



Curriculum Policy

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Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. CURRICULUM PROVISION	3
3. KEY LINKS.....	5

1. INTRODUCTION

The curriculum at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School reflects our philosophy and aims. Our aim is equip our young people with the skills to be:

CURIOUS

Our learners are **engaged** with the world around them and approach new information and viewpoints with an **open mind**. They are **independent** thinkers who have clear views which they can defend due to their developing **resilience** when they are challenged.

CREATIVE

Pride is taken in all learners' work, ensuring that everything they do has an **individual** touch. The result is that all students produce a **vibrant** range of **unique** work which is a product of **pro-active risk takers** who are not afraid to get things wrong and in doing so, seize the learning opportunity.

CRITICAL THINKER

Students are **articulate** as they gain a wide **perspective** of the world which allows them to speak with **confidence**. They are able to **reflect** on new learning and are adaptable to different situations and experiences.

CONSIDERATE

Respect is at the heart of everything we do. Our students are **polite** and **inclusive** in their outlook on life. Their experiences enable them to demonstrate a high degree of **Emotional Intelligence** as they understand how others are affected by their actions and strive to be respectful of this.

COMMUNITY MINDED

Our students are **altruistic**; acting not for their own benefit but for the common good. They are **trust-worthy** and therefore are trusted to be **responsible** and **support** others in all that they do, whether this be within the school community or in the wider community outside the school.

We provide education that is suited to able students and there is great emphasis on academic excellence. Students need to secure the best achievable qualifications. However, we firmly believe that the value of our curriculum goes beyond purely what is examinable.

It is our intention to lay secure foundations for progression into Further and Higher Education and we consider preparation for Sixth Form Advanced Level study to be a key feature of our 11-16 education. Our curriculum includes a wide variety of enrichment activities and we encourage students to take full advantage of these.

Lessons are taught by highly qualified and motivated staff all of whom are experts in their subject.

2. CURRICULUM PROVISION

2.1 KEY STAGE 3

In Key Stage 3 (Years 7/8/9) students follow a broad and balanced curriculum. All pupils will study:

1. English
2. Mathematics
3. Science
4. Geography

5. History
6. French
7. German
8. Computing
9. Design Technology (inc. Food Technology)
10. Art
11. Music
12. Drama
13. Physical Education
14. Religious Education
15. Personal, Social, Health and Economic education.

In Year 9 pupils study the sciences as discrete of Biology, Chemistry and Physics subjects.

2.2 KEY STAGE 4

In February of Year 9 pupils choose their GCSE options, which begin at the start of Year 10.

All students study a core suite of GCSEs, which includes:

1. English Language
2. English Literature
3. Mathematics
4. Biology
5. Chemistry
6. Physics
7. Religious Education

They then choose 4 additional GCSEs from:

1. Art
2. Business Studies
3. Computer Science
4. Design Technology
5. Drama
6. Food & Nutrition
7. French
8. Geography
9. German
10. History
11. Music
12. Physical Education

This results in the majority of students studying 11 GCSEs.

In addition, students follow non-examination courses in PSHE and Physical Education.

2.3 KEY STAGE 5

Details of the admission criteria for 6th Form can be found in our 6th Form Admissions policy.

Most pupils will study 3 A-level subjects from the following list:

1. Art (Fine Art)
2. Biology
3. Chemistry
4. Drama
5. Economics
6. English Language
7. English Literature
8. Environmental Science
9. French
10. Geography
11. Geology
12. German
13. History (International Relations)
14. History (Modern)
15. Music
16. Mathematics
17. Further Mathematics
18. Physical Education
19. Physics
20. Politics
21. Psychology
22. Religious Studies & Philosophy
23. Sociology

Students also have the opportunity to study for the Extended Project Qualification. The EPQ offers students the opportunity to study their own individual project in depth and having to present their findings and evaluations to an audience.

All students in Years 12 and 13 study Personal, Social and Health Education and receive high quality career guidance.

3. KEY LINKS

- <https://gegspenrith.education/curriculum/>
- <https://gegspenrith.education/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Curriculum-Brochure-2026-2027.pdf>