



## Northgate High School

### Curriculum Information

#### Curriculum Principles:

Our intention is to provide our learners with a curriculum that:

- is broad and balanced
- values subject disciplines and builds subject knowledge
- promotes Northgate's values – respect, determination and teamwork
- creates responsible, healthy and aspirational citizens
- fosters a love of learning

#### Curriculum Overview

Religious Education and collective worship are non-denominational in character. Religious Education is taught in accordance with the statutory requirements for maintained schools and the Suffolk Agreed Syllabus. Parents who, on grounds of conscience, wish to withdraw their child from Religious Education should give written notice to the headteacher. Religious Education is not a public examination subject and a student who wishes it as an examination subject must opt for Religious Studies at Key Stage 4.

Social, moral, cultural and spiritual development is delivered across the curriculum at all key stages and is a core element of our PSHEE programme at Key Stages 3 and 4. This includes embedding the 'Fundamental British Values' of democracy, liberty, law, responsibility and tolerance.

#### Key Stage 3 Curriculum

All students in Years 7 to 9 follow a programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education. Within Key Stage 3, History, Geography, Science and the Religious Education departments will be leading key elements of this curriculum. This covers:

- Relationships Health and Sex Education (RSHE)
- Healthy Living
- Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural aspects of life (SMSC)
- Fundamental British Values (FBV)
- Careers guidance
- Citizenship

This curriculum will be enhanced and extended by what is delivered in Languages, Information Communication Technology, Design & Technology (Food), Physical Education, tutor periods and assemblies. In addition, the pastoral team in each year group will support the RSHE strand by organising extended assemblies and guest speakers. These sessions will be able to react to high profile events that develop over time.

More detailed information about the curriculum followed in each subject can be found on the Northgate website.

Form groups represent a mixture of ability, but in appropriate subjects setting is introduced progressively through Key Stage 3.

Provision is made for students with Special Educational Needs, who may be withdrawn from a lesson for specific help, but for the majority of time, will operate in the normal curriculum, with appropriate support.

For a small minority of students, a bespoke curriculum is available in our Learning Support department where students have access to specialist intervention programmes delivered by Northgate staff and external services. This is regularly reviewed in the light of student progress. Similarly, a small number of students are offered literacy and numeracy intervention in the Learning Support department as appropriate to their learning need.

### **Key Stage 4 Curriculum**

In Years 10 and 11, students study GCSEs in English Language, English Literature, Maths and Science (combined or triple). Further GCSE subjects are chosen Art, Business, Child Development, Computer Science, Creative iMedia, Dance, Design Technology (Electronic and Mechanical Systems or Timber and Metals), Drama, Economics, Food Preparation & Nutrition, French, Geography, German, Graphic Communication, Health & Social Care, History, Music, Photography, Physical Education, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, Spanish and Textiles.

Choice is guided through option blocks, to ensure appropriate breadth. In addition, a non-examination programme of study is followed in Physical Education. *The availability of all option subjects depends on sufficient student numbers to ensure that the course can run.*

The Core curriculum programme builds upon learning experience from Key Stage 3. It includes the following elements:

- Personal Development
- Relationships Health and Sex Education (RSHE)
- Healthy Living
- Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural aspects of life (SMSC)
- Fundamental British Values (FBV)
- Careers guidance
- Economic awareness
- Citizenship.

This Core curriculum is delivered by subject expert teachers. The curriculum includes time for open discussion of topics that students tell us they find particularly relevant. Students in Year 10 undertake a period of work experience towards the end of the summer term which further enhances students' knowledge and understanding of careers and post-16 pathways.

### **Sex Education**

Sex Education is seen as a whole school issue, to which all students have an equal entitlement. Account will be taken of differing levels of maturity, of differences in ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds, and care will be taken to avoid stereotyping. The role of parents is recognised in helping students to achieve a balanced view of the physical, emotional, moral and social aspects of human development from conception to old age, including the role of family life. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from certain aspects of sex education, and should contact Mr Banham, Deputy Headteacher (Teaching and Learning) if they wish to exercise this right.

If having read this information you have any questions relating to the school curriculum, please contact the relevant Progress Director or Subject Leader (see Staff/Northgate High School Staff), or Mr Banham, Deputy Headteacher.