

Woodbridge School
CURRICULUM POLICY

1 Policy Statement

Woodbridge School provides full-time supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age, which gives them experience in, and the opportunity to learn and make progress in, linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical, and aesthetic and creative education. The curriculum provides breadth and balance for all pupils, with an element of choice post age 14, allowing increasing specialisation at GCSE and A level. Through its pre-prep department, Queen's House, Woodbridge School also provides full time supervised Early Years education for pupils aged 4-5 years. Early Years education is concerned with the physical, social, emotional, aesthetic and intellectual development of the individual child with no one area standing in isolation from the others.

Subject matter is appropriate for the ages and aptitudes of the pupils, including those pupils with special educational needs, those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, and those for whom English is an additional language, allowing them to acquire skills in speaking and listening, literacy and numeracy. The curriculum provides equal access and opportunities for all pupils and ensures that differentiation, progress and continuity are present.

The School reinforces its aims and ethos through the Personal, Social and Health Education programme (for the Senior School programme, see appendix 1) and through the tutorial support network. It offers its pupils appropriate careers guidance and supports the application process for those who seek to enter university (see appendix 2). It seeks to provide its pupils with an excellent preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of each next phase of their education, and of their adult life.

2 Procedure: Queen's House (Years 0-2)

The Foundation Stage Curriculum is followed by pupils in Reception: communication, language and literacy, problem solving, reasoning and numeracy, knowledge and understanding of the world, physical development, creative development, personal, social and emotional development. In addition French and food technology are also taught. Food technology is taught to small groups of children on a rotational basis, in the Summer Term.

The following subjects are studied throughout each year by pupils in Years 1 and 2 (KS1): English, mathematics, science, ICT, French, music, religious studies, PSHE, art, physical education and games. History and geography are taught as follows: Year 1: history, term

1; geography, term 2; as a joint subject, term 3. Year 2: history and geography half a term each for two terms, then taught as a joint subject in term 3.

In addition, food technology is taught to groups of 5 or 6 children, on a rotational basis to Year 2 in the Michaelmas Term, and Year 1 in the Spring Term; and design technology is also taught in blocks.

In Year 2 pupils learn to play the recorder. The majority of pupils in Year 2 attend swimming lessons, though these are not compulsory.

3 Procedure : The Abbey (Years 3-6)

The Abbey reinforces its aims and ethos through the Personal, Social and Health Education programme which is taught once a week to all classes as a curriculum subject. The Abbey seeks to provide its pupils an excellent preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of secondary school life.

The curriculum is organized as following for Years 3 to 6:

Year 3: English, mathematics (in sets), science, ICT, Italian, history, geography, PSHE, religious studies, music, design technology/handwriting (classes divide for these two subjects), art, physical education, games, swimming (for half of the year)

Year 4: English, mathematics (in sets), science, ICT, Spanish, history, geography, PSHE, religious studies, music (one lesson will be a strings lesson), design technology/handwriting (classes divided for these two subjects), art, physical education, games, swimming (for half of the year)

Year 5: English, mathematics (in sets), science, ICT, German and language awareness, history, geography, PSHE, religious studies, music, design technology/handwriting (classes divide for these two subjects), art/food technology (classes divide for these two subjects), physical education, games

Year 6: English (in sets), mathematics (in sets), science, ICT, French and language awareness, history, geography, PSHE, religious studies, music, design technology/handwriting (classes divide for these two subjects), art/food technology (classes divide for these two subjects), physical education, games.

Each subject has a teacher responsible for it, overseen by the Director of Studies. Heads of Department at the Senior School have an annual liaison meeting with the teacher responsible for that subject at the Abbey to ensure continuity of content and skills.

All classes attend Hymn Practice for the form period on Wednesday mornings.

The lessons are 35 minutes in length. There are occasions when double periods are timetabled.

4 Procedure: Senior School

The following subjects are studied by pupils in Year 7: English, drama, mathematics, science, French, religious studies, history, geography, music, art, design & technology, ICT (The Independent Schools Examination Board (ISEB) Certificate in ICT is offered in Years 7 and 8), PE (Athletics, Badminton, Gymnastics, Health Related Fitness, Swimming, Tennis, and The Development Programme), games (rugby (boys), hockey (boys and girls), netball (girls), cricket (boys), rounders (girls)), and on Friday afternoons along with the rest of the school The Seckford Scheme (for Year 7 this takes the form of a circus of taster and skills courses including Mandarin; touch typing, drama, musical composition, chess, sports development etc). Pupils may continue with Mandarin as part of the clubs and activities offered at lunch times.

In Year 8 pupils continue to study English, drama, mathematics, science, French, religious studies, history, geography, music, art, design & technology, ICT (see above), PE and games (as Year 7). They also begin a second modern language (either Spanish or German) and Latin. The Seckford Scheme continues with a second year of rotated activities (art, film, golf, keep fit, multi media, swimming etc).

This curriculum remains broadly in place for Year 9 (for example: in PE basketball replaces gymnastics). In addition, pupils may start Japanese and may continue to GCSE in Year 11, but these lessons take place outside the normal curriculum time. In Year 9, science is taught as three separate subjects: physics, chemistry and biology. Some pupils follow a continuation music course instead of design and technology. In Year 9 ICT is no longer taught to the whole year as a classroom activity; however, Computer Studies (Computing) is offered out of lesson times to a select cohort of students as a project-based course leading to GCSE Computing in Year 10. The Seckford Scheme now offers a range of activities (which change a little from year to year) which are pursued for the whole year. At this stage the vast majority join the CCF. Other options they might pursue in any of their remaining years at school (some are restricted to sixth formers) include archery, arts awards, CCF, charity work, chess, community service, cookery, dance, digital photography, drama, horse riding, music, sailing, sports leaders, theatre support, textiles, class assisting at a special needs school, and the Woodbridgian magazine.

At the end of Year 9 pupils choose the GCSEs to study in Years 10 and 11. GCSE examinations are taken at the end of Year 10 (in some subjects) as well as at the end of the GCSE course in Year 11. Pupils may opt for GCSE physical education as an additional subject in both years. The core curriculum is English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science (science and additional science, or biology, chemistry and physics separately), one modern foreign language, and three or four other subjects drawn from business studies, drama, religious studies, history, geography, music, art & design, design & technology, Latin, French, German and Spanish. GCSE Computing is also offered as an option. In addition all pupils continue with PE (as Year 9) and games (as above) for Year 10, and the Seckford Scheme (as above) for both years. Year 11 PE (non-examined) covers

Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Health Related Fitness, Resistance Training (Gym), Trampolining and Tennis. Year 11 pupils join the Sixth Form year groups for games sessions. The choices widen beyond the team sports listed above to include: Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Football (boys), Health Related Fitness, Resistance Training (Gym), Shooting, Squash, Swimming, Tennis (indoor) and Trampolining.

In the Lower Sixth, most pupils take four or five AS Levels which allows them to keep the curriculum broad or to specialise. The subjects available may vary slightly from year to year but will usually include: art & design, biology, business studies, chemistry, classical civilisation, computing, design: product and 3D design, drama, economics, English language and literature, English literature, French, German, geography, history, Latin, mathematics and further mathematics, music, philosophy, physical education, physics, psychology, religious studies, and Spanish. Those who opt for further mathematics may take five subjects. Italian GCSE is available *ab initio*, and one period per week is devoted to non-examined critical thinking until the end of the fifth term in the Sixth Form. Some students opt for the AQA extended project. In addition all pupils continue with games (as Year 11 above), and the Seckford Scheme.

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