
St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School
Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Richard Gwyn Sant



Curriculum Policy
June 2019

Adopted November 2024



Origin	
Committee Responsible	
Lead Member	
Date Approved	October 24
Chair of Governors	Mr P McLoughlin
Review Date:	October 25

Introduction

St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School provides a curriculum and learning environment that promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, intellectual, personal social and physical development of all students. We aim to provide a challenging and stimulating curriculum, that encourages an enthusiasm and love for learning and develops curiosity, creativity and personal growth.

Aim

Our aim is to offer a broad and balanced curriculum accessible to all students that develops the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes which are necessary for student development as active and responsible citizens. The curriculum prepares students for further study, employment and adult life. The curriculum aims to enable all students to

- develop success being ready make progress and enjoy learning;
- be resilient individuals who have the confidence to keep going and have the skills to overcome the obstacles that life presents;
- live a life through Gospel values so they can become a positive member of their community

Principles

The curriculum will ensure that:

- the education of all students has equal value;
- students will achieve high standards and make progress;
- have and be able to use high quality personal, learning and thinking skills and become independent learners;
- a breadth of opportunities is offered whilst maintaining the opportunity of flexibility

The school curriculum

- focuses on the student;



- raises aspirations and sets appropriate challenge
- ensures that appropriate skills development is considered throughout the curriculum;
- focuses on continuity and progression;
- is flexible, balanced, relevant and differentiated;
- focuses suitably on Welsh Government priorities; and
- continues to deliver a distinctive curriculum that is appropriate for Wales

The school will take every opportunity to ensure all students, whatever their ability, make the best progress possible and achieve the highest possible standards in subjects and qualifications. The school will strive to narrow the gaps in achievement and enable those not achieving age-related expectations to catch up with their peers. The school will challenge more able and talented students (MAT) so that their progress is sustained and enhanced making certain all young people develop the skills and abilities needed for success in life and can apply them in a wide range of contexts.

General Arrangements (Formal Curriculum)

The school will deliver the National Curriculum at Key Stage 3 and 4 and fulfil the requirements of the Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2009. The curriculum will be organised in the way that best suits the needs of our students whilst ensuring the delivery of a broad and balanced provision.

At Key Stage 3 (KS3) the school curriculum includes

- core subjects – English, Welsh, mathematics, science and religious studies; · Non core subjects – modern foreign languages, design and technology, ICT, history, geography, art, music, physical education and PSHE

The Learning and Skills Measure 2009

At KS4 the school curriculum consists of

- compulsory subjects – English, Welsh second language, mathematics, science and religious studies, ICT and Physical Education and PSE (including sex education); with a broad range of academic and vocational courses leading to external qualifications.
- A small number of KS4 students undertake extended work placements in Year 10 and 11. This provision is offered to students who require a learning pathway which is different from or additional to the differentiated curriculum available to all students
- In line with the increased flexibility, introduced by Learning Pathways, students are given a ‘free’ option choice although considerable impartial advice and guidance is provided to help students choose a broad and balanced curriculum but also one which is relevant and appropriate to their chosen pathway and career aspirations.

Individual Support



The head of Additional Learning Needs works closely with all departments, in order to support students so they all have access to the curriculum

Skill Development

The curriculum allows for the development of generic transferable skills for students. Learning in all subjects provides opportunities to develop

- Communication – including literacy
- Thinking
- Digital Competency and
- Numeracy

Opportunities are mapped across the curriculum to ensure a coherent, progressive and varied approach to learning and the application of skills

Cross Curricular Themes

In planning the curriculum, the school provides a distinctive Welsh dimension and Cwricwlwm Cymreig underpins the whole curriculum for all students, helping students to understand the distinctive quality of living and learning in Wales enabling them to develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the cultural, economic, environmental, historical and linguistic characteristics of Wales.

Opportunities are provided to promote

- Cwricwlwm Cymreig;
- Wales, Europe and the World;
- Christian Values;
- Equal Opportunities, Equality and Diversity;
- Food and Fitness;
- Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship; and · The World of Work and Entrepreneurship

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

All students follow a programme of PSE that meets the requirements of the Personal and Social Education Framework for 7 to 19-year-olds in Wales. The programme prepares students and students to be personally and socially effective by providing learning experiences in which they can develop and apply skills, explore personal attitudes and values, and acquire appropriate knowledge and understanding.