Upton Hall School FCJ

# THE CURRICULUM 2016-17

The School's Curriculum is designed to:

* be balanced, broadly based, relevant and differentiated to match student needs, aptitudes and abilities
* benefit our pupils/students as they grow in maturity and help to prepare them for adult life and experience: home life and parenthood; responsibilities as a citizen of the community and society nationally and internationally; enterprise, employment and other work.
* promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of each student.

Our curriculum is based on the National Curriculum. As changes to the National Curriculum occur and other educational initiatives come into force, the school incorporates them into its curriculum.

The school is committed to the principle and practice of equal opportunities across the curriculum, and will endeavour to ensure that every activity offered in the school is available to every student irrespective of ethnic origin, race, nationality, religion, physical disability, social class or economic background.

Student progress will be regularly assessed and the results recorded and reported to parents.

# Years 7 to 8

Pupils study the following subjects:

English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education, History, Geography, Modern Foreign Languages (either French or Spanish), Mandarin Chinese, Computing, Product Design, Art, Here I am (year 7 only), Drama, Music (plus instrumental music), Physical Education, PHSE (including careers education and sex and relationships education).

Some pupils partake in the Mandarin Excellence programme.

# Year 9

All pupils follow the following subjects:

English, Mathematics, Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), Religious Education, History, Geography, Modern Foreign Languages (one or two from French, Spanish and Mandarin Chinese), Computing, Physical education.

Pupils opt into a combination of the following subjects:

Product Design, Art, Drama, Music.

# Years 10 and 11

Students follow a curriculum containing compulsory and optional elements. The curriculum pathway followed depends on the individual student.

All pupils follow the following subjects:

English Language,, English Literature, Mathematics, Religious Education, Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), A Humanities subject (History or Geography), Modern Foreign Language (French, Spanish, Mandarin Chinese).

Pupils then choose another subject from the list below:

Art, Music, Drama, Physical Education, An additional Humanity, An additional Language, Product design, Computing.

# Post 16

Students are guided to choose a 6th form curriculum that will enable them to excel and prepare them for further study.

Students choose from the following A level subjects: Art and Design, Biology, Chemistry, English Language and Literature, English Literature, French, Further Mathematics, Geography, History, Mandarin Chinese, Mathematics, Music, Physics, Psychology and Religious Studies are all offered.

BTEC Level 3 Information Technology is also offered.

Some students will complete the AQA Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

All sixth form students are taught compulsory Religious Education lessons and PHSE.

In addition to the curriculum, sixth form students have an enrichment programme that includes regular visits from outside speakers.

# Religious Education & Collective Worship

Religious Education is compulsory for all pupils.

The religious worship celebrated and the religious instruction given shall be in accordance with the doctrines, rites, practices and observances of the Catholic Church.

Each morning and afternoon session of the day will start with an act of Collective Worship. This may take the form of class prayers and/or assembly.

# SEND

Arrangements will be made to cater for any student with special needs – academic, social, emotional or medical.

# Exceptional Aptitude

Upton Hall has a programme of activities to develop those pupils who demonstrate exceptional aptitude in any area of their learning. More information about the programme can be found on the website.

# Homework

Regular homework is an integral part of the school curriculum. Parents are provided with the homework timetable and are asked to inform the school if there is any concern about their daughter doing too little or too much homework. Pupils who do not complete homework are directed to attend study hall on the day that the homework is not completed.

# Careers Education and Work Related Learning

It is the policy of Upton that all pupils shall be enabled to acquire the skills of developing: self- awareness; decision making; coping with change. Each pupil shall be entitled to a programme of Careers Education in Personal, Social and Health Education throughout Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 and post 16, and access to a programme of Work Experience at Key Stage 4. Each student in Year 11 and the Sixth Form shall be entitled to Careers Guidance through dialogue with the school’s Careers Adviser. Pupils in KS4 and the Sixth Form have access to an on-line directory called Unifrog to gain information regarding University courses.

# Sex Education

Sex education is an integral part of the Science, RE and PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) courses throughout the school, and whether as part of the planned programme or whether it arises in the general context of the curriculum, it is given in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education programme, but not those aspects prescribed by the National Science Curriculum.

# Complaints Procedure

If a parent has a concern about the curriculum or any other school related matter, in the first instance there should be an attempt to resolve this informally with the school through the Head of Year and other appropriate staff.

Where a concern cannot be resolved informally the parent should write to the Headmistress setting out the grounds of the complaint.

If the matter still cannot be resolved, the parent should write to the Chair of Governors requesting that the complaint be considered formally by the Governing Body.