



STAFFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Prep 3-11 | Senior 11-16 | Sixth Form 16-19

School Curriculum Policy

Policy Review

Date of Review	Reason for Review	Reviewer	Checked & approved	Date of approval	Next review
1709.26	Annual review	Headteacher	Full Board of Governors	07.10.26	01.09.27

Mission Statement:

“We exist to provide a school community of happy, confident and caring individuals who achieve their full potential.”

The curriculum, as documented below, is designed with the mission statement as its guiding principle.

The ISI report (2022) commented on our curriculum as follows:

“The curriculum is well documented, supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work for the pupils and covers the required breadth of material. The balanced curriculum enables pupils to develop their skills across many subject areas.”

We run a two-week timetable to facilitate a balanced, evenly spread delivery of the curriculum which has been designed to enable all pupils in Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 to experience a broad range of educational stimuli and to give Key Stage 4 and 5 students the maximum opportunity to achieve success beyond Stafford Grammar School.

The curriculum at Stafford Grammar School and Stafford Preparatory School takes into account the ages, aptitudes and needs of all pupils. Departmental Schemes of work include reference to SEND and AGT pupils as appropriate. Speaking and listening skills and oracy are taught explicitly in English and promoted across all subjects. The House Public Speaking Competition, LAMDA lessons and wide range of drama activities throughout the school also promote speaking and listening skills.

The timetable is based on a two-week cycle (50 hours). There are 4 x 1 ¼ hour lessons per day in the senior section of the school.

All pupils in KS1 follow a two-week timetable with 21 hours teaching per week broken down into four sessions per day – see below:

All pupils in KS2 follow a two week timetable with 23 hours teaching time per week broken down into 20 periods (per week) as follows:

PRESCHOOL & RECEPTION CLASS

Pre-school and reception follow the EYFS Seven Areas of Learning

Mornings:

Phonics and Mathematics.

Afternoons:

Topic Work which includes Literacy, Understanding the World, Expressive Art and Design

Physical Development: 20 minutes daily,
Ball Skills / gymnastics: 1 hour per week

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: covered at all times
Communication and Language: covered at all times.

KEY STAGE 1

English, (including Story time)	12 hours
Mathematics	10 hours
Games/PE	4 hours
Topic work (History, Geography)	4 hours
Science, Music, Art/DT, PSHE/FS, RE, MFL	2 hours each

There are two 10-minute form periods each day (with a longer 30-minute morning form period once a week) and a 20-minute assembly two mornings per week with singing practice on the other day.

KEY STAGE 2

English	8 hrs 20 mins
Mathematics	7 hrs
Science, Games/PE	4 hrs 40 mins each
Geography, History	3 hr 20 mins each
Art, DT, ICT, MFL, Music, RE	2 hr 20 mins each
PSHE/FS, Reading	1 hr 10 mins each

There are two 10-minute form periods each day (with a longer 30-minute morning form period once a week) and a 20-minute assembly two mornings per week.

KEY STAGE 3

Years 7 and 8 enjoy a balanced curriculum as follows:

English, Mathematics and Science (set in Year 8)	6 ¼ hours each
Games/PE	5 hours
Art, Drama, DT, French, Geography, German, History, ICT, Music and RE	2 ½ hours each
PSHE (Life & Wellbeing)	1 ¼ hours

The year 9 curriculum has also been balanced to ensure that all Key Stage 4 Optional GCSE subjects taught in Key Stage 3 have the same time allocation.

English and Mathematics (set)	6 ¼ hours each
Games/PE	3 ¾ hours
Art, Biology, Chemistry, Drama, DT, French, Geography, German, History, ICT, Music, Physics and R.E. (set in sciences)	2 ½ hours
PSHE (Life & Wellbeing)	1 ¼ hours

KEY STAGE 4 (GCSE)

Unless there are specific educational reasons not to do so (e.g., SEN), all pupils study the following GCSE programme one Humanities subject (Business, Geography, History or R.E.). Students are entered for the three separate sciences or Combined sciences and will therefore usually take nine or ten GCSE subjects.:

English and English Literature (set)	7 ½ hours
Mathematics (set)	6 ¼ hours
Science GCSE (set) – equal allocation:	
Biology	3 ¾ hours
Chemistry	3 ¾ hours
Physics	3 ¾ hours
Set 3 take combined double award science	

All GCSE Options – pupils choose four subjects from:

Art, Business, Computer Science, Drama, DT, French, Geography, German, History, Music, Physical Education, Psychology, R.E.	5 hours
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Games/PE	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours
PSHE (Life & Wellbeing)	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours

Where appropriate the School SEN co-ordinator may recommend that a pupil may have a reduced timetable to facilitate extra support. Pupils with additional commitments e.g., those on an elite sports programme may have a reduced timetable in order to enable them to have more study time in school hours.

KEY STAGE 5 (AS and A level)

Year 12

Stafford Grammar School currently remains committed to GCE A level.

The majority of students require at least a GCSE grade 6 in the relevant subject (and a 7 in Mathematics). A pass grade (Grade 4) is also required in Maths and English to enter the Sixth Form.

Most Stafford Grammar School A level pupils' study 3 or 4 subjects alongside the school's own Sixth Form programme which offers a range of additional options that are reviewed regularly to ensure our pupils are being prepared for tomorrow's world.

Art & Design, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Computer Science, Design and Technology, Drama & Theatre Studies, Economics, English Literature, French, Further Mathematics, Geography, German, History, Mathematics, Music, Philosophy, Physical Education, Physics, Politics, Psychology.

All students receive 10 hours teaching in the two-week cycle for each A level subject.

Year 12 students also have 2½ hours of Games/PE and 2½ hours of tutor time (including PHSE, careers and UCAS preparation).

Consequently, Year 12 students also have 5 hours non-teaching time for private study or more if they are not studying 4 A levels.

Subjects will run dependent upon sufficient demand.

Year 13

The majority of students continue with three A level subjects in their second year in the 6th form.

Students will also continue with the sixth form plus program for the approximately the first term.

All students receive 10 hours teaching in the two-week cycle for each A level subject.

Games/PE and tutor time receive the same time allocation as in Year 12.

In the Preparatory section of the School, the Head of Prep is responsible for the schemes of work for EYFS, Key Stage 1, 2.

In the Grammar School, individual Heads of Department are responsible for schemes of work for Key Stage 3 and for the selection of syllabuses for GCSE and GCE.

In accordance with the independent schools' standards regulations, we at Stafford Grammar set out to preclude the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the school.

We take all reasonably practicable steps to ensure that when political issues are brought to the attention of pupils they are:

1. Appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils at the school.
2. Or while they are taking part EC activities which are organised or provided by or on behalf of the school.
3. Or in the promotion of the school whether through promotional material or other means.

Pupils are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views.

Fundamental British Values

The school seeks to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith. These values are embedded across all subjects and the school's approach to teaching and learning.

The PSHE Coordinator maintains an audit of the promotion of fundamental British values and SMSC across the school. See PSHE policy and SMCS audit.

All pupils are given the opportunity to make progress. See the 'Marking and Feedback' policy (and best practice guidance documents) and the 'Reports, Grades and Assessment' policy, which explain how pupil progress is promoted and monitored.

The curriculum takes into account protected characteristics and SEND including those pupils with EHC plans. Provision for pupils is outlined in schemes of work and specifically in lesson plans.

Digital Strategy

Stafford Grammar School has a bring your own device policy and all pupils in Year 3 and above are expected to bring a suitable device to school for use in their lessons for educational purposes only when directed by school staff.

Google Classroom is used for setting classwork and homework and all marks are recorded on the relevant Google Classroom.

Teachers use a blended approach to learning using both traditional paper based methods in addition to digital resources accessed by the students on their devices.

Pupils are expected to use their devices in accordance with the Digital Policy: Pupils and form tutors go through this policy with the pupils.