
CURRICULUM



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RATIONALE

The curriculum provides for the coherent development of students' skills, knowledge and understanding in the following aspects of human life and expression: aesthetic, cultural and creative; linguistic; mathematical; moral and spiritual; physical; scientific and technical; social and political.

Historical note – the College has taken a well planned approach to curriculum development and has often been applauded for operating a 'Principled Curriculum'. The main tenets of this are:

- We have never 'batch processed' students through inappropriate courses simply to gain points
- We have never abandoned MFL simply because it is seen as difficult. It was only in September 2008 that 'MFL for all' has been adapted
- We have been a pioneer in joint curriculum planning with other establishments and now with Team Peterborough
- We are consistently undertaking Curriculum Development in line with National and Local initiatives
- We have developed our curriculum coherently to include an expanding range of vocational preferences and Alternative Education provision

OBJECTIVES:

1. To interpret and fulfil the demands of the National Agenda re Curriculum.
2. To achieve breadth and balance.
3. To provide content appropriate to all students' needs, interests and abilities.
4. To provide for progression Post-16 and prepare students for adult life.
5. To provide for students' moral, spiritual, social and cultural development.

GUIDELINES:

CURRICULUM ORGANISATION

The College week is made up from 25 one hour periods - 3 periods in each morning session, and 2 each afternoon. The periods are organised between subjects and activities as shown below.

Years	En	Ma	Sc	Hu	PE	LS	MFL	Tk	EA	IT	Yr 9 prefs
7 & 8	3	3	3	4	2	1	3	2	3	1	
9	3	3	3	3	2	1	2	2	3	1	2
10	4	4	5	3	2	1	0	Preferences			
11	3	3	5	3	2	1	2	Pref A (1 double, 1 single) *	Pref B (1 double, 1 single)		
								Courses in Vocational Subjects (2 doubles, 2 singles)			
								Alternative Education Course			

Preference A for the 2008-2009 Year 10 includes MFL and Vocational preferences. The College's current policy is that to move towards the DCFS recommendation, our Year 9 Pathways programme will result in 50% of a cohort following an MFL at Year 10

Timetabled Literacy and Numeracy support at KS4 takes places currently in Year 11 in MFL time but will be phased out in September 2009

PREFERENCES AT YEAR 9

From September 2007 a two lesson (singles) preference will be offered to students to enable them to start KS4 courses.

The subjects involved with this are:

- Business Studies
- Expressive Arts
- French
- Geography
- German
- Health and Social Care
- History
- ICT
- PE
- Technology

From September 2007 Humanities started to teach KS4 courses at a suitable point during Year 9.

All other courses in KS3 have been encouraged to start teaching GCSE courses from some point in Year 9. The recent demise of KS3 SATS will require further modification of this transition to GCSE in 2008.

PREFERENCES AT KS4

This is a six-hour block of time. Students study *either* two subjects for three hours each *or* one subject for six hours. A Pathways (IAG) process takes place with Year 9 students starting in January/February to guide the students into appropriate courses for KS4 starting in September. These are summarised below illustrating the number of subjects a student follows.

1. PATHWAY 1

2 (3) Sc, 1 Ma, 2 En, 1 ½ Hu, 1 Mfl – 1 GCSE - 8 ½ (9 ½) or 1 Voc. sin - 9 ½ (10 ½)

2. PATHWAY 2

2 (1) Sc, 1 Ma, 2 (1) En, 1 ½ Hu – 2 Voc sin – 10½ (8 ½) or 1 Voc dbl -10 ½ (8 ½) or 1 Voc sin + 1 GCSE – 9 ½ (7 ½)

3. PATHWAY 3

1 Sc, 1 Ma, 1 En, 1½ Hu - L1 or 2 Diploma

4. ALT EDUCATION PROGRAMME

From 2009, as part of our collaborative working with other schools / colleges in the Team Peterborough Consortium, Diplomas will be offered.

The table below shows the structure:

Option A	Option B
<i>1 double, 1 single</i>	<i>1 double, 1 single</i>
MFL BTEC Art BTEC Business Studies BTEC Health & Social Care DCR IT BTEC PE ASDAN Art APS	BTEC Art BTEC Business Studies BTEC Health & Social Care OCR IT BTEC PE GCSE Expressive Arts GCSE Food GCSE French GCSE German GCSE Graphics GCSE History or Geography GCSE Music GCSE PE GCSE Resistant Materials
Applied Art & Design BTEC Applied ICT OCR Construction BTEC Hair & Beauty BTEC Health & Social Care BTEC Sports Studies BTEC	

Students will follow a course comprised of an Option A and an Option B subject or will follow courses leading to double in vocational subjects as a precursor to Diploma introductions. The Pathways programme in Year 9 is key to helping students and their parents decide which is the right route for them. In accordance with the government's 14-19 vision, both routes are open to students of all abilities.

It is intended that from September 2010 some common timetabling of KS4 preference blocks will take place within the Team Peterborough Consortium.

POST 16 CURRICULUM

In order to prepare for the delivery of the diplomas in 2009 'Team Peterborough' has been formed to formalise collaboration between secondary schools. This involves a common timetable for 16+ courses, convergence on syllabuses and an enhanced entitlement for all students. Stanground College is a "fully signed up member" of this initiative and indeed was instrumental in designing the "blocking system" that has been adopted.

8 sessions (4 mornings and 4 afternoons) are available each week for the study of AS, A2, AVCE, GNVQ and GCSE courses.

The following subjects are available to students at post-16, although within 'Team Peterborough' a much enhanced range of courses can be followed

ADVANCED LEVEL SUBJECTS (AS, A2, AVCE)

Art & Design, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Design & Technology, Economics, English Language, English Literature, French, General Studies (Friday a.m.), Geography, German, History, ICT, Mathematics, Media Studies, Music Technology, Performing Arts, Physics, Product Design, Religious Philosophy, Sociology, Sports Studies, Travel and Tourism.

VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Art & Design, Business, Health and Social Care, Child Care, ICT, Sports Studies at Level 2; NVQ L1 & 2 Hairdressing, L2 Diploma in Hair & Beauty. A Level 1 COPE course is also offered.

Planning for further development of this provision is in hand to provide suitable progression routes for current KS4 students into Post -16 education.

GCSES

Students may study GCSE English and/or Mathematics in order to improve the grade they previously achieved. Students may also study Further RE in order to convert their short course GCSE to a full award.

ENHANCEMENT

Wednesday afternoons are set aside for curriculum enhancement options which include CSLA, Photography AS, Further RE, Sport, learning to drive, Young Enterprise, ICT Essentials, and community service.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXAMINATIONS AVAILABLE

Students may obtain the following qualifications:

GCSE, GNVQ, AS, A2, AVCE, BTEC Level 2, BTEC Level 3, CACHE Certificate Level 2, CACHE Diploma Level 3, COPE Levels 2 and 1

All students who fulfil the necessary course requirements are entered for the appropriate examination.

CONCLUSION:

The curriculum structure outlined above aims to meet the objectives described earlier in this document. This formal structure is supported by extra-curricular activities organised by individual members of staff and curriculum areas.

Detailed curriculum statements for each area are developed to translate the aims and objectives enshrined in this policy into practice. These are included as appendix A. A curriculum complaints procedure is in place. A copy of this can be found in appendix B.

We are developing the curriculum offering from September 2009. This takes cognizance of the following:

- National changes to KS3 particularly with reference to the use of PLTs
- National changes to GCSE
- The role of MFL in the KS4 curriculum
- The role of Humanities in the KS4 curriculum
- The role of ARS and Alternative Education in KS4
- The introduction of Diplomas into KS4, in 2009 and beyond, as part of the Team Peterborough Consortium offering and the place of Functional Skills in this
- The expenses of Level 1 and level 2 courses at 16+
- The introduction of Diplomas into KS5, in 2009 and beyond, as part of the Team Peterborough Consortium offering and the place of Functional Skills in this

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Policy Author / Adopted By	Reviewed By	Date
Malcolm Ellison		November 2003
	Curriculum Governors	May 2007
	G Pocock	3 November 2009
	ISC Governors	3 November 2009