



## **Curriculum Policy**

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This Curriculum Policy should read in conjunction with the Curriculum Booklet found on the school website.

## Rationale

The Curriculum at Marshfields School is broad and varied. It intends to ensure students can learn and develop in a supportive and creative environment in which there is a focus on recognising achievement and supporting progression. The implementation of our ethos means that students can learn in an environment where they feel safe and are happy. In the implementation of our curriculum, delivery is individualised, creative, innovative and flexible, allowing for the needs of each student to be met. It promotes the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of the students as well as their intellectual and physical development. Marshfields School's curriculum intent is to provide for students holistically to best prepare them for their next steps and into adulthood.

The school is committed to providing a broad and balanced curriculum blended with opportunities for students to develop functional skills, independence skills and skills for working life as appropriate in line with the 14-19 Curriculum. Some subjects are taught discretely while others are covered via a creative curriculum approach. Impact of the curriculum is carefully measured through destinations data, student outcomes, annual reviews and stakeholder surveys.

The timetable and curriculum are reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current legislation and guidance, considering best practice with special needs education.

We provide opportunities for students who are identified as having a gift or talent to develop their skills and abilities in that area.

The curriculum is planned to provide continuity and progression. It enables students to make connections and transfer skills and to think creatively and solve problems. It also develops students' capacity to work independently and collaboratively.

Our students all have complex learning needs. Many of our students have a range of additional needs including specific learning difficulties, behavioural, emotional and social difficulties, social communication difficulties (ASD), physical difficulties including cerebral palsy, epilepsy, Downs Syndrome, hearing and visual impairment. In addition to the academic curriculum, individualised timetables for these students provide opportunities for them to withdraw from some lessons to participate in strategies and intervention work. Our students respond well to being in small class sizes and are often supported by a teaching assistant.

The Student Services team are essential to the implementation of our curriculum intent. They work with students on their social, emotional, mental health, hearing and visual needs, building strong relationships with families to allow students to attend school and be successful.

The intention of the Marshfields School curriculum is therefore to ensure that students:

- Make outstanding progress against personal targets;
- Acknowledge their achievements and have a sense of pride,
- Have opportunities to participate in a range of enrichment activities within and beyond the curriculum;
- Develop communication skills;
- Develop reading skills through phonics-based reading schemes;
- Develop numeracy skills, both for relevant qualifications and to prepare for adulthood;
- Develop skills for independence;
- Gain confidence in the use of ICT and other resources that support with their additional needs;
- Develop a greater awareness of their local community and make a positive contribution;
- Learn a range of skills for life beyond school.

We implement this curriculum through:

- Building literacy and numeracy skills;
- Offering a range of Strategies to address EHCP outcomes. These take place for 30 minutes a day;
- Offering life-skills teaching in our on-site bungalow and providing individual support such as bus training;
- Ensuring schemes of work are well differentiated and delivered according to the needs of students in an individual class;
- Carefully timetabling to ensure that students have access to highly qualified and experienced teachers and teaching assistants;
- Constantly reviewing the courses on offer at KS4 and Post-16 to ensure that they support progress to mainstream college provision and are appropriate to each individual cohort;
- Offering enterprise work experience throughout the week;
- Offering the Duke of Edinburgh's Award alongside a wide range of other trips and visits that many of our students would not access without our support.

The impact of the curriculum is measured through:

- Student outcomes, internal data analysis and exam analysis;
- Quality assurance processes including: SIP support, deep dives, learning walks, student focus groups, stakeholder surveys, staff workload surveys and lesson visits;
- Analysing student destinations data;
- Attendance registers for trips and visits;

- Pupil premium analysis;
- Building relationships with local mainstream college providers to ensure Marshfields students transfer successfully to them;
- Section L teacher comments on annual reviews, including involving the students in identifying their progress towards identified outcomes.

#### Equal Opportunities:

The school supports the rights of all students to equal access and opportunities regardless of age, culture, religion, gender, ability, disability or sexuality. The school promotes an ethos of respect for everyone.