

THE KING'S SCHOOL

Curriculum Policy January 2018

Introduction

The main focus of Christian education is to teach students the truth about God and His world. The content of a Christian curriculum will not be vastly different from the curriculum taught in most schools today. It is the context within which that content is placed which makes the difference. Christian education derives its context from the truth and values taught in the Bible. At The King's School, all curriculum planning should flow from key concepts of Biblical truth.

Kingdom Truth and Heart Concepts

Kingdom Truth	Taught through	Heart Concepts
<p>God is creator and provider and He is sovereign over all His creation. He rules in power from on high and is a God of order, steadfast love and faithfulness.</p>	<p>Science, maths, technology and geography</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The order we see in science and technology is created and directed by God • It is God who is the source of life • God is not constrained by the laws of science • The earth is the Lord's and everything in it • God created man to have a special relationship with Him and rule over His creation • Our ability to design creatively is part of our created nature
<p>Jesus is described as full of truth and love and the Bible says that God is love. He cares deeply about His relationship with man and recognises that we create difficulties for ourselves because of self interest and hatred. However, He loves to help us defeat these things and build good relationships with both Him and each other.</p>	<p>History, English</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God has ruled over events since the beginning of the world • Man's sinful nature and need to be restored, reconciled and live in peace can be seen throughout history and literature. • Throughout history, God can be seen at work shaking and shaping peoples and nations • Jesus' ministry and mission are central to the understanding of all world events

Kingdom Truth	Taught through	Heart Concepts
God created us to enjoy life in all its fullness. Our purpose is to give glory to God through our lives and through worship. We are created to sing praise and celebrate the wonders of God together. The Holy Spirit inspires us and helps us in all these things.	Art, music, drama, dance, fashion and textiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is God's desire that we enjoy life to the full. In fact, only through relating well with Him, can we enjoy life as we were meant to • God wants us to seek Him and worship Him and love Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength
God wants us to share the truth about Himself with others throughout the world. We are to make disciples – a global teaching and learning community. We are called to love and serve one another, putting the interests of others before our own.	Languages, ICT, PSHE, discipleship programme, child development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language often defines ethnic groups and God's heart is that the truth about Himself reaches all such groups
God sent His son Jesus to die for the sins of the world. By believing in Jesus we have the right to become students of God. God then wants us to live together as a community of His people known as the church. His desire is for us to meet together regularly and worship Him. He also wants us to do good works and be good neighbours to bring glory to His Name.	Religious education, assemblies, discipleship programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are sons and heirs of the Kingdom of God and should live as citizens of heaven • We are 'in the world but not of it' therefore our understanding is not shaped by the world's thinking • It is by love that the world will know that we are Christians so we should practise love wherever possible
We are called to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. Paul compares the Christian life to that of running a race – perseverance is a key skill. We are to regard our bodies as holy temples and respect them.	PE and Games, Food Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God desires wholeness, peace and strength for our bodies • Our bodies are described as temples of the Holy Spirit and should be respected

The truths and heart concepts outlined above are examples of how Biblical truth provides a unique context for the teaching of the various disciplines. Teachers pray and seek God as they plan and prepare the curriculum.

Within the Primary section of the school each class has a half-termly Heart Concept around which all their learning is based. Within the Senior section of the school Kingdom concepts are linked to each unit of work and opportunities taken in lessons to show students how subject matter relates to Biblical truth.

In preparing and delivering the curriculum in this way, teachers must maintain a balanced approach. Christian values and truths must not be forced into every lesson religiously; indeed there will be times when it is more appropriate to have no explicit link to Biblical truth. The truth about God is already embedded in the various subject areas. Teachers must use skill and sensitivity and always remain open to God's direction and prompting.

Our Learning Philosophy

Although we acknowledge the importance of academic knowledge and success, we believe that we need to teach far more than subject knowledge to our young people. We also need to educate them for life as well as for eternity. We provide a positive, caring environment in which students can develop a strong sense of their identity and destiny. Establishing good relationships with students, building their confidence, encouraging them to express individual ideas, examining established values leading to a greater understanding of who they are is as important as teaching the academic curriculum.

Academic success (Wisdom)

Every child shall have access to a broad and balanced curriculum which will vary depending on the age of the child.

Key Stage 4

Students at The King's School will be prepared for around 10 GCSE subjects to be taken at the end of Years 10 and 11. These will be drawn from a broad range of disciplines in order to establish a balanced education at age 16 and prepare students for further and higher education.

The GCSE programme will comprise a number of compulsory subjects and also allow students to choose from a selection of other subjects.

Compulsory Subjects

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Religious Studies
- Science: Physics, Chemistry, Biology
- Spanish

Optional Subjects

- Art
- Child Development
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Fashion and Textiles
- Food and Nutrition
- History
- Music
- Physical Education

Key Stage 3

Students studying in Key Stage 3 will follow a curriculum designed to provide experience in a wide range of different subject areas. These will include linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical, and aesthetic and creative.

Subjects studied in Key Stage 3:

- Art
- Drama
- English
- Food and Nutrition
- Geography
- History
- ICT
- Latin
- Mathematics
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Science
- Spanish

Key Stage 1 and 2

During Key Stages 1 and 2, students will experience learning in a wide range of subjects to allow them to find their own areas of aptitude and enjoyment. Although maths and English take a high priority, the range of foundation subjects are equally important in giving a rounded education to all students.

Subjects in Key Stage 1 and 2:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Biblical Studies
- ICT
- Spanish (Y3-6)
- Topic – either history or geography based
- Music
- Art
- Design Technology
- PE and Games
- PSHE

Early Years

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) that is taught in the Reception Year of school is a continuation of a child's learning journey from nursery and/ or pre-school. Throughout the year there is a mix of child-initiated activity and adult-directed tasks. Together, these learning opportunities are planned through careful observations and assessments. Secure relationships and an enabling environment are crucial to allow individual students to thrive in all areas of development - that are inextricably linked (see table below). Progress towards the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) for all 17 aspects are communicated to parents, Local Authority and

year 1 teachers to ensure a smooth transition from the EYFS into Key Stage 1 national curriculum.

Characteristics of Effective Learning	Area of Learning and Development	Aspect
<p>Playing and exploring – engagement</p> <p>Finding out and exploring Playing with what they know Being willing to 'have a go'</p>	<p>Prime Areas</p> <p>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</p>	Making relationships
		Self-confidence and self-awareness
		Managing feelings and behaviour
<p>Active learning – motivation</p> <p>Being involved and concentrating Keeping trying Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</p>	<p>Physical Development</p>	Moving and handling
		Health and self-care
		Communication and Language
<p>Creating and thinking critically – thinking</p> <p>Having their own ideas Making links Choosing ways to do things</p>	<p>Communication and Language</p>	Listening and attention
		Understanding
		Speaking
<p>Specific areas</p>		
<p>Literacy</p>	<p>Literacy</p>	Reading
		Writing
<p>Mathematics</p>	<p>Mathematics</p>	Numbers
		Shape, space and measure
<p>Understanding the World</p>	<p>Understanding the World</p>	People and communities
		The world
		Technology
<p>Expressive Arts and Design</p>	<p>Expressive Arts and Design</p>	Exploring and using media and materials
		Being imaginative

PSHE (Primary and Senior) RSE (Senior) RE (Primary)

The school has a programme of Personal Social and Health Education and Relationships and Sex Education or Relationships Education that is largely taught by the class teacher or tutor. External agencies are also invited in to deliver certain aspects of the curriculum. The content of these lessons will cover the broad programme of:

- Personal Development
- Healthy Relationships
- Healthy Living
- Sex Education

Education for life (Stature)

We also believe that students need to learn the character skills which will enable them to succeed in life. These include the 7 Cs of Confidence, Collaboration, Craftsmanship, Creativity, Communication, Curiosity and Commitment.

CONFIDENCE: *"I can do all this through him who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:13)*
We encourage students to: believe in themselves, know their worth in God, value their ideas, contribute in lessons, not to worry about getting things wrong.

COLLABORATION: *"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live in unity" (Psalm 133:1)*
We encourage students to: work positively together, value each others' ideas, not insist on having their own way, include everyone, encourage one another.

CRAFTSMANSHIP: *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for people." (Colossians 3:23)*
We encourage students to: put in extra effort and give their all, take time to do their best, take pride in their work, pay attention to detail, aim for excellence in all things.

CREATIVITY: *"God created mankind in his own image." (Genesis 1:27)*

We encourage students to: be original, not to follow the crowd, get inspired to draw, paint, sing, compose, write, create, make and design, have fun experimenting!

COMMUNICATION: *"If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal."* (1 Corinthians 13:1)

We encourage students to: express their feelings; talk to their friends; be kind and encouraging; share ideas, opinions and problems; listen to others.

CURIOSITY: *"Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honourable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise."* (Philippians 4:8)

We encourage students to: discover and explore, dig deeper, think outside the box, ask questions, challenge themselves and each other.

COMMITMENT: *"And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."* (Hebrews 12:1)

We encourage students to: be dependable, not to give up, see things through to the end, be determined.

Education for Eternity (Favour)

As a Christian school we prioritise students growing in their faith and learning about God. Biblical Studies is compulsory throughout the school as part of the Core Curriculum. In addition, time is spent in assemblies, classes and in tutor time studying the Bible and praying together, allowing students the opportunity to explore their faith.

Meeting the Needs of All Students

The school meets the needs of all students through the following methods:

- Small class sizes allow students to have greater individual attention
- Ability setting for certain subjects
- Individual education plans for those students with identified needs
- Classroom support where appropriate
- Individual or very small group teaching within the Learning Support zone.
- Personalised timetables which may include day release at college and reduced GCSE subjects

Able, Gifted & Talented

The most able students are identified and all teachers are required to provide work that challenges and stretches them.

Provision for AGT+ includes differentiation within lessons, setting arrangements, as well as extension opportunities outside the normal routine which include:

- STEM events
- UKMT Maths Challenge
- Itchen College Gateway Event
- Rock Challenge
- Annual School Drama Production
- School Concerts
- ISA competitions
- Maths Master Class
- Journalism Club

- Science Club
- Inter-School and Inter-House Sports Day.

Beyond the Classroom

The School has a full programme of extra-curricular activities which includes:

- Annual activity weeks for Years 3 to 9
- Annual trip to Rwanda
- Bi-annual ski trip
- Additional trips to support curriculum teaching
- Music and drama activities: choirs, Young Voices, Rock Challenge and the annual school productions
- Sports clubs (football and netball)
- Community activities such as visiting local care homes and being involved with Fair Oak community events
- Numerous peripatetic music lessons
- Student bands
- After school subject clubs and classes