

Curriculum Policy

Approved by:	Local Governing Body	Approved Date: July 2023
Review Date:	July 2024	
Links	SEND policy, RSE Policy, Marking and Feedback Policy (draft) CEIAG Policy, Provider Access Policy	
Staff responsible	Principal, Vice Principal and Curriculum Assistant Principals	

Intent

At Cockshut Hill School our curriculum aims to:

Provide our learners with a varied curriculum offer that promotes ambition and accounts for the social contexts of our learners.

Develop learners' Cultural Capital through varied curriculum experiences that inspire learners and help them gain an appreciation of achievement, creativity and nature.

Foster a culture where reading and learning is important to learners both in school and throughout their lives.

Enable learners to coherently understand, remember and make connections between the knowledge they are taught within and across subject areas.

Deliver powerful and challenging knowledge to learners to drive their learning experiences and their emotional intelligence.

Encourage learners to embrace and have opinions on the social, moral, spiritual and cultural issues they may encounter throughout their lives.

Instil resilience and ambition in our learners by promoting challenging ideas and concepts in lessons.

Cockshut Hill School's curriculum policy is based on the following aims, to:

- Have learners at its heart, putting their interests above those of the institution.
- Have a curriculum that is fit for purpose, offering differentiation and personalisation.
- Be a centre of excellence in learning and teaching.
- Prepare all learners for a successful adult and working life in a 21st century global society.
- Give learners the opportunity to have important new cultural experiences in the Cockshut Hill Cultural Experiences Programme (16 by 16)
- Be committed to excellence and continuous improvement.
- Nurture the talents of all and celebrate success.
- Work with Primary schools and Post 16 providers to ease transition.
- Involve the community.
- Involve parents/carers.
- Be in a learning environment that is above all else, inspiring.

Learners will:

- Have their individual needs addressed, both within the school and extending beyond the classroom into the family and community through a curriculum which offers breadth, support and challenge.
- Be given additional support if they start to fall behind in their learning, helping them get back on track quickly.
- Receive co-ordinated support to enable them to make the appropriate curriculum choices at key stages 4 and 5.

In practice learners in Years 7, 8 and 9 follow a broad and balanced curriculum, which though weighted to support excellent progress in the academic core (English, Mathematics and Science), offers learners an opportunity to experience The Arts, Humanities, Technology, PE and PSHE. All learners follow this curriculum and in accepting a place at Cockshut Hill School, they and their parents are accepting that their children will experience and take part in the whole of this curriculum. There cannot be exemptions.

In Years 10 and 11, Learners are able to choose the subjects they will study alongside the core of English, Mathematics, Science, RE and PE. In addition, all learners in Years 7 to 11 are offered a variety of other enrichment activities, through extra-curricular opportunities.

Teaching & Learning Philosophy at Cockshut Hill School

Our T&L is underpinned by the extensive research of Shaun Allison & Andy Tharby's ***Making Every Lesson Count*** - the five principles are the key skills we develop and use extensively in teaching. These 5 principles are embedded into our teaching and learning by way of a direct instruction model – “The 5 Principles Teaching Cycle”

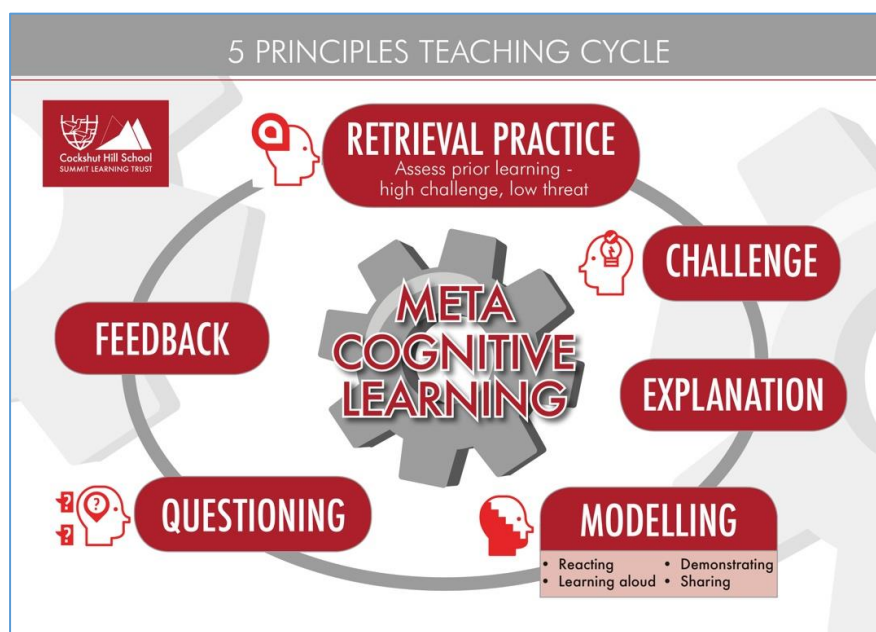
Cockshut Hill T&L Principles:

1. Challenge
2. Explanation
3. Modelling
4. Questioning

5. Feedback

Lead Practitioners and Senior Leadership Team:

We have 6 Lead Practitioners within the academy who lead and drive on embedding the Principles in their areas and lead on Personal Learning Development (PLD) sessions across the school both in departments and whole school. They also quality assure T&L alongside the senior team, coach staff and showcase their teaching to others too. Lead Practitioners and the Senior Leadership Team work to improve T&L which in turn enables our curriculum to be implemented as designed.



Policy statement

The Key Stage 3 Curriculum Year 7,8 & 9

The curriculum is devised to allow learners to follow the essential core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science as well as having a broad and balanced experience of humanities and creativity subjects. The subjects will allow learners the opportunity to make more informed choices during the options process. Every student has either English or Mathematics every day to build on the importance of literacy and numeracy skills so that they can have a good foundation for access to the KS4 curriculum. Curriculum planning for all subjects is an integral part of leaders and their teams work and the intent, implementation and impact of their curriculums are routinely assessed via a series of **subject reviews** each half term. Subjects plan curricula that reflect the school and trusts vision for education - **“Ambition through Challenge”** is a key pledge we make to ensure learners are ready to be lifelong learners and to be **“Nothing but the Best”**.

Subject	Allocated time in a fortnight (mins)
English	450
Mathematics	450
Science	450

Religious Education	150
Geography	225 (Yr 7 and 8) 150 (Yr 9)
History	225 (Yr 7 and 9) 150 (Yr 8)
Modern Foreign Languages	225
Physical Education	225
Art	150
Computing	75 (150 Yr 8 & 9)
Performing Arts	150
Design Technology	150
Aspire (PSHE)	75

The KS4 Curriculum Year 10 & 11

Cockshut Hill Schools' curriculum in year 10 and 11 is concerned with ensuring learners get a "broad and balanced" choice that enables them to experience a range of subjects suited to their future ambitions whilst also allowing learners to stretch their potential in subjects not offered to them before.

All learners will have 3 option choices on top of the standard core subjects they must study. This allows learners to still follow the EBACC qualification if they wish to do so or continue with subjects they have developed a passion for from the KS3 curriculum. Learners can also venture into new qualifications not delivered at KS3.

EBACC

Learners will follow the core subjects of Mathematics, English Language, English Literature and Science. They are also expected to complete the Modern Foreign Language they are currently studying (Spanish, French or Urdu) and a Humanities subject (History or Geography). Some learners with a strong track record in Science at KS3 may attempt Triple Science which results in 3 GCSEs

(Biology, Chemistry and Physics). Many 6th form colleges and Universities value this combination of qualifications.

In addition to this core curriculum, learners will also be able to choose one other option. If learners elect to choose both History and Geography, this combination is possible within this pathway

Year 10 in 2023/2024 *Allocated time in a fortnight (mins)

Subjects	Time*
English	525
Mathematics	525

Science	525
Fine Art	300
Statistics	300
Computer Science	300
Games	150
Geography	300
History	300
Design Technology	300

Child Development	300
Creative iMedia	300
Sports Science	300
Photography	300
Hospitality and Catering	300
French	300
RE	300
Spanish	300
Urdu	300
Personal Development	75

Year 11 in 2023/2024 *Allocated time in a fortnight

(mins)

Subjects	Time*
English	525
Mathematics	525
Science	525
Fine Art	300
Statistics	300
Computer Science	300
Games	150
Geography	300
History	300
Engineering	300

Child Development	300
Creative imedia	300
Sports Science	300
Photography	300
Hospitality and Catering	300
French	300
RE	360
Spanish	300
Urdu	300
Personal Development	75

Period 5

Year 11 learners will have an extra hours learning every week (except CPD Tuesday) in all of their subjects (options will rotate between terms)

This time is a full one hour lesson with curriculum aims still the same as for all other lessons.

Cultural Experience Curriculum (16 by 16)

Cockshut Hill is extremely proud of the introduction of a programme of events that allow learners to build their cultural capital whilst in school.

At KS3 ALL learners are taken on 2 trips per year that extend their learning outside of the classroom and build their appreciation of the country they live in. Examples of events include an outward bound visit to Beaudesert for Year 7 learners and a visit to a University for all of Year 9. Most visits are closely linked to the taught curriculum in certain subjects for example Geography links (Coasts) to our Weston-Super-Mare trip for year 8 learners.

At KS4 ALL learners have 1 cultural capital trip per year. Year 10 learners are taken to a theatre performance at Stratford RSC. Year 11 have a trip to London visiting many of the most important institutions found there such as Parliament.

All trips are fully paid for by the school and the full offer can be found on the school's website.

Personal Development

Cockshut Hill learners undertake PSHE in the form of the schools Personal Development programme. This is a timetabled lesson once per fortnight where learners are taught the full range of PSHE requirements including sex and relationships education.

The Personal Development programme is created a year in advance and mapped out for all year groups. Staff are allocated to each topic after an audit of their skills/knowledge on particular topics.

Support for Special Needs - Mainstream

In line with the SEN Code of Practice, Cockshut Hill has a Director of Inclusion/SENDCO whose responsibility it is to co-ordinate provision for mainstream learners with special educational needs. The school's inclusion policy details how learners' special needs are identified and monitored with support tailored in accordance to their Code of Practice stage and specific needs.

Cockshut Hill recognises that there are many learners without a statutory statement of SEN who also have diverse needs. All faculties have an inclusion policy which reflects our commitment in providing a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum and, in doing so, meet the needs of individual learners across the ability range.

EAL Department

Cockshut Hill has 1 full time member of staff who specialises in the teaching of learners with EAL at all levels. Learners are assessed for their need and then given discreet language lessons alongside accessing the rest of the curriculum. Support is also provided for learners in English and Mathematics by the EAL Department.

Work related Learning

Work related Learning takes place across the curriculum, with different subjects and courses providing learners with the opportunities and contexts in which to develop work-related skills, knowledge and understanding. The school's co-ordinator has mapped and recorded all programmes of work undertaken by faculties, and also any extra-curricular learning activities which contribute to the work-related learning curriculum. There is no discrete curriculum time for work-related learning.

Work-related learning is defined by us as any planned activity that uses work as a context for learning. It encompasses a broad range of activities which allow learners to experience working life. It involves learning about working practices, experiencing the work

environment, developing skills for working life and learning through activities and challenges set in work-related contexts.

The aim of our work-related learning development is to enable all young people to:

- fulfil their academic and vocational potential
- apply their learning in a work context
- acquire the skills, attitudes and behaviours required in the workplace, including those necessary for health and safety
- be enterprising and to support enterprise in others
- develop other skills, knowledge, understanding and motivation for a well-rounded and balanced adult life, contributing to the country's economic well-being and becoming a responsible citizen in the world beyond work

Cockshut Hill prides itself on the quality of its numerous links with the community and with business and industry in the local area and further afield.

Cockshut Hill is a member of our local Chamber of Commerce which also supports the classroom by providing links and companies to enrich specific curriculum related projects. The school has a member of staff who has the unique role of 'employer engagement' and deepening the experience of our learners across the curriculum from 11-18. We take great pride in providing opportunities for our learners as we believe that making the appropriate links to the 'real world' will not only enrich their understanding of the curriculum area but will also begin to prepare them for life outside of school.