

Our Purpose

The Wells Cathedral Junior and Senior School curriculum is designed to enable us to meet our purpose of inspiring success in our students. We provide full-time supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age (construed in accordance with section 8 of the Education Act 1996), giving pupils experience in linguistic, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education. Through this curriculum, pupils will acquire and develop their speaking, listening, literacy and numeracy skills. Details of the practical arrangements for this are given below, with specific information for year groups in the Curriculum Plan. The principal language of instruction is English. The school educates pupils from age two to eighteen. The programme of lessons and activities is delivered at an age-appropriate level, which takes account of the varying educational needs of pupils, in relation to personal, social, emotional, physical development, communication and language skills.

All pupils have the opportunity to learn and make progress and we aim to prepare them effectively for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in British society.

PSHE

As part of the curriculum, personal, social, health and economic education reflect the school's aims and ethos and encourages respect for others, in particular with regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010, namely age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership and pregnancy and maternity.

Careers

Up-to-date careers and further education guidance is available for all pupils through the school's careers and higher education adviser. Pupils in Year 11 complete the Morrisby test, in order to provide evidence-based advice on potential subject choices and careers. In addition to this, a biennial careers event takes place, with visiting speakers, aimed at Years 11 and 12. All advice is presented in an impartial manner, which enables pupils to make informed choices about a broad range of career options and helps to encourage pupils to fulfil their potential.

Our Objectives

The Wells curriculum should enable all students to:

- develop a genuine love of learning and an actively enquiring outlook
- develop a disciplined approach to learning which enables them to increase their knowledge and develop a broad range of skills that will prepare them for current and future study and careers
- be stretched by what they learn to achieve the best possible grades in the most appropriate qualifications
- become confident, creative and adaptable citizens able to develop the resilience required to cope with both success and failure

- develop the necessary communication skills to express their views in both written, oral and practical ways
- understand and learn from other cultures and societies taking their place as part of a global society
- develop academic and musical specialisms within the framework of a broad and balanced curriculum, understanding the benefits of both

To Achieve Our Purpose and Objectives we will:

- continually improve the quality and depth of our curriculum framework for students at the school; being aware of and responding to national initiatives
- focus on the educational and care needs of all our students
- recognise the value of the wider co-curriculum in achieving academic success.
- create an environment within which students are able to take risks and learn from their successes and failures
- appoint and invest in high quality staff

Working practice:

- Academic leaders and teachers work in a flexible team-based way, recognising and encouraging energy, commitment and the development of quality teaching and learning within an innovative curriculum
- To develop and implement innovative operational systems including the use of new technologies in student academic management procedures
- To manage academic finances in providing an affordable and flexible curriculum
- To encourage the involvement of outside experts in the field, across all areas of the curriculum.

Themes and Principles:

- We understand that the needs of all students are different, and that we require a flexible curriculum to meet these needs
- We commit to developing the best possible curriculum for our students within the framework of understanding our students needs, and national and international curriculum changes

Practical Arrangements:

The school is unique in that it operates a specialist music department within a full academic school.

The curriculum is therefore tailored to meet the needs of both pupils working on a conventional academic programme and pupils needing to make time for high level music practice and performance.

There are many individual timetables inevitably within the philosophical outline articulated above.

The curriculum plan outlines the allocation of time to each subject in Years 7-9 and the range of GCSE, AS and A2 options. Adjustments are made for music forms with a tailored academic curriculum; a number of students take less than the load of 4 GCSE options plus the core in Year 10 and Year 11 and to begin with less than 4 A-level courses in Years 12 and 13 to allow time for their musical studies..

The school sets in modern languages, science and mathematics and makes allowances for pupils who need an adjusted curriculum in English in Year 10 and 11. Any students pursuing the 'double

science' award rather than the separate science award in Year 11 are grouped together.

Assistant Head & Director of Studies

September 2018

Next review date: September 2020