

Curriculum Policy



Governors' Committee Responsible:	Full Governing Body
Nominated Lead Member of Staff:	Assistant Headteacher
Status & Review Cycle:	Tri-annually
Next Review Date:	July 2022
Document Version Control:	
V1.0 July 2019	

At Ash Manor School we aim to offer to all students an interesting, broad and balanced curriculum: a curriculum which promotes examination success and recognises personal achievement at all levels. We provide an environment, inside and outside of the classroom, in which young people of all abilities are able to develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes which will facilitate lifelong learning. Throughout their time at Ash Manor School students will have the opportunity to complete a range of extra-curricular activities which will develop their creative, communication, community, physical and entrepreneurial skills.

The Ash Manor School curriculum is a broad, rich curriculum and is at the heart of everything we do. Students follow a five year curriculum from their first day of year 7 through to their final examination in year 11. The curriculum is sequenced so that skills and knowledge are developed and embedded through Key Stage 3. All students then have the solid foundations to flourish at Key Stage 4 and beyond.

Each department thoughtfully constructs a curriculum with the intent that appropriate knowledge and skills will be gained at each step of the five year journey. The knowledge and skills are not only required for examination success but also in order to take opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. The curriculum is implemented by excellent teaching that allows students to transfer key knowledge to long-term memory. The curriculum is sequenced so that new knowledge and skills build on what has been taught before. Students work towards clearly defined end points on each step of their five year curriculum journey. The curriculum is designed so that all students are ready for national assessments and examinations and are ready for their next stage of education or training.

Years 7 and 8

Students will study a total of 14 different subjects in years 7 and 8. The five year curriculum for these subjects starts at the beginning of year 7.

Subject	Periods Allocated
English	10
Maths	10
Science	8
Physical Education	4
French or Spanish	6
Art	2
Design Technology	4

Subject	Periods Allocated
Computing	2
Drama	2
Geography	4
History	4
Music	2
Religious Education	1
PSHE	1

Year 9: KS4 Foundation Year

Ash Manor School provides the opportunity for students to take ownership and responsibility for their own curriculum by selecting option subjects into year 9 and again into year 10.

Students select five option subjects to study in year 9 from a choice of 15 subjects. This means each student enjoys a rich and broad curriculum of 11 subjects in year 9.

At least one of these options must be either History or Geography and selecting both humanities is also possible. All students will continue studying their MFL subject from year 8 and all students have the opportunity to select a second language option at this stage. If a student does not select a second language they will not be able to do so for year 10 options.

The option subjects are chosen from: History, Geography, Art, Food Technology, French, Product Design, Textiles, Dance, Drama, Computer Studies, Spanish, Music, Media Studies, Physical Education, Religious Studies. (15 subjects in total)

Subject	Periods Allocated
English	10
Maths	10
Science	9
Core Physical Education	4
French or Spanish	6
PSHE	1
5 Option Subjects	4 lessons each of 5 subjects

Years 10 and 11

The first option selected must be either an MFL, Ancient History, History or Geography to ensure academic rigour for every student.

The remaining 3 options are free selections chosen from:

History, Geography, French, Art, Food Technology, Product Design, Performing Arts (Drama), Computer Science, Photography, Spanish, Music, Physical Education, Religious Studies, Business Studies, Health and Social Care, Ancient History, Media Studies, Dance, Triple Science.

All students study their KS4 curriculum on site and all option subjects are GCSE qualifications apart from Performing Arts (Drama) and Health and Social Care which are both BTEC Tech Awards.

There are 21 option choices for Key Stage 4. All students will study 8 different subjects for 9 separate qualifications.

Subject	Periods Allocated
English	10
Maths	10
Science	12
PE	4
4 Option Subjects	6 lessons each of 4 subjects

Ash Manor School builds the curriculum blocks based on the option choices of all the students. There are no initial option blocks, all students can choose their preferred subjects. Once the option choices are collated the option blocks are built around the choices. This helps ensure students have full ownership of their curriculum for years 9, 10 and 11.

At Ash Manor School, we offer as broad a range of extended learning opportunities as possible, by ensuring every department offers a variety of clubs and educational visits on a regular and sustained basis. This allows students to take the opportunity to further explore their individual areas of interest. The extracurricular offerings are designed to support the learning that takes place in the classroom, extend knowledge and create an additional layer of challenge for students. We seek to inspire and motivate our students to excel, both inside and outside of the classroom, while building lasting and impactful relationships between teachers and learners. Subject specific clubs offer students a chance to further enjoy their favourite parts of school, outside of lesson time, and maximise their passion for learning while accumulating valuable skills and knowledge related to future career aspirations. Additionally, Ash Manor School provides an excellent variety of off-site trips and visits which serve to culturally enrich, educate and challenge our students beyond the academic curriculum.