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SCHOOL POLICY

Curriculum Policy

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1. Aims

The curriculum at Woodford has been shaped to meet the needs and aspirations of our particular student body, as well as to ensure it fulfils the requirements of the national curriculum. At Woodford we have students with great academic ability from a diverse range of backgrounds. They and their families are ambitious for their futures and regard a strong, multi-disciplined academic grounding as being the best way to access further opportunities in the future. They are also keen for their daughters to become well-rounded individuals with a strong sense of social responsibility. Our curriculum has therefore been designed both to fulfil the requirements of the national curriculum and examination board specifications and to reflect these wider aims.

2. Informing principles

The curriculum is designed to realise, in the classroom, the above aims and our values as a school.

Our Values


We want our students to enjoy and appreciate their education and to leave Woodford equipped to embark upon happy, fulfilling and useful lives, wherever and however they choose to lead them.

To that end we seek to help them become:

- Confident of their own worth, courageous and resilient
- Self-reliant in life and in learning
- Independent in thought and belief
- Receptive to new experience and interested in everything
- Assured and articulate in communication
- Considerate and kind
- Respectful of difference in other individuals and cultures
- Ready to assume responsibility as members of multiple communities
- Clear-sighted and imaginative in planning for their futures
- Unwilling to settle for less than their best in anything they do

3. Curriculum Design

Our Curriculum is designed to enable us to pursue these values by engaging and challenging the School's intake of very able pupils, allowing account to be taken of their individual needs, aspirations

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and aptitudes. The Curriculum will be accessible at all times on the basis of academic suitability, regardless of race, disability, religion or belief.

We also offer a full and balanced curriculum which encourages intellectual and personal development. This is achieved by:


- (a) following the National Curriculum in Key Stage 3, adapted to our own individual circumstances, and enhanced with additions where appropriate;
- (b) fulfilling all statutory requirements including the delivery of religious education, relationships, sex and health education (RSHE), spiritual, moral, social and cultural education (SMSC), careers education, information and guidance (CEIG), and work-related learning (WRL);
- (c) requiring all students to follow the English Baccalaureate in Key Stage 4, supplemented by Core PE and Religious Studies for all and a choice of two additional non-EBacc GCSEs; and
- (d) offering a full range of academic subjects at A Level, plus the opportunity to study for an Extended Project Qualification and undertake non-examined enrichment lessons.

We enable this curriculum to be delivered effectively by:

- (i) Providing expert teaching through subject specialists which builds on previous attainment and makes learning an active, rather than a passive, experience. It will be delivered through the use of a variety of different teaching and learning methods and materials, in accordance with students' different needs.
- (ii) Developing the practices and resources to support independent learning. This includes valuing the mastery of skills and competencies as highly as possession of content.
- (iii) Creating opportunities for students to develop leadership and representation skills and providing platforms to showcase student skills and achievements.
- (iv) Bringing the curriculum to life by emphasising, wherever possible, real-world connections as well as the common and complementary aspects of the individual disciplines.
- (v) Complementing the curriculum with a programme of extra-curricular activities designed to extend and deepen students' intellectual and personal development.
- (vi) Encouraging a sense of global responsibility by making a positive contribution and supporting students to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy learning and be equipped as adults to manage their economic well-being.

4. Approval/Amendment

This policy is approved by the Governing Board of Woodford County High School. Any amendments to this policy require approval by the Governing Board of Woodford School.

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5. Questions

If you have any questions about this present statement of policy, please contact the School Business Manager, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 9LA.