# CURRICULUM CONTENT

# Key Stage 3

* Across Years 7, 8 and 9 all students follow the same core curriculum with offers breadth.
* Students have timetabled lessons in English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Design Technology, Information Technology (years 8 and 9), Drama, Music, Art, PE and either French or Spanish. In addition, they study Personal Careers and Religious Education or PCRE.
* The PCRE programme extends over Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 and covers the statutory requirements associated with Citizenship, Health, Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Education in addition to Religious Education and aspects of careers guidance. As well as covering knowledge and understanding, the programme is designed to develop personal attributes, such as self- esteem, emotional intelligence, good citizenship and British Values through the exploration of a diverse range of religious, spiritual, cultural, moral, social and health related issues. Learning in this field is also delivered through a daily tutorial programme.
* Students in years 8 and 9 complete an Information Technology (IT) unit of study designed to develop an understanding of software which will support their progress throughout their time at the academy and beyond. All subjects are encouraged to incorporate opportunities for students to develop IT skills into KS3 schemes of learning.
* Throughout Key Stage 3, Mathematics, English, Modern Languages and Science are each taught in classes in which the students are set by academic ability. This setting is responsive.
* In Design Technology (including Information Technology) and PE students are set by aptitude.
* Academic ability and aptitude is identified from information and data provided to us by primary schools, this is supported by our own ongoing assessment of students.
* In all other subjects students are taught in mixed ability tutor groups throughout Key Stage 3.
* The transition from primary to secondary education can for some students be very daunting, particularly vulnerable students and those with a range of SEND. In consultation with our primary colleagues and parents, we identify Year 7 students we feel may need additional support or who have a significant weakness in literacy and numeracy, similarly students who are able.
* On hand to support these more vulnerable and needy students, along with those for whom there is a special educational need, is a dedicated team of learning support staff based in high quality, purpose built accommodation.
* ‘Support’ takes the form of classroom/subject based teaching assistants, targeted extraction from lessons and alternative curriculum provision in both key stages. With few exceptions, extraction is from modern foreign language lessons (3 hours per week) and is an arrangement which once started usually continues until the end of Key Stage 3.

# Curriculum time in Key Stage 3 in hours per week (hpw)

* English 3 hpw
* Maths 3 hpw
* Science 3 hpw
* MFL 3 hpw
* Technology 2 hpw
* PE 2 hpw  PCRE 2 hpw
* Art 2 hpw in Yrs 7 and 8, 1 hpw in Yr 9
* History 1 hpw in Yr 7, 2 hpw in Yr 8, 2 hpw in Yr 9
* Geography 2 hpw in Yr 7, 1 hpw in Yr 8, 2 hpw in Yr 9
* Music 1 hpw
* Drama 1 hpw
* TOTAL 25 hpw