

The vision of the school is that we inspire students to engage, aspire and excel.

To prepare our students for their future lives in the modern world, we aim to:

- Nurture a love of learning, and pursuit of academic excellence and scholarship
- Develop independence, adaptability, determination and confidence
- Stimulate curiosity, open-mindedness and creativity
- Foster empathy, generosity and respect for others
- Cultivate participation, commitment, leadership and responsibility

The School believes that the curriculum should reflect our vision and aims by providing an ambitious and stimulating experience for all students and that the term curriculum should be understood in its broadest sense by comprising all learning and other experiences planned for our students. This policy is organised by considering the intent of the curriculum, its implementation and how its impact is assessed.

1. Curriculum Intent:

Tiffin School has designed a curriculum that:

- is relevant, appropriate and engaging for students
- is determined to maintain our unusually broad, balanced and coherent education
- recognises the importance of knowledge as well as skills
- permits continuity and progression, within and across year groups
- provides equality of opportunity for all students, promoting the development of inclusive learning opportunities
- provides an opportunity to celebrate and recognise achievement and success in academic subjects and in extra-curricular activities
- promotes students' spiritual, moral, cultural and social development, developing students' cultural capital, especially for the most disadvantaged students
- helps to develop an understanding of personal, social and health issues such as drugs, sex and relationships and the importance of a healthy lifestyle, which prepares them for all types of relationships in their futures
- encourages the appreciation of British Values
- helps each student gain a sense of self-worth, independence of thought and develop a questioning approach which challenges prejudice
- aims to develop students as critical thinkers, flexible and independent learners
- provides careers advice and guidance throughout a student's time at School

- permits the development of ICT, numeracy and literacy across the curriculum
- enables all students to meet their full academic potential
- encourages students to take part in a wealth of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities

2. Curriculum Implementation

General principles

- In addition to the formal taught curriculum, an extensive range of high quality extra curricular clubs and activities, subject enrichment and trips and visits are offered to all students.
- Where possible trips are encouraged to be organised across departmental boundaries to facilitate interdisciplinary learning.
- There is a programme of careers education throughout a student's time at School guided by the Gatsby recommendations including the opportunity for work experience at Key Stages 4 and 5.
- All students in Years 7 to 13 have allocated afternoons for sport in addition to timetabled PE in Years 7 to 11 and Dance lessons in Years 7 to 9.
- All lessons at Key Stage 3 are taught in mixed ability groups within the context of our academically selective intake, except for Mathematics which are set from Year 8 and Music which is set in Year 9.
- At Key Stage 3 as broad a curriculum as possible is maintained for three years. All students study discrete subjects of Dance, Music, Art, DT, modern and ancient languages in addition to the core curriculum.
- Year 7 students follow a Science course then study separate Biology, Chemistry and Physics from years 8 to 11. All students have the option to study Computer Science GCSE in Years 10 and 11.
- The Religion and Philosophy curriculum is a bespoke course designed to deliver Religious Studies, Philosophy and critical thinking to all students in years 7 to 9 in a challenging and innovative programme of study. At KS4 the full course GCSE qualification is taught as an option but all students continue to receive some religious education through the assembly program.
- At Key Stage 4 the breadth of the curriculum is maintained, students are given the free choice of three GCSE options beyond the core curriculum, completing 10 GCSEs including a modern language.
- At Key Stage 4 setting continues for maths and there is some setting for Modern Language classes. The brightest mathematicians also study a GCSE in Further Maths.
- Students also follow a programme of personal, social and health education in Years 7 to 11, which includes the RSE provision.

- As far as possible and in the vast majority of subjects, students are taught by subject specialists who teach the full 11-18 age range. This is true for all key stages.
- At Key Stage 5 the school offers an academic curriculum of A Levels, all students choose a minimum of three with approximately 30 to 40% opting for four subjects. Although STEM subjects are exceptionally strong, the school also successfully maintains five languages at A Level, as well as a strength in the Arts subjects such as A Level Music.
- In addition at Key Stage 5, all students follow a weekly timetabled enrichment programme, have a dedicated games afternoon, are given the opportunity to do individual extended projects and take part in a comprehensive HE and Progression programme.
- In all Years from 7 to 13, all students have regular tutorial meetings, assemblies and House Meetings.
- The provision of subjects in all Key Stages is reviewed regularly. Any issues relating to a subject, or discussions of possible new subjects, are discussed at the Governors' Curriculum Committee.

Key Stage 3: Years 7, 8 and 9)

- Our curriculum is designed to allow all students to experience as wide a range of subjects in Years 7, 8 and 9 as possible.
- In Year 7 all students study a broad curriculum of:
 - English
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - French or German
 - Latin
 - History
 - Geography
 - Religion, Philosophy & Ethics
 - ICT
 - Art
 - Design & Technology
 - Drama
 - Music
 - Dance
 - Physical Education and Games
 - Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (21st Century Life)
- In Year 8, all students study Biology, Chemistry and Physics instead of Science
- In Year 9 students may opt to study either Drama or Latin. They also begin to study GCSE topics in their science lessons.

Key Stage 4: Years 10 and 11

- The curriculum remains broad in Key Stage 4. Most students study 10 GCSEs while a few add Greek GCSE to their studies.
- At Key Stage 4 all students study the core curriculum of:
 - English Language
 - English Literature
 - Mathematics
 - French or German
 - Physical Education and Games
 - Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (21st Century Life)
- All students study science, the majority study separate sciences in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, while some opt to study a combination of Combined Science:Trilogy and Computer Science.
- Students also have a free choice of three 'option' subjects from:
 - Art
 - Design & Technology
 - Drama
 - Geography
 - History
 - Latin or Latin and Greek
 - Music
 - PE
 - Religion & Philosophy
 - Spanish
- The majority of students choose to take at least one creative subject (such as Art, Music and Design Technology) and the vast majority achieve the English Baccalaureate.
- The School endeavours to meet the subject requests of all students; however, at times this may not be feasible, due to the constraints of the timetable.

Key Stage 5: Years 12 and 13

Students have a free choice of A levels from the list in Annex B. Most choose to study three subjects for two years. Those with high average grades at GCSE may choose to study four subjects. Those studying Maths with Further Maths are expected to choose two other A Levels subjects.

- All Year 12 students follow a weekly timetabled enrichment programme.
- Years 12 and 13 have a dedicated sports afternoon, are given the opportunity to do individual extended projects and take part in a comprehensive HE and Progression programme. They have regular tutorial meetings, assemblies and House Meetings.

- The School normally meets the subject requests of all students; however, occasionally this may not be feasible, due to the constraints of the timetable.

Adapting the curriculum for individual students

In general all students follow a complete curriculum throughout their time at Tiffin, however, individuals will be accommodated when their needs are such that this is not possible. The Assistant Head for the Key Stage, Head of Year, SENCo and Deputy Head will work together to propose the best study route. This may include the number of subjects studied and the qualifications entered for.

3. Curriculum impact:

The impact of our curriculum is assessed by considering:

- External examination results at both GCSE and A Level, including the numbers gaining top grades in a wide variety of subjects
- Twice yearly formal review meetings of each department.
- The variety and quality of extra-curricular and enrichment activities
- The retention of students from Year 11 into the Sixth Form.
- The numbers of students applying to join the School in Year 7 and Year 12.
- The proportion of students who are able to choose the courses they want to at GCSE and at A Level.
- The destinations of our leavers at Year 11 and Year 13.
- Annual reviews of the PSHE and assembly programme.

If parents require any further information about the curriculum they should contact the Deputy Headteacher

Annexes:

A. Timing of the School day

B. Curriculum Model 2019-20

Annex A: Timing of the School Day (please note that due to COVID restrictions a different timings have been followed since September 2020)

08:30-08:40 am	Registration
08:40-09:30 am	Period 1

09:30-10:20 am	Period 2
10:20-10:40am	Assembly / tutor time/ House Meeting
10:40-11:00 am	Break
11:00-11:50 am	Period 3
11:50-12:40 pm	Period 4
12:40-1:50 pm	Lunch
1:50 - 2:40 pm	Period 5
2:40-3:30 pm	Period 6

On Thursday, the school begins at 9:20 with registration and P2 at 9:30

Annex B Curriculum Model 2019-20

In Years 7 to 11 students have 58 lessons per fortnight.

The details are below; the number in brackets gives the number of lessons per fortnight.

Year 7

Art (3) Dance (1) Design & Technology (3) Drama (2) English (8)

French or German (6) Games (4) Geography (3) History (3) ICT (2) Latin (3) Mathematics (6) Music (3) PE (2) Religion & Philosophy (2) Science (6) 21st Century Life (1)

Year 8

Art (3) Biology (3) Chemistry (3) Cookery (2) Dance (1) Design & Technology (3) Drama (1)

English (6) French or German (6) Games (4) Geography (3) History (3) Latin (3)

Mathematics (6) Music (3) PE (2) Physics (3) Religion & Philosophy (2) 21st Century Life (1)

Year 9

Art (3) Biology (3) Chemistry (3) Dance (1) Design & Technology (3) English (6) French or German

(7) Games (4) Geography (3) History (3) Latin or Drama (4) Mathematics (6) Music (3) PE (2)

Physics (3) Religion & Philosophy(3) 21st Century Life (1)

Students will start GCSE topics in the science lessons this year.

Year 10

Students follow GCSE courses in

English (GCSEs in English and English Literature) (7) French or German (6) Mathematics (6)

Most students will also study Biology (5) Chemistry (5) Physics (5), some may opt for an alternative course of Combined Science Trilogy and Computer Science (6 periods for Computer Science and 9 for combined science).

Students choose to follow a further 3 GCSE courses from:

Art; Dance; Design & Technology; Drama; Geography; History; Latin; Latin & Greek; Music; PE; Spanish.

Each of these courses takes 6 periods per fortnight, except Latin& Greek which is also taught for 2 additional periods after school.

All students also follow non examined courses of PE (2) Games (4) 21st Century Life (1)

Year 11

Students follow GCSE courses in:

English (GCSEs in English and English Literature) (7) French or German (6) Mathematics (6) Biology (4) Chemistry (4) Physics (4). Some may opt for an alternative course of Combined Science Trilogy and Computer Science (5 periods for Computer Science including 2 after school and 9 for combined science).

Students choose to follow a further 3 GCSE courses from:

Art; Dance; Design & Technology; Drama; Geography; History; Latin; Latin & Greek; Music; PE; Spanish.

Each of these optional courses takes 7 periods per fortnight except Latin & Greek which is also taught for 2 additional periods after school.

All students also follow non examined courses of PE (1) Games (4) 21st Century Life (1)

Sixth Form

Most students take three A Levels. Those studying Further Maths start the Year 12 course with 4 A Levels and are encouraged to continue with all four throughout the two year course.

In addition all students study an Enrichment course in Year 12 and have a games afternoon.

Year 13 also have a games afternoon and have time allocated to supervised independent study.

Courses Available

Art & Design, Biology, Chemistry, Design Technology, Drama and Theatre Studies, Economics, English Literature, French, Geography, German, Government and Politics, Greek, History, Latin, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Music, Psychology; Physics, Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics), Spanish.

Further Course information is on the website.