



SMITHDON HIGH SCHOOL

CURRICULUM POLICY

**Re-adopted by the Local Governing Body
March 2017**

Smithdon High School seeks to ensure that a broad and balanced curriculum is provided to students, incorporating English, Mathematics, Science and Religious Education qualifications, along with the provision of physical education teaching at Key Stage 3 and 4. A range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities are also offered.

The curriculum at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 follows the National Curriculum. Citizenship days, along with morning tutor time, give ample opportunity to cover a comprehensive programme of personal, social and health education, along with careers advice and guidance.

The aims of the curriculum are as follows:

1. Students become aware of their individual abilities and in so doing, develop them to their maximum potential.
2. Students develop an understanding of the needs of the community and are prepared to contribute fully to the life of the community.
3. Students are offered a curriculum with breadth and depth, tailored to each student's individual requirements.
4. Leavers should be articulate, literate and numerate and have lively, enquiring and independent minds, as well as:
 - Have confidence 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 which will last for the rest of their lives.
 - Be adaptable enough to react to the needs of a fast changing world.

Key Stage 3

The curriculum for Key Stage 3 is as follows, with Citizenship days across the year and tutor time to cover PHSE/CAG. This is based on a 50 lesson fortnight.

Subject	Year 7 hours	Year 8 hours
English/Literacy	9	8
Mathematics	7	7
Science	7	7
French	3	3
Geography	3	3
History	3	3
Religious Education	2	3
ICT	2	2
Art	2	2
Drama	2	2
Music	2	2
PE	4	3
Design & Technology	4	4

During Year 8 students are given careers advice and guidance in preparation for choosing options for Key Stage 4.

Key Stage 4

All students follow a core curriculum of GCSE's (or equivalent) in English Literature and Language, Mathematics, Science (double award or triple Sciences) and RE, along with core PE (non-examined). This accounts for 68% of curriculum time. Students are then guided in Year 9 to fill the remaining time with up to four options from the following:

GCSE Art	GCSE Geography
Level 2 Health & Social Care	GCSE History
GCSE Music	Level 2 ICT
GCSE PE	GCSE Drama
GCSE DT Resistant Materials	GCSE DT Textiles
GCSE French	GCSE Child Development
GCSE German	

Courses are studied until the end of Year 11. Option blocks are formed based upon the student choices, staffing availability and sufficient numbers to run a particular course.