

# **ST JULIAN'S SCHOOL**

# **CURRICULUM POLICY**

**Reviewed by: Achievement & Curriculum Committee**

**Approved: November 2014**

**Revised: June 2016**

**Next Review Date: July 2017**

## **Introduction**

We believe that learning is an enjoyable, lifelong process through which everyone can achieve their potential and meet their expectations. We will challenge and support our students to do their very best by providing an extensive range of learning experiences, as far as possible personalising the curriculum for individual students.

## **Roles and responsibilities of Headteacher, other staff, governors**

### **The Headteacher will ensure that:**

- All statutory elements of the curriculum, and those subjects which the school chooses to offer, have aims and objectives which reflect the aims of the school and indicate how the needs of individual students will be met. This will include how the subject will be taught and assessed, and how the subject will support the development of literacy, numeracy and the use of Information and Communications Technology.
- The amount of time provided for teaching the curriculum is adequate and is reviewed by the governors annually.
- The procedures for assessment meet all legal requirements, and students and their parents/carers receive information to show how much progress the students are making, how they compare with school or national expectations, and what is required to help them improve.
- The governing body is fully involved in decision-making processes that relate to the breadth and balance of the curriculum.
- The governing body is advised on statutory targets in order to make informed decisions.

### **The governing body will ensure that:**

- It considers the advice of the Headteacher when approving this curriculum policy and when setting statutory and non-statutory targets.
- Progress towards annual statutory targets is monitored.
- National Curriculum teacher assessment results and end of Key Stage 4 and 5 results are published in the school profile and progress towards meeting agreed targets is described.
- Parents and Carers receive timely reports on the progress of their child against clearly defined expectations.
- It participates actively in decision-making about the breadth and balance of the curriculum.

## **Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation**

The governing body will receive reports, at least annually, from the Headteacher on:

- The standards reached in each subject or groups of subjects, by every year group, against national averages and similar schools.
- The standards achieved at the end of each key stage by gender and ethnicity, compared with national and local benchmarks.
- The standards achieved by students with special educational needs and groups deemed to be vulnerable.
- The number of students for whom the curriculum was disapplied, the arrangements which were made, how students and parents were informed, how progress was monitored, the progress made by those students.
- The evidence of the impact of external intervention and support and national strategies on standards.

## **OVERVIEW**

At St Julian's we ensure that a broad and balanced curriculum is provided for our students, incorporating English, maths and science qualifications along with the provision of religious education teaching for 11-16. For KS5 students a range of subjects is offered, including enrichment activities, to provide students with the most relevant pathway for further study or employment. A range of extracurricular activities are provided for students at each Key Stage and help to complement and enrich the timetabled curriculum.

The curriculum at KS3 and KS4 follows the National Curriculum. A well-structured Tutorial Programme gives ample opportunity to cover a comprehensive programme of personal, social and health education, along with careers advice and guidance. This programme provides a key strand to our delivery of literacy, numeracy and problem solving skills and complements the delivery of skills across the curriculum.

Objectives relating to the curriculum aims of St Julian's School are:

1. That students should become aware of their abilities and in so doing should develop them to their maximum potential.
2. That students should be aware of the needs of the community and be prepared to contribute fully to the life of the community.

3. That all students should be offered a curriculum that has breadth and depth. It must be tailored to each student and satisfy their requirements.

4. That students who leave St Julian's School should be articulate, literate and numerate, and have lively, enquiring, independent minds.

5. That students who leave St Julian's School should:

- be confident in their dealings with adults and peers;
- be able to develop good working relationships with others;
- have knowledge of a wide range of cultures and through this come to respect the rights and needs of others;
- be able to make good moral judgements;
- have developed a love of learning that will last for the rest of their lives;
- be adaptable enough to react to the needs of a fast changing world.

### KEY STAGE 3

During KS3 students follow the National Curriculum Subjects as outlined in the table below. They all belong to a tutor group which is also linked to one of the four school Houses - Caradog, Glyndwr, Hywel Dda and Llywelyn. Each day consists of 5 one hour lessons preceded by 25 minutes of tutorial time. Personal and Social Education is taught within the tutorial slot. This model is based on a 50 lesson, 2 week cycle.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Year 7 (hours)</b>	<b>Year 8 (hours)</b>	<b>Year 9 (hours)</b>
English	6	6	6
Mathematics	7	7	7
Science	6	6	6
French	5	5	5
Spanish	5	5	6
Geography	3	3	3
History	3	3	3
Religious Education	2	2	2
ICT	2	2	2
Art	2	2	2
Drama	2	2	2
Music	2	2	2
Welsh	3	3	3
PE	3	3	3
Design & Technology	4	4	4

Notes:

Students study either French or Spanish in Year 7, 8 and 9. This is alternated each year.

All students begin to study their GCSEs or BTECs during year 9 in mathematics and science.

We have also established a "Boost" group to support some of our most vulnerable of learners in years 7 - 9. In Year 7, 33 of their 50 hours a fortnight are delivered by a single teacher - with only MFL, Welsh, Science, PE and D&T delivered by subject specialists. This provides these learners with more consistency and a greater level of personal support. In year 8 and 9 these students remain in this group for the majority of subjects and are taught by individual subject specialists.

## KEY STAGE 4

All students follow a core curriculum of GCSEs (or equivalent) in English Literature and Language, Mathematics, Science (double award), Welsh and short course Religious Studies, along with core PE. This accounts for 60% of curriculum time. Students are then carefully guided in year 9 to fill the remaining KS4 time with 4 options from the following:

All students study level 2 Welsh Baccalaureate and are carefully guided to fill the remaining KS4 time with 3 options from the following:

GCSE Art	GCSE History
BTEC Photography	GCSE/BTEC IT
BTEC/GCSE Business Studies	BTEC Engineering
GCSE Fashion and Clothing	GCSE Physical Education
GCSE Product Design	GCSE Sociology
GCSE Religious Studies	BTEC Childcare
BTEC/GCSE Performing Arts	BTEC Music
BTEC Hospitality	BTEC Health and Social Care
GCSE French	BTEC Travel and Tourism
GCSE Spanish	BTEC Construction
GCSE Geography	BTEC Media
GCSE Graphic Products	Level 1 Performing Arts
Level 1 Retail	Level 1 Travel and Tourism
Level 1 Public Services	Level 1 IT
Level 1 Hospitality	Level 1 Business Administration
Level 1 Art	Level 1 Construction
Level 1 Health and Social Care	Level 1 Welsh Bacc
Level 1 Hair & Beauty	

During an options evening in Year 9, students and their families are carefully guided to the most appropriate courses. Each family is linked to an advisor who has all relevant data to hand and between them a course most likely to provide greatest opportunities for success and future prospects is agreed. All courses are studied until the end of Year 11 (Level 1 courses 1 year). Option blocks are formed based upon the student choices, staffing availability and sufficient numbers to run a particular course. Students who follow Level 1 courses also study Level 1 Welsh Bacc and Essential Skills.

### **More Appropriate Curriculum**

For a variety of reasons, some students in KS4 find mainstream education difficult and after support, consultation with parents/carers and relevant agencies, some students are placed on a curriculum path that is more appropriate for their individual needs. In some cases students will follow an entire curriculum of this nature and others will follow a mix of mainstream education and a curriculum tailored to their individual needs. This split will be carefully arranged to provide each individual student with the very best opportunities to succeed.

Typically, this curriculum will be designed around the individual according to the following choices:

Internal Referral Centre Support	Youth Worker Support	MAC Core Group Work
Hair and Beauty (CG)	Riverfront Theatre- ONC Music	Riverfront Theatre- theatrical makeup
Infoshop	Positive Futures	Construction (CG)
BVR (CG)	Health and Social Care (CG)	Multimedia (CG)
Business Admin (CG)	IT (CG)	Art (CG)
Fabrication and Welding (CG)	Small Animal Care (Usk)	Agriculture (Usk)
Land Based Studies (Usk)	Horse Care (Usk)	Military Prep
Mechanics (CG)	ASDAN	



## KEY STAGE 5

A varied programme of subjects are offered at Post-16 education which allows a number of pathways to be followed and the opportunity to continue studies at Higher Education. Our policy is to cater for the needs of all of our students who choose to continue their studies at St Julian's. We therefore offer the opportunity for students to study at level 1, 2 or 3. This provides every student with a progression pathway to further study or into the world of work. The subjects on offer at St Julian's at level 3 are as follows:

AS/A2 English Literature	AS/A2 Mathematics	AS/A2 Biology
Level 2 English & Maths	AS/A2 Religious Studies	AS/A2 Physics
AS/A2 Sociology	AS/A2 Design Technology	AS/A2 Chemistry
BTEC Media Studies	AS/A2 Geography	AS/A2 Psychology
AS/A2 French	AS/A2 History	BTEC Applied Science
AS/A2 Spanish	AS/A2 Art	BTEC Health & Social Care
BTEC Applied Business	AS/A2 Welsh	BTEC ICT
BTEC Music	BTEC Performing Arts	BTEC Hospitality
BTEC Sports Studies	BTEC Travel & Tourism	AS/A2 Religious Studies

St Julian's is part of a collaborative offer with other schools on the east side of Newport. Our main collaboration is with Lliswerry High School but some students also travel to Caerleon High School.

The level 3 curriculum offer across these schools is as follows:

BTEC Electronics	AS/A2 Further Maths	AS/A2 ICT
BTEC Engineering	BTEC Public Services	AS/A2 Photography
AS/A2 Business Studies	AS/A2 Law	AS/A2 Economics

AS/A2 Physical Education	AS/A2 Music	AS/A2 English Language
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In year 12 and 13 AS and BTEC level 3 subjects are given 9 hours a fortnight. All level 3 students also complete the Welsh Baccaulaureate including ICT, Communication and Application of Number Essential Skills in Year 13. As part of the collaboration a number of agreed Welsh Baccaulaureate days are used across the academic year to facilitate focussed study according to the needs of students in each school.

**Level 2 Pathway**

Students who do not achieve the KS4 results that enable them to embark upon a level 3 course have the opportunity to continue their studies with us by following a level 2 course in Year 12 that has been specially designed to meet their needs. They will work towards achieving the level 2 threshold including Essential Skills and ultimately provide progression onto level 3 courses.

- Students on the level 2 pathway follow the My Skills Suite incorporating:
- Jamie Oliver’s Home Cooking Skills
  - Money and Finance Skills
  - Sustainability Skills
  - BTEC Work Skills
  - Welsh Baccaulaureate L2

This pathway leads to the development of life skills, employability and transferable qualities. GCSE resit maths and English are also available.

**Level 1 Pathway**

Students who do not achieve the KS4 results that enable them to embark upon a level 2 course have the opportunity to continue their studies with us by following a level 1 course in Year 12 that has been specially designed to meet their needs. They will work towards achieving the level 2 threshold and ultimately provide progression onto level 2 courses either at St Julian’s or at other establishments. The course enables some students to find employment.

- Students on the level 1 pathway follow the My Skills Suite incorporating:
- Jamie Oliver’s Home Cooking Skills
  - Money and Finance Skills
  - Sustainability Skills
  - BTEC Work Skills
  - Welsh Baccaulaureate L2

This pathway leads to the development of life skills, employability and transferable qualities. GCSE resit maths and English are also available.

### **Learning Development Centre**

Newport's special needs unit for students in years 7-11 is based on-site at St Julian's. We care for approximately 12 students in each year group who are all statemented for Special Educational Needs. These students study the following curriculum:

### **KS3**

Activities	Asdan	Art & Design
Design & Technology	Humanities	ICT
Literacy	Music	Numeracy
Physical Education	Science	Welsh
Drama	Independent Learning Skills	Asdan

Art, Welsh, P.E. and DT are taught by mainstream teachers. All other subjects are taught by specialist teachers based in the Learning Development Centre.

### **KS4**

Entry pathways are studied in the following subjects:

Additional English	Mathematics	Performing Arts
Humanities	Independent Living	ICT
Literacy	Music	Numeracy
Physical Education	Science Today	Art & Design
Independent Living Skills		

At KS4 Art and PE are taught by mainstream teachers. All other subjects are taught by specialist teachers based in the Learning Development Centre.



## **Summary**

Our curriculum is more than a collection of subjects and lessons. It encapsulates all our aims and goals as a school community. It is delivered in classrooms and corridors and through all learning experiences and opportunities facilitated by our school. Our curriculum is fluid - it has been designed within certain principles however it will also be responsive to the needs of our students, our staff and our community.

Skill development and subject content are not seen as separate entities - it is not a case of one or the other but as strands in a rope which mutually strengthen each other. Every member of staff has a responsibility for developing the skills of our students. We combine our ambition for students to achieve outstanding academic results with an emphasis on developing the skills to help them become accomplished lifelong learners. A broad and balanced curriculum helps students develop as independent thinkers and learners beyond the boundaries of traditional lessons. We deliver a distinctive curriculum that is appropriate for Wales.