

THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR SCHOOL, NICOSIA CURRICULUM STATEMENT

The Curriculum at The Junior and Senior School underpins our Purpose and Objectives Statement.

This Curriculum statement should be read in conjunction with other policies including: T&L, Assessment, Feedback and Marking, G&T (More Able), SEN, EAL, Behaviour, SRE and Setting.

The purpose of the Junior & Senior School is to provide excellent, innovative and creative education that enables all students to realize their full potential and to enjoy a fulfilled life as confident, compassionate and healthy members of the global community; continuing to learn, and contributing to a better world for all. Our curriculum offers the means by which students may fulfill the school's purpose: being designed to provide every student, regardless of race, gender, age or ability, rich learning experiences in challenging yet supportive learning environments. The school prepares pupils positively for life in the modern world, promoting the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. These values are taught explicitly through PSHE, and through coverage of the major world religions. We also teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum which follows the English National Curriculum.

Apart from Greek lessons and RI in the Senior School, all lessons are conducted in English. In general the Greek and RI syllabi are in line with those designated by the Ministry of Education. This is also the case with the Greek curriculum in the Junior School.

The Junior School – Years – EY1 – Year 6

Our Early Years Curriculum is underpinned by the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum; we enhance this with additional planned opportunities, which make up the wider curriculum. Our aim is to make teaching and learning exciting and meaningful and to allow the students to explore and discover through teacher directed activities as well as their own self-initiated learning within the following areas:

The Prime Areas of Learning:

1. Personal Social and Emotional Development
2. Communication and Language (This also includes Greek)
3. Physical Development

The Specific Areas of Learning:

1. Literacy
2. Mathematics

3. Understanding of the World
4. Expressive Arts and Design

In the Early Years Department (Early Years 1, 2 and 3 and Reception) the curriculum is mainly delivered by the class teacher apart from a daily Greek lesson as well as a bi-weekly Music lesson (in EY1 and EY2 – weekly lessons in EY3) and two P.E. lessons which are delivered by specialist teachers.

We assess students by using the standardised GL Baseline assessment from Reception at the beginning and end of the year in order to gain an accurate picture of their development and stage of learning. We also formatively assess the children through observations and teacher assessments daily. This involves watching, listening and interacting with the students as they engage in everyday activities.

In Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) and Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) students broadly follow the British National Curriculum, mostly but not entirely, delivered by their class teacher. English, Mathematics and Greek are the dominant subjects, with setting by ability sometimes taking place in these subjects across the year group. Topic work is either Science, Geography or History based with cross-curricular links. There is a discrete Computing lesson, although laptops, tablets and iPads are used at times in other lessons. Art is also a discrete lesson, often with cross curricular links. There are two P.E. lessons during a weekly timetable and one lesson for Music apart from Year 4 who have an extra lesson fortnightly. For Key Stage 2 students, there is an additional lesson if students choose to learn the recorder. There is also one lesson for visiting the library (although students are encouraged to visit the library and change their books more often than once a week). P.E., Music and Greek are all taught by specialist staff, not by the main class teacher.

The Senior School

Years 7-13 – The school is registered as a 7 year school

At KS3 (Years 7-9) students follow a broad curriculum consisting of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science (with a gradual differentiation into the specific disciplines of Biology, Physics and Chemistry), CET (Communications and Electronics Technology), Greek and/or French and/or Spanish and/or German and/or Russian, History, Geography, Comparative Religions (or RI for Greek-speaking students - in Greek), Drama, Music, Art and PE. Students who have English as a 2nd language are taught by an EAL specialist for three of their five English periods. Booster classes support Science and Mathematics.

The majority of KS4 (Years 10-11) pupils study eight subjects for two years leading to I/GCSE qualifications. The school is an approved examination centre for Edexcel, CIE and AQA. Core

(compulsory) subjects include: Mathematics, 1st / 2nd Language English, Greek, French, Spanish, German; one science subject (either Biology, Physics or Chemistry); and PE (not examined). Option choices are selected from blocks of subjects that change every year. Students are actively supported in this selection process by the school's Careers Advisor, subject teachers, Heads of Year 9 and KS4; and the senior management team. Psychometric testing is also offered. The subjects currently offered are:- English Literature, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, IT, French, Greek, Spanish, German, History, Geography, Global Perspectives, RE, Accounting, Business Studies, Economics, Travel and Tourism, Drama, Music, Art, Dance and PE.

More able students in Maths and English are offered either / or both a fast track Mathematics course from Year 9 with IGCSE taken at the end of Year 10 and an IGCSE in Further Mathematics offered in Year 11 or a dual English course including both English Language and Literature in Years 10 and 11.

AS and A Levels are studied at KS5 (Years 12-13). Students generally choose to study three or four subjects at AS in Y12 which they then continue to A2 Level in Y13. Students can also study for the EPQ (Extended Project Qualification).

Option choices are selected from blocks of subjects that change every year. Students are actively supported in this selection process by the school's Careers Advisor, subject teachers, the Head of Sixth Form; and the senior management team. The subjects currently offered are:- Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Psychology, English Literature, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, IT, French, Greek, Spanish, History, Geography, Global Perspectives, Accounting, Business Studies, Economics, Travel and Tourism, Drama, Music, Art and PE.

PHSE, SMSC and Enrichment

All students participate in a comprehensive PHSE programme that is structured to meet the specific needs of the students at each Key Stage; providing them with the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences that will ultimately prepare them for tertiary education and adult life.

In the Early Years Department, Key Stage 1 and 2 PHSE is mainly delivered through circle time and assemblies, but also touched upon on a daily basis. In circle time some of the games and ideas come from 'Working With Others' and through the 'Jenny Mosley' rules for respect.

Sex and Relationships Education is also taught from Year 5 onwards and the details of this are contained in our SRE Policy.

Careers advice and information are also delivered through the PHSE programme and with the active support of Alumni, parents and the wider school community. This part of the programme begins in Y9. At present, PHSE in the Senior School is delivered by regular timetable collapse for the whole school at the same time (but offering different programmes, according to age.)

From academic year 2019-2020, PSHE will be included in the timetabled curriculum for KS4 and KS5, starting with Y10 and Y12. From 2020–2021, PSHE will be included in the KS3 timetabled curriculum.

We also have a varied and interesting ‘after-school’ enrichment programme.

At Key Stage 1 and 2 after school activities run from October to the beginning of May and take place at the end of the school day. Students can choose up to three activities in Key Stage One and five activities in Key Stage 2, one each day of the week. Some of the wide range of activities on offer at the moment are: Art, Homework club, Pottery, Basketball, Tennis, Choir, String Orchestra, Karate, Fencing, Greek Homework Club, Dance, KS2 Musical, Drama, Cookery, Football, Design & Technology, Cheerleading, Student Council, Maths Support, Cricket, Computing, Story Crafts, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Yoga.

KS3 – KS5 pupils can choose to attend activities which give them a wide range of creative, physical, musical, dramatic, artistic, cultural and political experiences. As well as Drama club, Dance club, Choir, Orchestra, Football, Tennis and Basketball clubs, current activities include: Model UN, D of E, Cyprus Junior Leadership (Young Enterprise), Photography club, robotics and Jewellery making. Academic support (homework clubs, IELTS and targeted study groups); and booster clinics (English, Science, Mathematics) are also run after school. KS5 students are encouraged to support younger students in the school in a variety of ways and /or reach out to support the wider community as part of their preparation for adult life. Each pupil has the opportunity to learn and make progress according to his/her academic needs and potential. Individualised programmes of study are devised and implemented whenever it becomes clear that the mainstream curriculum offered needs to diversify further in order to meet a student’s needs (see SEN and GMAT policies).

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Lead members of staff – Curriculum Deputies

Date Implemented: 18th February 2015

Date Reviewed: June 2019

Date of next Review: June 2022