



St Bede's and  
St Joseph's  
Catholic College

## Curriculum Statement

The curriculum is the principle means by which the aims of the college are achieved. It includes all of the lessons, activities and experiences planned and delivered by the college both within formal timetabled lessons and all planned events and activities outside of lessons.

To provide the best quality education for all our students so that they become:

- a. Successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- b. Confident and self-assured individuals who lead safe and healthy lives
- c. Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society

Through the curriculum we aim to help students to develop their full potential academically, spiritually, physically and emotionally with the aspiration to make a full and positive contribution to the society in which they live.

We believe the curriculum in our college should be:

- **Broad and balanced**— our students should be able to develop intellectually, creatively, socially and physically
- **Inclusive, boost self-esteem and raise aspiration** – it should motivate and develop students as rounded citizens
- **Relevant and prepare students for the future** – all students should develop good literacy, numeracy and problem solving skills and be equipped with the knowledge, skills and understanding to achieve as highly as possible

Students should leave St Bede's and St Joseph's Catholic College well prepared for further study or employment in the 21st century.

Our curriculum is rooted in the National Curriculum.

### Structure

The curriculum is delivered through a two week timetable of 50 lessons, each lasting for 60 minutes.

At Key Stage 3, students experience, practise and develop a wide range of skills and attitudes while maintaining an academic focus that deepens their knowledge and understanding. All students have a comprehensive education allowing them to develop personal strengths and talents. All classroom practise is underpinned by a commitment to developing the learning skills of: reflection, resilience, independence, teamwork, creativity and aspiration. In Years 7 and 8 students follow Personalised Progress Plans within each subject area. These plans are based upon rigorous external testing on entry into Year 7 (CATs, GI Assessments).

At Key Stage 4 the same principles apply with all students being placed on particular personalised pathways that are suited to their ability profile. There are four pathways in total with our most able students accessing the EBacc offer and our weaker students pursuing a mix of academic and vocational qualifications.

Our curriculum model is constantly under review as the College adjusts its offer to ensure it maximizes student potential given the recent changes to the National Curriculum and qualification framework and indeed the challenges of the College merger and restructuring. From September 2017 our curriculum offer is:

Key Stage 3	Lessons per fortnight	Key Stage 4	Lessons per fortnight (Yr 10)	Lessons per fortnight (Yr 11)
Religious Education	4	Religious Education	5	5
English	6	English Language and Literature	9	8
Mathematics	6	Mathematics	8	9
Science	6	Science	8	8
Physical Education	4	Physical Education	2	2
Geography	4	Option 1	5	4
History	4	Option 2	5	4
MFL (Spanish or French)	4	Option 3	4	5
ICT	2	Option 4	4	5
Design Technology (Food, Resistant Materials, Textiles)	2			
Art	2			
Citizenship	2			
Performing Arts (Drama, Dance and Music)	4			
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>		<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>

The options available at Key Stage 4 include the following **GCSE subjects**:

Art, Business Studies, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, ICT, Citizenship, Dance, Drama, Resistant Materials, Food Preparation, French, Geography, History, Health & Social Care, Media Studies, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Photography and Spanish.

In addition, the following **Vocational Subjects** are offered:

BTEC Construction, ECDL, BTEC Hair & Beauty and OCR Sports Studies