



# RENDCOMB COLLEGE

NURSERY • JUNIOR • SENIOR

## Curriculum Policy

**(ISI: 2a, 2b)**

**Monitoring:**

DHM (Academic) and Head of JS

**Reviewed:**

August 2020

**Next Review:**

August 2021

## **Rendcomb College Curriculum Policy**

### **OUR MISSION**

Our mission is to develop thoughtful, adventurous and academically ambitious young people who are life-long learners. We aim to prepare them with the character and skills to succeed in the ever-changing world after school. Our pupils have the freedom to experience, explore and enquire about the world around them. We aim to encourage independence and tolerance in a safe, caring community and magnificent natural environment.

### **TO ACHIEVE THIS WE WILL:**

- Promote a growth mind-set, where abilities can be developed through dedication and hard-work;
- Provide a co-curriculum that will challenge and support character development, leadership and teamwork;
- Encourage individualism, creativity and contribution to a nurturing and collaborative community;
- Engender physical, spiritual and mental well-being through a strong pastoral system;
- Prepare pupils for a life beyond school;
- Develop an appreciation for and responsible attitude towards their environment and surroundings.

## **2. Curriculum Structure**

### **Junior School**

For pupils in Nursery and Reception, the curriculum is based on the Government's seven areas of learning. These are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Pupils also undertake some fun French activities.

Year 1 and Year 2 are largely class teacher taught. Year 3 to Year 6 operate on a daily timetable with an element of subject specialism. The basis of the curriculum for Year 1 to Year 6 is the National Curriculum, although these programmes are not rigidly adhered to.

Pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 study:

English	French	Computing
Mathematics	Music	Games
Science	Drama	Physical Education
History	Art	Religious Education
Geography	Design Technology	

In addition, pupils receive one PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) lesson each week; pupils in Yr1 to Yr4 attend a Forest School session each week for two lessons and pupils in Year 5 study Thinking and Reasoning Skills for one lesson each week. Other Languages (Latin, German and Spanish) are studied on a rotational basis across Year 3 to Year 6.

## **Senior School**

The curriculum gives pupils experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education. To deliver the curriculum, Heads of Departments draw up appropriate schemes of work. At Key Stages 4 and 5, they select the most appropriate specifications from the external examination boards. As well as subject specific skills, the curriculum seeks to deliver skills such as literacy, numeracy, communication skills, research skills and independent learning across the curriculum as appropriate.

## **Key Stage 3**

The curriculum is planned to provide a broad range of subject areas which broadly follow the National Curriculum content. Curriculum time is allocated in a balanced manner between creative arts, languages, sciences, humanities; core subjects of English and Maths have a greater time allocation in recognition of their general academic importance. An ILP (independent learning project) is started after the November exams and finishes February half term when pupils present to their tutor group. It is compulsory for years 7 and 8 and optional for year 9.

In the Years 7-9 students study a common curriculum comprising lessons in Art, Biology, Chemistry, DT, English, Geography, History, Computing, Maths, Music, PE, Physics and RE,. Students are taught in mixed ability groups in all subjects except for English (streamed from Year 8) and Maths (streamed from Michaelmas Half Term in Year 7). Most students choose two modern foreign Languages from French, German and Spanish. Some pupils take lessons in English as an additional language or on the Learning Support department instead of one of both modern foreign languages. Some GCSE and IGCSE courses start in year 9 including Geography and Maths in the Summer Term and Sciences in the Lent term.

## **GCSE**

The GCSE course structure includes a compulsory core of subjects; English Language (with Literature as an option followed by majority of students), Maths, Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics, examined at either Double or Triple Award Level).

In addition students may choose four further subjects within the timetabled curriculum, from:

Art	German
Computing	History
Design Technology	Music
Drama	PE
French	Spanish
Geography	

Students are required to choose a minimum of one Modern Foreign Language, unless there is an educational reasons which prevent this. Drama and Music Scholars are expected to study GCSE courses in these subjects, and are strongly recommended to continue on to A Level. Some students opt to complete the OCR Free Standing Maths Qualification (FSMQ) during activity time and sit the examination for this qualification at the end of year 11.

All pupils have a Learning to Learn (L2L) lesson once a fortnight. In this lesson the following themes are covered: ICT Functional skills, Growth Mind-set, Oracy and Presentation Skills and Study Skills. Pupils are expected to make a presentation to peers at the end of the year to bring these themes together.

There are four Option Blocks for GCSEs, created each year based on student choices.

### **A Level**

Students are offered A Levels in the following subjects; in addition, BTECs in Business and Travel and Tourism are offered:

Art	French	Photography
Biology	Further Mathematics	Physics
Business Studies (BTEC)	Geography	Psychology
Chemistry	German	Spanish
Computing	History	Sport & PE
Drama & Theatre Studies	Mathematics	Travel and Tourism (BTEC)
Design Technology	Music	
English Literature	Music Technology	

Students are expected to choose three at the start of Year 12 and the vast majority will continue with three to A Level. Some students may start with four A Level courses and in exceptional cases, may complete all four. AS courses are not offered. A slim block that carries a reduced timetable allocation offers opportunities for stretch and challenge or additional support. The contents of the slim block are currently the Arts Award, Duke of Edinburgh, Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), EAL, and Maths for non A-level mathematicians.

All pupils have one lesson a week dedicated to the C<sup>3</sup> programme. C<sup>3</sup> represents ‘creation, collaboration and communication’, skills they practice through a carousel of three topics: ICT Functional skills, Global Issues, Political Literacy

International students may also follow a Pre A Level year. The programme of study include a variety of subjects leading to entry to the Additional Maths and Physics GCSE. In addition, intensive study of English Language is facilitated by the EAL Department.

### **Additional Curriculum Commitments**

All students meet with their academic tutor for one period per week to discuss academic progress, and to cover PSHE topics relevant to their age group. Further social, spiritual, and cultural development is addressed through attendance at weekly Chapel services, and in whole school PSHE courses.

In addition students have the following weekly commitments within the timetable:



### Curriculum Diagrams (Senior School)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
7	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma/En	En	En	En	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc/Sc	RE/Sc	ML1	ML1	ML2	ML2	Gg	Gg/His	His	COM	COM/Ar	Ar	Dr	DT	Mu	PE	
8	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma/En	En	En	En	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc/Sc	RE/Sc	ML1	ML1	ML2	ML2	Gg	Gg/His	His	COM	COM/Dr	Ar	Dr	DT	Mu	PE	
9	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma/En	En	En	En	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc/Sc	RE/Sc	ML1	ML1	ML2	ML2	Gg	Gg/His	His	COM	COM/DT	Ar	Dr	DT	Mu	PE	
10	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma/L2L	En	En	En	En	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc/Sc	Sc/O1	O1	O1	O2	O2	O2/O3	O3	O3	O3	O4	O4	O4/L2L	
11	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	En	En	En	En	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc/Sc	Sc/O1	O1	O1	O2	O2	O2/O3	O3	O3	O3	O4	O4	O4/M	
PreA	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	EAL	EAL	EAL	EAL	EAL	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	DT	DT	Ar+P	Ar+P	Ar+P	COM	COM	SP	SP	SP	SP	
12	O1	O1	O1	O1	O1	O1/S	O2	O2	O2	O2	O2	O2/S	O3	O3	O3	O3	O3	S/O3	O4	O4	O4	O4	O4	O4	C3/O4	CS	C3/SP
13	O1	O1	O1	O1	O1	O1/S	O2	O2	O2	O2	O2	O2/S	O3	O3	O3	O3	O3	S/O3	O4	O4	O4	O4	O4	O4	C3/O4	S	S/SP

### Curriculum Diagrams (Junior School)

Y3	Eng 6	Math 6	Sci 4	Lang 2	Comp 1	His 2	Geo 2	RE 1	PE 2	Games 5	Art/DT 3	Dra 1	Mus 1	Forest 2
Y4	Eng 6	Math 6	Sci 4	Lang 2	Comp 1	His 2	Geo 2	RE 1	PE 2	Games 5	Art/DT 3	Dra 1	Mus 1	Forest 2
Y5	Eng 6	Math 6	Sci 4	Lang 3	Comp 1	His 2	Geo 2	RE 1	PE 2	Games 5	Art/DT 3	Dra 1	Mus 1	T&R 1
Y6	Eng 6	Math 6	Sci 4	Lang 3	Comp 2	His 2	Geo 2	RE 1	PE 2	Games 5	Art/DT 3	Dra 1	Mus 1	

In addition students have the following weekly commitments within the timetable:

- Distinction Assembly All Years, Friday Period 1
- PSHE All Years, at various times