



HEANOR GATE SCIENCE COLLEGE

"Develop all learners to achieve their full potential"

"Create a culture of aspiration"



CURRICULUM POLICY



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CURRICULUM AIMS

To establish and deliver an aspirational curriculum that enables young people to be successful. High quality learning opportunities support all students with academic pathways designed to maximise their individual potential.

The principle of design is to use effective data to establish pathways that cater for students on intake and at transition between key stages and academic years. The curriculum is also shaped by the local and national context during a period of sustained reform to the nature and content of qualifications

Our curriculum therefore aims to:

- offer a broad, balanced, relevant, differentiated and inclusive curriculum to all students
- conform to statutory National Curriculum requirements
- reflect the English Baccalaureate range of subjects meaning that most students will take at least one Modern Foreign Language and either History or Geography at GCSE level
- engage parents and students in decisions regarding guided choices
- promote a positive attitude towards learning, so that students enjoy coming to school, acquire a solid basis for lifelong learning and aspire to do so
- create, maintain an exciting and stimulating learning environment where all students are encouraged to take challenge in their learning

Implementation of this curriculum policy is the responsibility of all teachers and learning support staff. It is monitored through whole school, faculty and achievement team QA. Formal assessments of student learning are conducted according to our Assessment Policy.

CURRICULUM STATEMENT

How does it work?

Year 07 is an 'introductory' year. English and maths groups are set, with pupils taught in mixed ability teaching groups for other subjects.

From Year 08 onwards the challenge is to provide a curriculum which offers breadth and relevance. Setting takes place across the curriculum.

In Year 09, student preference is taken into account and students are able to make choices about the subjects they study within performing arts, technology & visual art and can also study an additional lesson of physical education. The more able linguist study an additional modern language.



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Although setting is used across Year 7 to 11 ensuring that the work covered is appropriate for their ability, differentiated work is still provided in all classes to ensure that the needs of all students are met.

The Timetable

The school operates a 25 lesson per week, 2 week timetable. Following consultation with all Curriculum Areas it was agreed that one hour lessons are the most appropriate length for most subjects. The 2 week timetable provides greater flexibility and facilitates options in Years 10 and 11. Where possible Week A and Week B are identical and will normally only differ where curriculum time demands it.

Curriculum Overview

The school meets statutory curriculum requirements.

Students are taught about the issues of E-Safety through their first computing project in Year 07 and are continually reminded of these issues through Years 8 & 9. This is reinforced through assemblies and touring theatre group performances.

All curriculum areas seek to broaden the cultural awareness of students through the use of illustrations and examples are drawn from a wide range of cultural contexts. There is a focus on British values and this is enhanced through the citizenship strand of the PSHCE programme.

All students in Years 7 to 9 follow a PSHCE/Ethics course for one hour each week in addition to the RE covered through their humanities course. In Years 11 students follow a PSHCE/Ethics course for one hour each week. However, some students may choose to take RE as a full GCSE. PSHCE is taught by team of teachers and it is the aim of the school to reduce the number of staff involved teaching PSHCE in order to provide a more specialist approach.

Students in Years 7 to 9 follow a discrete computing course for one hour each week. In Years 10 & 11 students may choose to follow a GCSE in ICT or computing. All students in Year 10 & 11 cover the ICT programmes of study through the use of ICT across the curriculum.

All students in Years 7 to 11 take physical education for at least one hour each week. In addition dance is studied in Years 7 and 8 and students can select dance in Year 9 or as an additional lesson of PE.

Students in Years 7 to 9 study technology. In Year 9 students can select up to two technology subjects that they wish to study.

Updated January 2017



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In Year 7 the majority of students study a Modern Language, although a few students are withdrawn from this for additional literacy support. In Year 9 an additional modern language is studied by the more able linguists. In Years 10 & 11 students Who have the aspiration of further education and eventually university or who are more able, study a modern language. More able students will study at least one modern language. In Year 9, our more able scientist will start a route of study which will result in them achieving 2 or GCSEs in the separate science. All other students will study the GCSE double science route.

In Years 12 & 13, most students will study 3 or 4 A Level or BTEC subjects. All students in Year 12 and 13 have the opportunity to choose from a range of enrichment courses which include: critical thinking; extended project; general studies; JSLA Sports Leadership Award; and OU units.

Links with Other Providers

Heanor Gate Science College is an active member of the local Area Partnership. As a result of this we have developed particularly strong links with Aldercar Community Language College and Derby College.

Pathways

From 2017, students in Years 10 & 11 will follow one of four pathways that have been identified appropriate to student ability and aspiration. The four pathways are University (U); Further Education (F); Work and Apprenticeship (W); and Bespoke (B).

All pathways will require students to study either Geography or History and in pathways U and F students will also study either French or Spanish. Students following pathway U will be able to select from studying 3 separate sciences; 2 separate sciences; or double science.

Students following pathway B will have a curriculum tailored to their needs which may include a support option where they will receive one to one help with all the subjects that they study.

All pathways are designed to provide appropriate and aspirational routes for all students through a range of subjects.

Sixth Form

31 courses are currently offered at Level 3 in the Sixth Form, although in Year 12 this year there are only 30 running. The full list of subjects offered in the Sixth Form is available in Appendix B.

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Assessment

The school has developed a 9-1 assessment grading system for Years 7 to 9 which provides a seamless flightpath through to the new 9-1 grading system in Years 10 & 11.

In Years 7 to 9 students are assessed on current attainment and each assessment grade is divided into 5 subdivisions, for example grade 4 is divided into 4.0; 4.2; 4.4; 4.6; and 4.8. This provides greater accuracy of assessment and makes progress clearer to see.

In Years 10 & 11 students are assessed using predicted final grades and each assessment grade is divided into 3 subdivisions. For example grade 4 is divided into 4- (indicates a weak grade); 4= (indicates a solid grade; and 4+ (indicates a strong grade). Currently, in Year 10 most subjects have moved to the new 9-1 grading system but there are still a few subjects that still use A*-G.



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APPENDIX A

Year 10 Courses (2016-2017)

Course Title	Level and Qualification
English Language	Level 2 / GCSE
English Literature	Level 2 / GCSE
Mathematics	Level 2 / GCSE
Separate Science (Biology, Chemistry & Physics)	Level 2 / GCSE
Double Science	Level 2 / GCSE
AIM Awards – Life Skills	Level 1 / SEFL
Art & Design	Level 2 / GCSE
Business Studies	Level 2 / GCSE
Computer Science	Level 2 / GCSE
Drama	Level 2 / GCSE
Engineering	Level 2 / GCSE
Food and Nutrition	Level 2 / GCSE
French	Level 2 / GCSE
Geography	Level 2 / GCSE
German	Level 2 / GCSE
Hair & Beauty Studies (Single and Double Option)	Level 2 / VTCT
Health & Social Care (Single and Double Option)	Level 2 / BTEC Certificate
History	Level 2 / GCSE
ICT	Level 2 / GCSE
Music	Level 2 / GCSE
Performing Arts (Dance)	Level 2 / BTEC Award
Photography	Level 2 / GCSE
Physical Education	Level 2 / GCSE
Product Design	Level 2 / GCSE
Psychology	Level 2 / GCSE
Religious Studies	Level 2 / GCSE
Sociology	Level 2 / GCSE
Spanish	Level 2 / GCSE
Sport	Level 2 / BTEC Certificate



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APPENDIX B

Sixth Form Courses Offered (2016-2017)

Course Title	Level and Qualification
Art	Level 3 / GCE
Biology	Level 3 / GCE
Business Studies	Level 3 / GCE
Chemistry	Level 3 / GCE
Citizenship	Level 3 / GCE
Computing	Level 3 / GCE
Drama	Level 3 / GCE
Economics	Level 3 / GCE
English Language	Level 3 / GCE
English Literature	Level 3 / GCE
French	Level 3 / GCE
Geography	Level 3 / GCE
Graphics	Level 3 / GCE
Hair & Beauty	Level 2/3
Health & Social Care	Level 3 / BTEC Subsidiary Diploma
History	Level 3 / GCE
ICT	Level 3 / GCE
Mathematics	Level 3 / GCE
Music	Level 3 / GCE
PE BTEC	Level 3 / BTEC Diploma
PE GCE	Level 3 / GCE
Performing Arts (Dance)	Level 3 / BTEC Subsidiary Diploma
Photography	Level 3 / GCE
Physics	Level 3 / GCE
Politics	Level 3 / GCE
Product Design	Level 3 / GCE
Psychology	Level 3 / GCE
Public Services	Level 3 / BTEC Subsidiary Diploma
Science BTEC	Level 3 / BTEC Subsidiary Diploma
Sociology	Level 3 / GCE



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Heanor Gate Science College Subject Codes				
Code	Description	Code	Description	
Aa	AIM Awards	Hc	Health Care	
Ad	Art	Hi	History (Schools Project)	
Ag	Performing Arts (Acting)	It	ICT	
B	Biology	Lt	Literacy	
Bb	Business BTEC	M	Mathematic	
Bs	Business Studies	Mb	Media BTEC	
C	Chemistry	Mc	Performing Arts (Music)	
Cm	Computer Science	Me	Media Studies	
Cn	Computing	Mu	Music	
Co	Construction	Mv	Motor Vehicle	
Ct	Catering	Op	Option Support	
Cw	Creative Writing	OS	Off Site	
Cz	Citizenship	P	Physics	
Da	Dance	Pb	PE BTEC	
De	Performing Arts (Dance)	Pc	PSHCE	
Dr	Drama	Pd	Product Design	
E	English	Pe	Physical Education	
Eb	Engineering BTEC	Ph	Photography	
Ec	Ethics	Po	Politics	
Ee	Electrical Engineering	Ps	Private St	
Eg	Engineering	Pt	PE Extension	
El	English Literature	Pu	Public Services	
En	Enrichment	Px	Pe Exam	
Eo	Economics	Py	Psychology	
Ep	Extended Project	Re	Religious	
Fm	Further Maths	Rm	Resistant Materials	
Fn	Food and Nutrition	Rs	Religious Studies	
Fr	French	Sb	Science BTEC	
G	Geography	Sc	Science	
Gm	German	So	Sociology	
Gp	Graphic Products	Sp	Spanish	
H	History	Tk	Design Technology	
Hb	Hair & Beauty	Tx	Textiles Technology	