

The Cherwell School

Curriculum Plan for 2016-2017

Key Stage 3

Year 7: English, Maths, Science, Art, DT, Computing, Geography, History, RS/Social Wellbeing, Drama, Music, PE, German or Spanish.

All subjects are taught in mixed ability Form groups except Maths, PE and Computing. Maths is set by ability within two half-year bands, whilst PE includes a top set, with other students in mixed ability groups.

A small group of students is taught in the LS base on South Site (7 Stars), and given a programme of intensive Literacy and Numeracy.

Year 8: As per Year 7 with the addition of French.

A small group of students attends a Study Support option instead of French, which focuses on development of reading, literacy, and pre-teaching of content to support students in English lessons.

Year 9: Subjects as per Year 8. In Mathematics, the year group is divided into two equal halves on the timetable. Each half is then set by ability, creating 6 sets on each side of the year group. Science & English are taught in mixed ability groups, but not Form groups. In Computing, students are grouped according to a combination of prior attainment and level of interest in programming, in order to provide the most appropriate balance of ICT and Computing content.

In Citizenship, students begin their GCSE course, covering content which will be examined at the end of Year 10.

Throughout Key Stage 3 there are a number of curriculum pathways available which include alternative/support curriculum provision for some students.

There is a programme of CEIAG built into KS3 to aid them in the decision making process in Year 9 regarding options for Year 10/11. This provision is built into a coherent programme delivered through Social Wellbeing lessons. Students get further CEIAG input through assemblies, tutor time and extra-curricular events.

Key Stage 4

There is a core programme of GCSE English Language, GCSE English Literature, GCSE Maths, GCSE Double Science (2 GCSEs as Core plus Additional) or Triple Science (3 GCSEs as Core plus Additional and Extension), Citizenship (1 GCSE) and Core PE. Students complete their Citizenship qualification in Year 10. In Year 11, this time is then divided between English, Maths and Social Wellbeing.

In Maths and Science there is setting by ability within two half-year bands. There is also some setting within Core PE.

The majority of students also choose four option subjects from (GCSEs unless stated): - French (one set of 'Fast track' where the aim is to take the GCSE in Year 10 and start the AS course in Year 11), German, Spanish, Product Design, Engineering, Food Technology, Art, Graphics, BTEC Engineering, Drama, Music, Dance, Geography, History, Philosophy and Ethics, Sociology, Sports Science, Level 2 Health and Fitness,

Business Studies, Health & Social Care, Computer Science, ICT and Astronomy (extra-curricular). We also offer a Level 2 Engineering Qualification in Bike Maintenance as part of our alternative provision.

For some students (often linked with the Behaviour for Learning Support Bases) we further broaden their opportunities by using other offsite programmes with external providers such as Meadowbrook College.

There is a programme of CEIAG built into KS4 to aid students in the decision making process in Year 11 regarding options for Post 16. This provision is built into tutor periods, Social Wellbeing, assemblies and additional off-timetable sessions. In addition there is one week of work experience for all students in Year 11. The statutory responsibility for organising this is with schools and we have adjusted our provision and staffing accordingly.

Post 16

We have an extensive range of A Level courses on offer. The vast majority of students take their courses in house at Cherwell with a very small percentage accessing courses available through the OCL partnership. The norm is for students to undertake 3 A Level courses, although in some cases 4 may be appropriate. This is usually when a student is studying Maths, and wants to study Further Maths as a fourth option.

The Extended Project Qualification is compulsory for all students in Year 12 from September 2016. For this academic year, there is also a Year 13 cohort who are taking EPQ as a non-compulsory option.

'Maths for Science' is available to add breadth to our Science programmes, and is studied by students who have taken Science but not Maths.

On Friday mornings, Year 12 undertake a programme of sessions focused around Social Wellbeing, but also including elements such as Careers, Values and Character, and developing learning skills. Sessions are compulsory and delivered in the hall to half the year group at a time.

There is a programme of CEIAG built into Years 12 & 13 to aid them in the decision making process in Year 12/13 regarding options for after Year 13. This provision is built into Tutor time, assemblies and additional off-timetable sessions. In particular, Term 6 of Year 12 is used to provide a series of taught sessions in which students are provided guidance as to the UCAS process and preparing for next steps.

TB July 2016