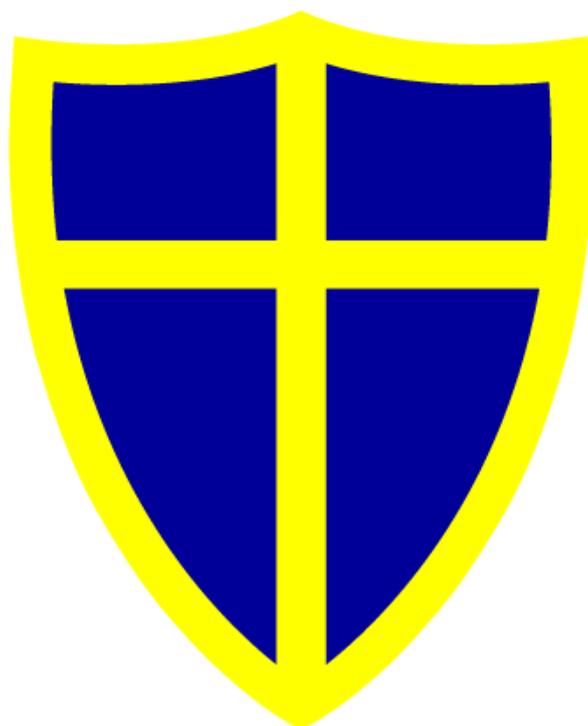


# **BLUE COAT CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL AND MUSIC COLLEGE**



## **CURRICULUM POLICY**

Updated: October 2018  
Policy duration: 3 years  
Committee: PPS

## Curriculum Vision

At Blue Coat we are committed to offering a broad curriculum to suit all children's needs. Our school ethos means we value all subjects alike, and want students to be able to access not only the core curriculum but also to experience the creative and practical subjects to an examination standard. We pride ourselves on the number of subjects offered at Level 2 and 3 in Music, Drama, Technology, and the Arts along with the core offer of English, Religious Education, Mathematics and the Sciences.

We consider our curriculum as a 7 year model, engaging students from the start of year 7, embedding the skills and knowledge through to Year 13 in preparation for University, apprenticeships or work. We promote suites of subjects which will allow our most able to access Oxbridge over this 7 year journey, but also offer a plethora of pathways at KS4 and KS5 to support our more vulnerable in achieving their own desired destinations.

To this end, we employ highly skilled staff to provide support for students who require extra tuition and focused intervention strategies. We continue to work alongside Coventry LA to ensure specialist services are accessed and utilised by our students through SENDco and Hub staff. We are focused on developing our own staff expertise through professional development. Choosing to buy into comprehensive packages of support from other services providers such as PYF, Hitz and Wasps whilst also training our own staff to be able to deliver key programmes such as Boomerang and lego therapy.

The Curriculum aims to:

- be broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated
- promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all students and the society in which they belong
- prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences they will face in adult life
- be delivered in ways which will engage and help the students to learn
- provide a seamless pathway through to education from age 11 to 19
- provide the opportunities for students to work at a pace best suited to their own needs
- set high expectations for every student
- create stretch and challenge for students whose attainment is significantly above the expected standard.
- create suitable pathways and lesson delivery for students who have low levels of prior attainment or come from disadvantaged backgrounds, using the SEN Code of practice as guidance
- develop students spoken language, reading, writing and vocabulary along with mathematical fluency as integral aspects of the teaching of every subject

## Curriculum Outline

We have multiple curriculum pathways throughout each key stage for students to follow.

In Years 7 and 8, students are taught across 2 bands (half year groups). On each band are 2 A stream sets and 3 B Stream sets for ability groups in English, MFL, Geography, History and RE.

Fine setting occurs according to mathematics assessments for Maths and Science, in 5 sets on each band.

The practical subjects are caroueled as mixed ability for Art, Technology, Food, Textiles, Computer Science, PE, Drama and Music.

In subsequent years, there is an increasing amount of setting according to ability. This is done in order to match the learning experiences to the ability of the student so that they reach the highest possible standards of achievements.

Students choose their options in Year 8, and the KS4 curriculum starts in year 9. This is strategic, to give students the opportunity to choose 4 options alongside the core.

We do encourage the majority of our students to complete subjects in the English baccalaureate suite, a language and History/Geography. However, we also offer a personalised approach for students where they would benefit from studying alternatives. We offer for example Computer Science and Create i-media, we offer GCSE PE and the Cambridge National in Sport to give students alternative approaches within the same subject area at KS4.

We offer Higher and Foundation tier Mathematics, which is then, in the main, correlated with students studying the Single Sciences of Biology, Physics and Chemistry or Combined Science.

The curriculum is always evolving and all departments are constantly reviewing what is taught and how it is taught at all key stages. In particular reviewing:

- The 7 year plan given new specifications
- The pace of lessons
- Differentiation in subjects where tierage no longer exists
- Assessment points and the methods of assessment
- The suitability of courses on offer for our cohort and the changing requirements of the workplace
- Examination board choice based on examiner reports and national feedback

During the course of the year there are enrichment opportunities when students access the curriculum through a different medium, such as speakers, trips and targeted support days.

## **Blue Coat Values in the Curriculum**

We deliver our curriculum through the Blue Coat values of CHRIST

**Care** – All stakeholders are kept informed of the curriculum decisions we make. We make every attempt to deliver the curriculum with care and compassion to each individual pupil in our school. We care about each child's needs, background and future aspirations and attempt to design bespoke packages around this.

**Hard Work** – We expect all pupils, staff, governors and parents to work hard for our children. Teachers set high expectations for all pupils, and support them in reaching these goals. This requires dedicated, experienced and knowledgeable staff to get the very best of out each and every one of our young people.

**Respect** – All pupils, staff and parents at blue coat have an underlying respect for one another. As staff we ensure we have the best curriculum on offer for our students, we respect their choices and accommodate their aspirations. We do all we can to support each child to achieve the successes they deserve. Blue Coat pupils respect our school and curriculum and are happy well rounded children.

**Integrity** – We base our curriculum offer around our pupils, and adapt it each year to serve the cohort we have in front of us. We have clear guided pathways, but if a child wishes to follow a different path to a set dream we do all we can to ensure that child's wishes are supported. The child always comes first within a planned, coherent and rigorous curriculum delivery.

**Servanthood** – Staff at Blue Coat are fortunate to have the opportunity to serve our young people a rich and broad curriculum. It is our duty to give our pupils the best start in life, full of opportunities, experiences and learning to shape them into the adults they want to become.

**Together** - We are an experienced team of professionals who do all we can for our young people. We work together to ensure the learning for all pupils is the best it can be. We work with agencies, health care professionals, the SEND team, our stakeholders and student voice to ensure what we offer each day to our pupils is a learning experience that grows them as individuals and also as a community.

### **Key Stage 3: Year 7 and 8**

KS3 is focused on a skills based curriculum, delivering content and knowledge whilst embedding the skills required for GCSE and Post 16 in terms of extending writing, debating, dissecting questions and understanding terms such as state, describe, evaluate and compare/contrast.

The KS3 curriculum is designed to start preparing students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences they will face in adult life. This is a key time where specific skills based approaches give students the time to develop and practice skills without an examination focus. They can be stretched to think deeper, challenge their own opinions, learn to problem solve and develop their oracy to articulate their thoughts and beliefs. Numeracy and Literacy drive the curriculum at KS3 with English leading the setting of the humanities and languages and Mathematics leading the setting with the sciences.

#### **In KS3 students will study**

- Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE)/Citizenship/Careers
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History
- Geography
- Modern Foreign Language - French or German
- Design and Technology (including Food and Textiles)
- ICT
- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education

In Years 7 and 8 we also operate an Accelerated Reader programme and phonics for students with a reading age below their chronological age or English as an additional language. They receive extra Literacy tuition to help boost their comprehension and writing skills, skills that will be needed across all subject areas.

## **Key Stage 4: Year 9 - 11**

In Years 9 through to 11 all students study a core curriculum of GCSEs in English Literature, English Language, Mathematics, Sciences (Single sciences or Combined), and Religious Education. This is supplemented by a PSHE curriculum delivered via drop down days and 2 dedicated tutor periods each week along with Worship works and a house assembly.

With the diverse cohort at Blue Coat School, we encourage our students to study and enter examinations in home languages such as Urdu, Italian, Polish and Arabic. We are supported by MGSS in this process for students studying the languages outside of school.

Targeted mentoring from a member of SLT takes place throughout KS4 to help focus specific students on their academic performance, set learning targets and review their progress towards these over a given period of time. This is being rolled out through the house system so that older children can support younger students in their tutor group with target setting and reviewing progress.

All subjects contribute to an intervention and revision programme as applicable in KS4 and KS5, running sessions at lunchtime, after school and during holidays. These are coordinated centrally so students are not in conflict in sessions and also so they access support in areas they personally need most.

The learning support team also work closely with all departments, supporting students so that they all have access to the curriculum and their access arrangements in place as normal ways of working.

### **In Key Stage 4 - Y9, 10 and 11 students will study as Core subjects**

- Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE)/Citizenship/Careers
- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Sciences (biology, Chemistry, Physics or Combined Science)
- Religious Education
- Modern Foreign Language – French or German\*
- History\*
- Geography\*

(NB: \* = A number of students will choose not take both a modern foreign language and a humanity. Instead they will choose one from MFL, a Humanity or Computer Science, and they then gain three option choice subjects as outlined over the page)

In addition all students have two choices from the list of optional subjects listed. Students have an assembly, an options fair, a summary of each course from the specialists and a parental evening to support the pupils in this decision. We help them focus on success/progression planning for further study, either at P16 or alternative study pathways.

### Optional subjects offered in KS4

Art  
 Business Studies  
 Computer Science  
 Drama  
 Economics  
 Food and Nutrition  
 French  
 Geography  
 German  
 Graphics  
 BTEC Health and Social Care  
 History  
 Cambridge National Creative I-Media  
 Music  
 Product Design  
 PE  
 Photography  
 Sociology  
 Cambridge National Sport and Exercise  
 Textiles

### Option block modelling for Year 9 AY1819

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
History x 2	History x 2	History x 2	History x 2
Geography	French Higher	Geography	German Higher
French Higher	French Foundation	German Higher	German Foundation
French Foundation	Computer Science	German Foundation	Computer Science
Creative I-Media	Economics	Computer Science	Business Studies
Business Studies	PE	Business Studies	Sociology
Photography	Art	Sociology	PE
Product Design	Textiles	Art	Art
Music	Product Design	Photography	Product Design
Drama	Food & Nutrition	Health & Social	Music
	Health & Social		Drama

## Post 16 Curriculum

Our extensive curriculum offer at Post 16 means that there are a wide range of courses to suit all learners, including A Levels, BTECs and Technical Awards of varying size. Students at Blue Coat are expected to achieve the very best outcomes and we are proud of the range of student destinations, including Oxford, Cambridge, other top universities, apprenticeships and employment. Students in the sixth form are well supported by excellent subject staff, dedicated sixth form leaders and a range of pastoral support networks in order to ensure achievement. We encourage all our students to achieve beyond the academic sphere through a strong emphasis on extra-curricular participation and involvement in the wider life of the school, including sporting, community and performing arts activities and international trips.

Students choose 3 subjects to study at Level 3. They receive 10 hours of teaching for each subject per fortnight. In the case of exceptional pupils we support 4 subjects being studied. Further mathematics is taken as a 4<sup>th</sup> A level where Mathematics is already studied. EPQ and Additional Mathematics are also seen as complementary qualifications to the 3 A level package.

Pathways to university and careers are shared with students through the P16 application and interview process. This supports the students in choosing a suitable suite of subjects, whilst still allowing them freedom of choice.

Students have a PSHE programme in two tutor periods, worship works and an assembly each week.

The sixth form students benefit from extensive CEIAG support, visits to universities and guest speakers, including the ICONs conferences. Enrichment opportunities exist across all our subjects, and dependent on their programme of study many students receive significant work experience opportunities. This is designed to support their studies and to enhance employability.

Blue Coat also have a very active Sixth Form Council which is an integral part of the life and working of the Sixth Form and the wider community of the school. They meet regularly to discuss matters concerning students as well as discussing Sixth Form policy.

Due to a Coventry wide Consortium programme, we are fortunate in that we can offer our own students, and students from other schools a more diverse and broad curriculum. The consortia into Blue Coat is very well utilised, which is credited to the extensive offer we have.

**In Key Stage 5 – Y12, 13 and 14 students will study a combination of**

Applied Science ( Btec Ex Cert, Single) / ( Btec Diploma, Double)  
 Art & Design : Fine Art  
 Art & Design : Graphics  
 Art & Design : Textiles  
 Art & Design : Photography  
 Biology  
 Business Studies  
 Chemistry  
 Computing  
 Drama & Theatre  
 Economics  
 English Language & Literature  
 English Literature  
 French  
 Geography  
 German  
 Government & Politics  
 Health & Social Care (BTEC Ex Cert, Single) / (BTEC Diploma, Double)  
 History  
 Mathematics  
 Mathematics (Further)  
 Media Studies  
 Music  
 Music Technology  
 Physics  
 PE  
 Philosophy & Ethics  
 Product Design  
 Psychology  
 Sociology  
 Sport ( BTEC Ext Cert, Single) / ( BTEC Diploma, Double)

**Option block modelling for Year 12 AY1819**

<b>Block A</b>	<b>Block B</b>	<b>Block C</b>	<b>Block D</b>	<b>Block E</b>
BTEC Sci (1)	History	Computer Sci	Biology	Psychology
Chemistry	Geography	English Lit	Drama	English Lang/Lit
Economics	Art	Physics	Sociology	Photography
Media	Maths	Maths	BTEC Sci (2)	Physics
Product Des	Biology	French	Further Maths	Mathematics
Psychology	Business	Health&Social	Music Tech	Business
		Textiles		Music
				GCSE Maths

# Blue Coat Curriculum Model



## Curriculum Model for AY1819



Year	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	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
7	Sub (hours)		Maths (6)		Science (6)		English (7)		French/German (5)		Geog (3)		History (3)		RE (3)		Sport (3)		IT (2)		Art (3)		Technology (4)		Music (3)		Drama (2)		Cohort = 265		10 sets streamed Mth/Sci on 12 hours of carousel		10 sets written core skills on 21 hours on Carousel		12 sets practical skills on 17 hours of carousel		12 sets practical skills on 17 hours of carousel		12 sets practical skills on 17 hours of carousel		12 sets practical skills on 17 hours of carousel									
8	Sub (hours)		Maths (6)		Science (6)		English (7)		French/German (5)		Geog (3)		History (3)		RE (3)		Sport (3)		IT (2)		Art (3)		Technology (4)		Music (3)		Drama (2)		Cohort = 255		10 sets streamed Mth/Sci on 12 hours of carousel		10 sets written core skills on 21 hours on Carousel		12 sets practical skills on 17 hours of carousel		12 sets practical skills on 17 hours of carousel		12 sets practical skills on 17 hours of carousel		12 sets practical skills on 17 hours of carousel									
9	Sub (hours)		Maths (7)		Bio (3)		Phys (3)		Chem (3)		English (8)		RE (4)		Sport (2)		Option 1 (5)		Option 2 (5)		Option 3 (5)		Option 4 (5)		Option 5 (5)		Cohort = 270		12 Sets streamed into quarters Maths/Sci can each set within a quarter of a cohort on 16 hours of carousel		12 sets streamed Eng/RE on 12 hours of carousel		2Hi, Gg, 2Fr, In, Bs, Pt, Pd, Mu, Dr		2Hi, Gg, 2Ge, Co, Bs, 2Hi, Gg, 2Ge, Co, Bs, So, Ar, Pt, Hs		2Hi, Gg, 2Fr, Co, Ec, Pe, Ar, Tx, Pd, Ft, Hs		2Hi, Gg, 2Ge, Co, Bs, 2Hi, Gg, 2Ge, Co, Bs, So, Ar, Pd, Mu, Dr											
10	Sub (hours)		Maths (7)		Bio (3)		Phys (3)		Chem (3)		English (8)		RE (4)		Sport (2)		Option 1 (5)		Option 2 (5)		Option 3 (5)		Option 4 (5)		Option 5 (5)		Cohort = 270		12 Sets streamed into quarters Maths/Sci can each set within a quarter of a cohort on 16 hours of carousel		12 sets streamed Eng/RE on 12 hours of carousel		2Hi, Gg, Hs, Pe, 2Fr, Ar, Em, In, Mu, Dr		2Hi, Bs, Hs, Pe, XEi, 2Fr, Pd, Ar, Co, In, Mu		3Hi, Gg, Bs, XEi, 2Ge, Gr, Ft, Ar, In, Dr		Hi, Gg, Bs, 2Pe, 2Ge, Pd, Tx, Ar, Co, Mu, Dr											
11	Sub (hours)		Maths (6)		Bio (3)		Phys (3)		Chem (3)		English (9)		RE (4)		Sport (2)		Hist/Geog/XMt/En (5)		MFL/In/History		Option 1 (5)		Option 2 (5)		Option 3 (5)		Cohort = 240		10 Sets streamed Maths *		10 sets streamed Eng/RE on 13 hours of carousel^		6Hi, 2Gg, 2Ar, 2En/Mt		5Fr, 5Ge, 2Hi, 2In		2Ar, Bs, Co, In, Dr, Ft, Gg, Hs, Mu, Pd, Pe, Tx		2Ar, Bs, Co, In, Da, 2Dr, Hs, Mu, 2Pd, Pe, Sp											
12	Sub (hours)		Option A (10)		Option B (10)		Option C (10)		Option D (10)		Option E (10)		Option F (10)		Option G (10)		Option H (10)		Option I (10)		Option J (10)		Option K (10)		Option L (10)		Cohort = 180		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt									
13	Sub (hours)		Option A (10)		Option B (10)		Option C (10)		Option D (10)		Option E (10)		Option F (10)		Option G (10)		Option H (10)		Option I (10)		Option J (10)		Option K (10)		Option L (10)		Cohort = 154		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt		Bi, Co, Fr, El, HsxCert, Ph, Pt									

\* Time can be reallocated between Maths and science depending on Triple v Combined Science and Higher/Foundation Mathematics.

^ Time can be reallocated between English Language, English Literature and RE full/short as needed

## **Extra-Curricular Activities**

Blue Coat has a proud tradition of providing its students with a large range of extra-curricular activities. All of these activities are seen as enhancing the learning experience and providing students with opportunities not available during the school day. They are very much valued by both students and their parents, as can be seen by the large numbers attending.

There are regular competitive games in athletics, cricket, football, swimming, tennis, rounders and netball.

The quality of the music department has long been recognised as well as individual peripatetic tuition being available to all students. The Blue Coat Choir is certainly a group of note, as well as the worship bands and the access to Music Technology in terms of recording and editing music.

Homework Club exists for any student who requires help after school. Clubs after school gives students the chance to study additional languages. Other clubs include Chess and Drama and we also enter many local and national competitions and quizzes.

As well as clubs, we believe that trips and visits are a wonderful chance for students to enhance their learning. Each year departments run day trips which are closely tied into the curriculum. There is an annual MFL trip to Germany and France, Geography field trips, Theatre visits, History and Art curriculum based residentials as well as recreational skiing holidays and cruises. A residential weekend of physical activity takes place in the Summer of Year 7, and a trip to France for Year 8.