

Curriculum Overview 2017-2018 (secondary phase)

At Bournville we aim to develop articulate, resilient and ambitious students, regardless of background, with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to excel in modern Britain.

Our core values and beliefs are:

- Excellence – We strive for the highest quality to ensure excellent outcomes
- Dedication – We believe there is dignity in hard work and effort
- Ambition – We want the very best for our students
- Integrity – We believe in openness and transparency
- Tradition – We believe in old fashioned manners, courtesy and respect

Our curriculum is broad, balanced and built around students' individual needs and abilities in order to allow all students to reach their potential and compete with others nationally.

The purpose of the curriculum is to enable students to:

- Acquire knowledge and skills relevant to adult life and a world of rapid and continuous technological and social change
- Develop a life-long love of learning
- Develop personal and moral values, respect for shared values and for other cultures, religions and ways of life
- Acquire sound numeracy and literacy skills
- Develop and acquire the qualities and qualifications necessary to enable them to reach their potential, progress to the next stage in their chosen learning or career pathway and compete with others nationally.

Home Learning

Home learning tasks should support progress of all students through, for example: challenging preparation work for lessons; independent research; consolidation of learning; improving work following informative feedback (written or verbal)

Extra-curricular

All students can access a rich extra-curricular programme that, together with the curriculum, promotes healthy, spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development, thereby preparing students for the opportunities and responsibilities of adult life.

[[see extra-curricular timetable PDF](#)]

Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Education

SMSC should be incorporated into every aspect of our school community, including every lesson, every assembly and every interaction between members of our school community. By ensuring the thoughtful and wide-ranging promotion of students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and of their physical well-being, we can help to ensure that they thrive and develop as citizens, and we can also help to guard against radicalisation and extremism. Details of our SMSC provision can be found here: ([see SMSC document](#))

We are committed to

- Raising standards of achievement and learning for all our students
- Extending the range of opportunities available to students which best meet their needs and interests
- Benefiting other schools in the area and strengthening the links between school and the wider community

Key Stage 3: Years 7 and 8

In years 7 and 8 students study a broad and balanced curriculum but with an emphasis on English, mathematics, science, modern foreign languages, and the humanities. Students are also encouraged to thrive in the performing and creative arts through subjects such as Art and Drama.

Over a two week, 50 hour timetable students will study the following:

- English – 9 hours
- Mathematics - 6 hours
- Science- 9 hours
- Modern Foreign Languages- 6 hours

- History- 2 hours
- Geography- 2 hours
- Core PE- 4 hours
- Computing- 2 hours
- Music- 2 hours
- Drama- 2 hours
- Technology- 2 hours
- Art- 2 hours
- PSHE/ guidance- 1 hour
- Religious Education- 1 hour

Key stage 4: Years 9, 10 and 11

In years 9, 10 and 11 our curriculum is diverse and personalised. All students will study, English literature, English Language, mathematics and the Sciences (with the option to study Triple Science), RS, PSHE and core PE. The majority of students will also study Geography and / or History, while others will receive further tuition in English. Students are then able to study three further subjects, choosing from a range suited to their particular abilities and needs, including a number of vocational subjects.

Over a two week, 50 period timetable students will study the following number of one hour lessons:

English	10 hours	9 hours
Mathematics	10 hours	9 hours
Combined Science	8 hours	9 hours
History or Geography or Additional English	4 hours	5 hours
Core PE	4 hours	2 hours
PSHE/ guidance	1 hour	1 hour
Religious Education	1 hour	1 hour
Three additional option subjects	4 hours per subject	5 hours per subject

The following GCSE/BTEC courses are followed by students currently:

- Courses
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE English Language
- GCSE Mathematics

- GCSE Biology
- GCSE Chemistry
- GCSE Physics
- GCSE Combined Science
- GCSE History
- GCSE Geography
- GCSE French
- GCSE Spanish
- GCSE Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics
- GCSE Business Studies
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Music
- GCSE Fine Art
- GCSE Media Studies (year 11 only)
- GCSE Art Graphics (year 11 only)
- GCSE Product Design (years 9 and 10)
- GCSE Drama
- GCSE Physical Education
- GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- Digital Applications (CiDA)
- BTEC Business Studies

Further Information

If you wish to find out more about the curriculum offered at Bournville School, please contact us via post@bournville.bham.sch.uk

Curriculum Change

As you may be aware, the current government has initiated widespread curriculum reform, and this includes the introduction of new GCSE and A level specifications for all subjects over the next three years. A vast number of subjects are facing significant change this year as new A levels are introduced from September in English, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology, Computer Science, Business, History, Art and Design and Economics. At the same time, new specifications for GCSE are being introduced.

The timescale for the new GCSEs is as follows:

First Teaching September 2015: English Language, English Literature and Maths

First Teaching September 2016: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Core Science, Computer Science, French, Spanish, Geography, History, Religious Studies, Art, Drama, Food, Music

First Teaching September 2017: All other GCSE subjects, including design technology, that are taught from this point will be new, with the current GCSEs withdrawn.

The curriculum reform also includes significant changes to the course and assessment structure of both GCSEs and A levels. Should you have any queries about these changes please do contact Mrs Yarker, Deputy Headteacher Bournville School: yarker.s@bournville.bham.sch.uk

Finally, in light of significant changes to Key Stage 2 (KS2), the removal of levels at KS3 and the changes to the grading system for GCSEs we are working on developing a coherent system alongside our middle leaders to accurately assess students' progress, and will report to you as to whether they are making expected age related progress as they progress toward the new GCSEs.

What will the new GCSEs look like?

- A new grading scale of 1 to 9, with 9 being the top grade. This will allow greater differentiation between students and will help distinguish the new GCSEs from previous versions. Ofqual and the awarding bodies have advised that a grade four will be equivalent to a grade C and a grade seven will be equivalent to an A grade.
- Assessment will be mainly examinations, with other assessment only being used when they are needed to test essential skills. The courses will no longer be divided into different modules and students will take all their exams in one period at the end of their course.
- There will be more demanding content, which has been developed by government and exam boards.

Finally, let me reassure you that we will do everything possible to ensure that these curriculum and assessment changes are introduced carefully and effectively at Bournville School to ensure the future success of all of our students.