

Royds Hall Community School

Secondary Curriculum

Curriculum Vision

Our goal is for all students to leave Royds Hall Community School well prepared for future success in all aspects of their lives.

Our school is committed to developing a learning community which is safe, purposeful, challenging and fosters mutual respect between all members.

High quality teaching enables students to enjoy their learning, achieve their potential and develop as individuals. This includes stimulating lessons which:

- Improve knowledge, skills and understanding;
- Endeavour to overcome barriers to learning;
- Make clear to students the next steps to further improvement;
- Promote behaviour conducive for all to learn.

Opportunities will be provided for all students to receive appropriate levels of challenge and support, to broaden their cultural, social, sporting and technological horizons, to develop independence and to be prepared for living and working in a diverse 21st Century society.

To achieve these goals students should:

- Attend regularly, arrive on time and be ready and equipped for learning.
- Work hard and be ready to learn in all lessons.
- Treat all members of the school community with respect.
- Use their planner as a means of communication between school and home and to record homework.

Phase 1 (Years 7 and 8)

In Phase 1 all students follow the National Curriculum. Students are taught in mixed ability classes for most subjects. A small alternative curriculum group is available to students who need extra support for social and emotional as well as learning needs. The alternative curriculum group follows an adapted curriculum to meet the needs of the students within the group.

All students complete Phase 1 at the end of Year 8. Students are closely monitored to ensure that no student is left behind and appropriate provision is made to maximise students' progress, whatever their starting point. These first two years provide the foundation for an earlier start to GCSE courses. This accelerated approach is designed to remove the obstacles that can hold back the most able and is also a motivating force for all students who will benefit from the faster pace of learning.

In Phase 1, students experience a wide range of subjects, which allows them to make sound option choices. In Phase 2, students chose three options across a variety of subjects, including technology, the arts, a choice of computing qualifications and the social sciences, thus ensuring a balanced variety of subjects to suit all learners is maintained. There is an excellent choice of enrichment activities to further enhance students' breadth of experience.

The following subjects are taught in Phase 1:

Subject	Periods per week
English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Art	1
Music	1
Drama	1
History	1
Geography	1
Computing	1
Modern Foreign Languages (French)	2
ERIC / PSE	1
PE	2
Technology	2
Total	25

Phase 2 (Years 9, 10 and 11)

In Phase 2 students are placed in two half year bands. The year groups are divided into mixed ability bands for all subjects. A blend of mixed ability and 'setted' teaching is used throughout Phase 2 depending on the subject style of delivery and the need to maximise student progress. Where possible, the curriculum is arranged to allow for free movement between sets so learning is matched to individual needs.

Students who we feel would find it difficult to succeed in main stream classes are placed in an alternative curriculum group where they follow an adapted curriculum to meet the needs of the students within the group, joining the main school to study their GCSE options.

The EBacc

We offer a broad range of GCSE subjects to our students, with EBacc options featuring strongly: including Computer Science, Geography, History, French, Spanish, as well as the opportunity to sit GCSEs in heritage languages. The EBacc is not a compulsory element of our curriculum, however,

more able students studying languages as core, are strongly advised to study these facilitating subjects with a view to future study at top universities.

From September 2017 Year 9 students will study three options across a variety of subjects, including humanities, social sciences, technology, the arts, and a choice of computing qualifications, thus ensuring that a balanced variety of subjects to suit all learners is maintained. Year 10 students will study two option subjects over two years whilst Year 11 students will complete their final GCSE over one year.

Subjects taught in Phase 2:

Subject	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
English	4	4	4
Mathematics	4	4	4
Sciences	6	6	6
ERIC/ PSHCE	1	1	1
PE	2	2	2
Option A	2	3	6
Option B	2	3	
Option C	2		
Languages / ICT	2	2	2
Total	25	25	25