

Curriculum Overview 2019-2020

VISION

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 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.

INTENT

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.

IMPLEMENTATION

(See principles of curriculum design document)

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, Spanish, 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 - 8 hours
- Science- 8 hours
- Spanish- 3 hours
- History- 3 hours
- Geography- 3 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:

Subject	Year 11	Year 10 and Year 9
English	9 hours	9 hours
Mathematics	8 hours	8 hours
Combined Science	9 hours	9 hours
History or Geography or Additional English	5 hours	5 hours
Core PE	2 hours	2 hours
PSHE/ guidance	1 hour	1 hour
Religious Education	1 hour	1 hour
Three additional option subjects	5 hours per subject	5 hours per subject

Curriculum Rationale

- Prominence is given to literacy and numeracy as we believe this will enable our pupils to improve their life chances, regardless of background and ability.
- We give curriculum time (one hour a fortnight) to PSHE and to core RE (once a fortnight) as we believe that we need to strengthen our school culture and sense of belonging in order to promote ambition, resilience, a sense of responsibility and build character.
- We have maintained the arts across years 7 and 8 so that our students are given cultural capital, a chance to study great artists and be creative.
- We have strengthened technology in order to introduce all students to the design process. We believe our pupils should be able to cook a basic meal for themselves or their family and understand how to do so on a budget.
- Computing is taught to all in years 7 and 8 as we believe that understanding the construction as well as the many uses of IT gives our pupils a chance to think logically, problem solve and be creative. In addition, there are clear career paths in the midlands that pupils can relate to and be inspired by.
- We choose to teach all students combined science and give the more able a choice of triple science. We have well qualified staff who are confident in their ability to secure top grades in each specialism and pupils who are ambitious and want to pursue medical careers.
- We balance vocational courses with GCSE courses. We do not have rigid 'pathways', all students regardless of ability can mix and match, though we guide some students

more carefully than others. Our less able students have additional English or mathematics so that they can also complete entry level qualifications.

- Ebacc entry is not compulsory for all. Our support pathway students (approx. 20 students in each year group) do not have to study history, geography or Spanish. All other students do have to study either history or geography but Spanish remains an option.
- We have a three year key stage 4 in line with FMAT schools. We use year 9 as a transition year with many subjects spending the Autumn term teaching the skills required for GCSE. For example, the science team have a 'working scientifically' module. We believe this additional time allows the depth of study required. Students are offered a range of extra curricula opportunities to maintain links with subjects they may have dropped, for example art club, drama club, music lessons, D of E.