

Summary of Departmental Intent Statements

Art

We aim to provide the opportunity for students to develop work based on their own identity and ideas. In order to express themselves through Art and Photography, students will develop their drawing skills and gain experience in working with a range of media and materials. We give students the opportunity to develop their understanding of the visual world around them, and their ability to respond to it. This will be further strengthened as we teach students about the diverse traditions within art and design and visual culture.

Business and Economics

We aim to provide an understanding of businesses and the economy which is vital to be able to both fully function in, and contribute, to our modern society. Students should be given the understanding and skills to assess and evaluate the interactions between businesses, the government, individuals, society in general and the environment. In addition, we aim to foster their curiosity in the world around them but also have the critical thinking and problem-solving skills to make a positive difference.

Drama

We aim to provide students with the opportunity to build their confidence, teamwork and leadership, and evaluation skills whilst exploring theatre. Students should broadly develop an understanding of how to create a successful performance. All students should be able to speak confidently in front of an audience, presenting positive and appropriate body language and facial expressions.

English

We aim to provide students with the opportunity to develop critical thinking and independence. We focus on skills, rather than just teaching specific texts, so that students feel positive about approaching new texts and genres. We help students develop the ability to code switch effectively both in speaking and writing. We also help to develop wider skills to communicate effectively in the world and to build deeper spiritual and cultural capital.

Geography

We aim to provide students with the opportunity to enquire about the relationships and interactions between humans and the environment and develop an awareness of the global future. Students should develop an understanding of global issues, including sustainability and inequality, in order to become responsible global citizens.

History

We aim to provide a curriculum for students aged 11 - 18 which equips them with the factual, conceptual and disciplinary knowledge of History to allow them to understand and actively engage in

British society. All students should gain a broad understanding of a narrative that charts the development of civic and democratic rights in Britain, c.1066 to the 20th century, and the changing relationship between the powerful and disempowered, whilst locating this narrative in its international context.

Computer Science & ICT

We aim to provide students with the rich, deep learning experiences that balance all the aspects of Computer Science, ICT and Digital Literacy. With Technology playing such a significant role in society today, we believe 'Computational thinking' is an imperative skill that students' should be taught in order to participate effectively and safely in this digital world. A high-quality computing education equips students to use creativity to understand and change the world. Computing has deep links with mathematics, science, and design and technology, and provides insights into both natural and artificial systems. We want our students to develop the foundations to enable them to be discerning, life-long learners in a fast-moving landscape. We want the students to assess the effects of this sometimes-disruptive influence and make changes based on a solid knowledge of the technology sector.

Maths

We aim to provide opportunities for students to develop their mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding so that they can be confident in solving problems and communicating logical arguments. We need to help students understand that what motivates maths is the problem to be solved, and that the way in which they do this, including how they work towards certainty themselves and also convince others, is the key habit of mind that a mathematical education brings. This can be rewarding in its own right; maths for the sake of maths. But it is also what makes it crucial in supporting further study, from physics to psychology. It helps students to make good decisions in their professional and personal lives, so that they develop the financial literacy and mathematical common sense to take well informed decisions. This mathematical education should give the tools to evaluate arguments, avoid big mistakes and identify misleading information.

MFL

We aim to provide students with the opportunity to develop their communication skills and seek to break down barriers between different cultures and languages. Students study topics and themes that allow them to develop their oral and written literacy and to see links between their own language/community and those of others, but also to develop as more confident individuals and as global citizens who are successfully able to work, travel and navigate through the global community and work market.

Music

We aim to provide students with a musical education that gives them a sense of Music as a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. Our aim is to engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of Music and their talent as Musicians, and so increase their self-confidence,

creativity and sense of achievement. As students progress, they should develop a critical engagement with Music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to a wide range of music and musicians.

PE

We aim to provide a high-quality Physical Education Curriculum that inspires all pupils to succeed and excel in competitive sport and other physically-demanding activities. It should provide opportunities for pupils to become physically confident in a way which supports their health and fitness. Using the concept of Head (thinking) Hands (doing) and Heart (behavioural change) pupils should develop into thinking physical beings and doing physical beings which impact on the behavioural change to equip them for lifelong participation. Opportunities to compete in sport and other activities build character and help to embed values such as fairness and respect.

RE

We aim to provide the opportunity to develop religiously literate students who understand their role as global citizens in a diverse world. Through RE students should gain the skills to critically analyse and evaluate arguments and opinions in order to gain an understanding of their own beliefs as well as an acceptance of various other beliefs and practices throughout the world. Students will build an understanding of the Christian beliefs that all people are made in the Image of God and so should be treated with dignity and respect.

Science: Biology

We aim to provide a Biology curriculum that helps us to understand how organisms are structured and function. It helps us discover how the world works, our place, impact, role and the responsibilities we have. Students should be able to explore scientific ideas, develop analytical problem solving and practical skills. We are committed to providing a stimulating, engaging and intellectually challenging learning environment to enable all our students to develop as responsible global citizens.

Science: Chemistry

We aim to provide a Chemistry curriculum that helps students understand and appreciate the world around them, helping them to make good decisions affecting their health and safety and have a positive impact on the environment throughout their lives. Chemistry has a particular focus on chemical reactions, including those causing pollution in the atmosphere. We aim to teach students to carry out a range of experiments safely and to understand what their results mean in a wider context. Chemistry is also a gateway subject to various important and highly competitive careers, so we aim to teach students using evidence-based practice to help form the best possible foundations for each next step of their studies.

Science: Physics

We aim to provide a Physics curriculum that gives young people an appreciation of how the world works, teach how to form conclusions from observations and logical process and to show young people how to use their imagination and modelling to grasp challenging concepts and solve larger problems, both environmental and technological

Social Science

We aim to provide a Social Science curriculum that will foster a 'critical imagination' into human behaviours and societies and to make reasoned arguments and judgements about 'why' people behave the way they do. Students should be able to evaluate sources of information and reflect on knowledge and theories to make positive contributions in society. We help students to think about their place in the world and the ways in which they can influence it.

Technology

We aim to provide an opportunity to develop practical and theoretical problem-solving skills which can be applied to all aspects of their lives. It should allow students to explore both the natural and ever-changing manmade world, taking inspiration from the world around them and producing creative solutions to problems which they may encounter.

Pastoral, RSE and Form Time Curriculum

We aim to provide to provide a nurturing curriculum that supports and challenges students. We provide statutory RSE sessions and we work with students during form times to explore big moral issues. Through careers sessions, we ensure students are prepared and informed about the next steps in their journey. We aim to provide a form time curriculum that supports personal, academic and spiritual growth.