



# Westbourne School

Westbourne Road, Sheffield, S10 2QQ (Tel: 0114 266 0374)

## CURRICULUM POLICY – SENIOR SCHOOL

### Aims

The curriculum aims to provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and to achieve their potential. We are keen to ensure that children receive a broad and balanced education, and that they undertake a wide range of educational experiences aimed at enriching and extending their abilities and understanding. There is a strong emphasis on enrichment generally: explicitly and through cross-curricular links, educational visits (both day and residential), cultural visits and links with industry and the community.

There are opportunities to pursue personal learning and thinking skills beyond the academic curriculum. Forensic day (Year 8) and architecture day (Year 9) are examples of annual year group events which allow students to think creatively, problem solve, and work as a team. We continue to explore opportunities to expand this provision. Our shared goal is to ensure students are self-motivated and independent learners.

We seek to educate the whole child and SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Education) is delivered via lessons, PSHEE and Assemblies. Students are also active stakeholders in the school with the Student Council involving students from throughout the Senior School..

The curriculum has been planned to ensure that it is:

**Broad** - so that it provides each pupil with a wide range of experiences, knowledge and skills, fostering educational development and encouraging independent learning

**Balanced** - so that each area of the curriculum is allowed sufficient time for its contribution to be **effective, flexible and differentiated** - so that what is taught and how it is taught is matched to the learning needs of the individual and fully develops their abilities and aptitudes. The curriculum aims to foster the development of the qualities and skills which will enable all pupils to achieve success and fulfilment, particularly:

- To encourage and stimulate the best possible progress and highest attainment for all pupils
- To develop pupils' enjoyment of, appetite for and commitment to learning and achieving
- to equip pupils with the essential learning skills of literacy, numeracy and information technology and the skills to enquire and make connections across areas of learning
- to build on pupils' strengths and interests and develop their confidence in their capacity to learn and work independently and collaboratively
- to enable pupils to think creatively and critically and to solve problems
- to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- to develop pupils' physical skills and encourage them to recognise the importance of pursuing a healthy lifestyle and keeping themselves and others safe.

PSHEE is taught throughout the Senior School (1 lesson per week).



# Westbourne School

Westbourne Road, Sheffield, S10 2QQ (Tel: 0114 266 0374)

## Key Stage 3

The curriculum in Years 7 - 9 takes account of the National Curriculum and extends beyond it. Two modern languages are offered from Year 7: Spanish and French. There are MAPS streams ("scholarship forms") in Years 7-9 and the core subjects (Maths English and Science) are placed into sets within each subject area. The various strands of Design Technology, Food Technology and Art are taught as part of a carousel with emphasis on designing, making and evaluating. Sport is a key feature of educating the whole child and students have two afternoons of games per week, with one games afternoon per month dedicated to other enrichment activities in order to broaden and extend the curriculum with no impact on regular academic lessons.

Specialist support is also available for dyslexic and dyscalculic pupils.

## At Key Stage 4

All pupils follow a core curriculum of; English (Language and Literature), Mathematics and the double "Combined Science" award. Options (usually 4 more subjects) are then taken from a range of subjects which include French, Spanish, history, geography, drama, food & nutrition, film studies, GCSE PE, electronics and computer science. There is also the option of using one option choice to extend the double Science award to a full Triple Science GCSE. Sport is a key feature of educating the whole child and students have one afternoon of games per week.

Support is given to help students to choose the appropriate courses for their needs post 16 with external advisers coming into school to support students, and present to parents. In addition students have a coherent application process for post 16 provision including PSHEE support, online application (UCAS Progress) and form teachers.