



CURRICULUM POLICY

Policy Consultation & Review

This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body at least every two years.

This policy was last reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body on 17 July 2024. It is due for review July 2026.

1. Curriculum Guidance

- 1.1 Springwood High School follows the curriculum guidance outlined in the Single Academy Model Mainstream Funding Agreement. It ensures that a broad and balanced curriculum is provided to its students, incorporating English, maths, science and religious education qualifications along with physical education teaching for 11-16. As an Arts specialist the academy trust will also provide a range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities in this area. For KS5 students a range of subjects is offered, including enrichment and volunteering activities, to provide students with the most relevant pathway for further study or employment. It is the intention and aim of the school that all students are involved in some form of extra-curricular activity.
- 1.2 The curriculum at KS3 and KS4 follows the National Curriculum. Revised learning days, along with morning tutor time, gives ample opportunity to cover a comprehensive programme of personal, social and health education, along with careers advice and guidance.
- 1.3 Objectives relating to the curriculum aims of Springwood High School are:
- That pupils should become aware of their abilities and in so doing should develop them to their maximum potential.
 - That pupils should be aware of the needs of the community and be prepared to contribute fully to the life of the community.
 - That all pupils should be offered a curriculum that has breadth and depth. It must be tailored to each pupil and satisfy their requirements.
 - That pupils who leave Springwood should be articulate, literate and numerate, and have lively, enquiring, independent minds.
 - That pupils who leave Springwood should:
 - be confident in their dealings with adults and peers;
 - be able to develop good working relationships with others;
 - have knowledge of a wide range of cultures and through this come to respect the rights and needs of others;
 - be able to make good moral judgements;
 - have developed a love of learning that will last for the rest of their lives;
 - be adaptable enough to react to the needs of a fast-changing world.

2. Key Stage 3

2.1 The curriculum for Key Stage 3 is as follows, with Super Learning days across the year, and tutor time to cover PHSE/CAG. This is based on 50 lessons, plus 10 tutor sessions a fortnight (total of 55 hours).

Subject	Year 7 (hours)	Year 8 (hours)	Year 9 (hours)
English (incorporating reading)	8	8	8
Mathematics	8	8	8
Science	6	6	6
French, German or Spanish	4	4	4
Geography	3	4	4
History	4	3	4
Religious Education	3	3	3
Computing	2	2	2
Art	2	2	2
Drama	2	2	2
Music	2	2	2
PE1 / Dance ¹	4	4	3
Design & Technology	1	1	1
Food	1	1	1
Tutor time (PSHE/CAG etc)	5	5	5
Total	55 hours	55 hours	55 hours

Notes

¹ In years 7 and 8 dance is taught as part of PE on a rotational basis. Some students will use more of their PE time in Year 9 to focus on dance

- 2.2 In year 7 students are currently taught in tutor groups in all subjects other than English, Maths, Technology, Food and PE. The year group is split into two balanced halves.
- 2.3 In year 8 some ability grouping will take place in many subjects, excluding the arts. This will also continue into year 9.
- 2.4 During year 9 students will also be given careers and subject advice and guidance in preparation for choosing their options for KS4. The guided choices process will take place during the second half of the Spring Term

3. Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

3.1 All students follow a core curriculum of GCSEs (or equivalent) in English Literature and Language, mathematics, science (double award or triple sciences) and RE, along with core PE (non-examined). This accounts for 60% of curriculum time. Students are then guided in years 10 and 11 to fill the remaining time with 4 options from the following:

GCSE Art	GCSE Geography
ASDAN	Level 2 Information Technology
GCSE Business Studies	Level 2 Health & Social Care
Level 2 Business Studies	GCSE History
GCSE Computing	GCSE Media Studies
Level 2 BTEC Construction	GCSE Music
Level 2 Creative Hair & Beauty Studies	Level 2 Music Practitioner
GCSE Dance	GCSE PE
GCSE Drama	GCSE Photography
GCSE Economics	GCSE Sociology
GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition	GCSE Spanish
GCSE French	GCSE Design Technology
GCSE German	

3.2 All courses are taught on site and are level 2 courses with the exception of ASDAN. Students are guided to the most appropriate courses where they are capable of achieving a level 2 qualification. Courses are studied until the end of Year 11. Option blocks are currently formed based upon the student choices, staffing availability and sufficient numbers to run a particular course.

3.3 Additional courses may also be offered on an annual basis depending upon demand. These include GCSE Astronomy, GCSE Statistics, Level 2 Certificate in Further Maths and other modern foreign languages.

3.4 The majority of students will be expected to take either history or geography, plus a modern foreign language

3.5 All students continue to follow the PSHE programme during tutor time (an additional 5 hours a fortnight)

4. Key Stage 5

- 4.1 A varied programme of subjects is offered in the sixth form which allow a number of pathways to be followed and the opportunity to continue studies at University. The subjects on offer include:

English Literature	Mathematics	Biology
Economics	Further Mathematics	Physics
Sociology	Applied Science/Medical Science	Chemistry
Media Studies	Geography	Psychology
French	History	Health & Social Care
German	RE	Business Studies
Music	Art	Criminology
Music Technology	Spanish	PE
Drama	Photography	Government & Politics
Fashion	Computing	English Language & Literature
Dance	Food Science and Nutrition	

- 4.2 The courses offered each year may depend on the demands of the particular cohort and the staffing which is available. The majority of students will study three A Levels, but some will study 4.
- 4.3 A varied programme of Enrichment courses are offered, partly dependent upon the staffing availability that year. It is expected that these will include Duke of Edinburgh Award, Sports and Dance Leadership award and Extended Project Qualification. In addition, most students will also take part in a volunteer activity each week, such as supporting or mentoring lower school students or helping in the local community.
- 4.4 In year 12 and 13 the majority of subjects are given 10 hours a fortnight. Across both years' students may be given additional supervised study time.
- 4.5 We also offer two standalone courses in year 12 – level 2 hairdressing and level 2 bricklaying. Both are 1-year courses. The hairdressing course can be extended to a level 3 course in year 13.
- 4.6 Any student who has not achieved a grade 4 in English language or mathematics will be expected to attend classes in this and resit the exam(s) in November, and then June the following year, until they are successful.