

## Curriculum Intent

The curriculum at River Academy is broad, balanced and carefully constructed to underpin a learning environment that is relevant, aspirational and accessible for all. At River, students are provided with opportunities that develop confidence, broaden individual skills, deepen knowledge, and advocate academic excellence to promote a love of learning by fostering the intellectual, creative, moral and spiritual development of all students and to ensure they are fully prepared for the next stage of education and the working environment.

Preparing students for excellent outcomes that meet their individual potential sits at the heart of all we do at River. However, the curriculum is also about providing a wealth of opportunities for students to be the very best version of themselves; articulate, thoughtful, confident citizens who are ambitious for themselves and keen to contribute to the community.

Our curriculum is underpinned by:

- Rigour, high standards, coherence
- A core of essential knowledge in the key subject disciplines
- Freedom for teachers to use professionalism and expertise
- Memorable experiences which put learning in a wider context
- A wide range of opportunities for personalised stretch, challenge and support
- A range of rigorous assessment opportunities which support high quality of information advice and guidance for students and parents
- A rigorous programme for personal development and character education (including RSE and preparation for life in modern Britain)
- Varied option choices for all groups of students including the most able and SEND
- Varied progression routes for all students
- Opportunities for all students to develop writing, oracy and listening skills

## Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9)

All students follow a common curriculum.

Curriculum	Subject	Year 7-9 Time allocation (Hours/week)
Core	English	4
	Mathematics	4
	Science	4
EBACC	French	2
	Geography	1
	History	1
Extension	Art	1
	Food/Design Technology	1
	Music	1
	Computing	1
	Physical Education	2
	PD	1
	Religious Studies	1
	Supported Study	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>25</b>

In KS3 students who have not met the national standard in literacy at KS2 use the reading programme Read Write Inc and/or the computer-based Lexia program, to enhance the learning for students.

### Withdrawal from RE or Sex and Relationship Education (SRE)

Parents have the right to choose whether or not to withdraw their child from RE or SRE without influence from the school, although a school should ensure parents or carers are informed of this right and are aware of the educational objectives and content of the RE and SRE syllabus. In this way, parents can make an informed decision. Where parents have requested that their child is withdrawn, their right must be respected, and where RE or SRE is integrated in the curriculum, the school will need to discuss the arrangements with the parents or carers to explore how the child’s withdrawal can be best accommodated. If students are withdrawn from RE or SRE, schools have a duty to supervise them, though not to provide additional teaching or to incur extra cost. Students will usually remain on the school premises.

### Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

The curriculum after Year 9 is designed to provide continuity, balance and breadth, but at the same time enable students to specialise in courses which meet their needs, aptitudes and career intentions within the constraints of the current national education recruitment, retention and financial crises.

All students starting Year 10 take a core of compulsory examination subjects alongside Physical Education (PE) and Personal, Health, Social Education (PD) which is delivered weekly in the curriculum and through assemblies and themed events.

Curriculum	Subject	Year 11 Time allocation (Hours/week)	Year 10 Time allocation (Hours/week)
Core	English	4	4
	Mathematics	4	4
	Science	5	5
EBACC	French/Spanish /Geography/History	3	3
Options	Two further subjects from list below	3	3
		3	3
Non-examined courses	Physical Education	2	2
	PD	1	1
TOTAL		25	25

**EBACC:** Students who are capable of doing so should take the full range of EBACC subjects e.g. in addition to the Core subjects studied, the students should study either GCSE Geography or History and a GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language.

**Options:** Students have 3 Optional choices in Years 10 and 11. Students choose an EBACC subject as part of the Option subjects from the list below:

GCSE Art** GCSE Business Studies* GCSE Design & Technology: 3D design GCSE Drama	GCSE Food, Preparation & Nutrition GCSE French GCSE Geography GCSE Spanish GCSE History	GCSE Music GCSE Photography GCSE Physical Education BTEC Level 2 Health and Social Care BTEC Level 2 Sport
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