to the educational experience of pupils, as well as the Catholic ethos within which learning takes place. We work to ensure that pupils experience the richness of a Catholic way of living and believing in all areas of College life. After-school events, such as theatre trips, sports clubs and music groups all serve to help our pupils fulfil their God-given potential.

PSHCE Provision:

The PSHCE programmes of study are mapped across Key Stage Three and are delivered via three separate PSHCE Days each year for our Key Stage Three pupils. These 'drop down' days give our pupils the opportunity to further develop their skills of debate and to discuss topical issues beyond their curriculum subjects.

The College Day:

The College follows a weekly timetable, with the days split into seven (or five, depending on which day of the week) fifty minute periods, with single and double lessons.

HIGH SCHOOL					
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday		Wednesday		Friday	
8:30am	Tutor Time / Assembly #	8:30am	Tutor Time	8:30am	Tutor Time
8:50am	Lesson 1	8:50am	Lesson 1	8:50am	Lesson 1
9:40am	Lesson 2	9:40am	Lesson 2	9:40am	Lesson 2
10:30am	BREAK	10:30am	BREAK	10:30am	BREAK / MASS*
10:50am	Lesson 3	10:50am	Whole School Assembly		
11:40am	Lesson 4	11:10am	Lesson 3	11:10am	Lesson 3
12:30pm	Lesson 5	12:00 noon	Lesson 4	12:00 noon	Lesson 4
1:20pm	LUNCH	12:50pm	LUNCH	12.50pm	LUNCH
2:10pm	Lesson 6	1:40pm	Lesson 5	1.40pm	Lesson 5
3:00pm	Lesson 7	2:30pm	END OF DAY	2:30pm	END OF DAY
3:50pm	END OF DAY	*Voluntary mass			

Mondays – tutor time

Tuesdays – yr 7 tutor time & yr 8 singing assembly

Thursdays – yr 7 singing assembly & yr 8 tutor time