

Curriculum Statement

2023/24



KEY PRINCIPLES

The curriculum we offer to the students at Westwood strives to;

- Promote diversity, individuality, partnership, creativity and ambition;
- Be flexible and guided by the needs of our students;
- Allow students to negotiate a path through their learning that is both relevant and appropriate to their development;
- Offer choices of learning opportunities that are inclusive and provide a genuine variety of pathways;
- Promote equal opportunities to all of our students in line with the Equality Act 2010 throughout our practices.

YEAR 9

Students in Year 9 follow a common curriculum of Maths, English, Science, French, Art, Design, Drama, Geography, History, ICT, Music, Pd, RE and PE.

Key Features of Year 9 2023/24:

- 50 x 1hr lessons every two weeks
- 8 Form Entry with two mixed ability half year populations
- Setting on entry in half year blocks for Maths, English, Science and Languages; mixed ability groupings in other subjects
- All students experience a broad and representative range of lessons, to allow informed choices when making options for KS4 in the Spring Term
- Personal Development course (Pd) includes elements of PSICHE, enterprise education and careers
- All students have access to 2 hours of active sport per week
- In addition to French the vast majority of students will experience a 2nd foreign language of either German or Spanish.

Curriculum diagram for Year 9:

Tutor	English	Maths	Science	French	MFL	PE	Art	Design	Drama	Geog	Hist	IT	Music	Pd	RE
9W1	En1 7	Ma1 8	Sc1 6	Fr1 4	Sp 4	Pe1 4	Ar1 2	Dn1 2	Dr1 2	Ge1 2	Hi1 2	It11 2	Mu1 1	Pd1 2	Re1 2
9W2	En2 7	Ma2 8	Sc2 6	Fr2 4	De 4	Pe2 4	Ar2 2	Dn2 2	Dr2 2	Ge2 2	Hi2 2	It12 2	Mu2 1	Pd2 2	Re2 2
9W3	En3 7	Ma3 8	Sc3 6	Fr3 4	Sp 4	Pe3 4	Ar3 2	Dn3 2	Dr3 2	Ge3 2	Hi3 2	It13 2	Mu3 1	Pd3 2	Re3 2
9W4	En4 7	Ma4 8	Sc4 6	Fr4 4	De 4	Pe4 4	Ar4 2	Dn4 2	Dr4 2	Ge4 2	Hi4 2	It14 2	Mu4 1	Pd4 2	Re4 2
9W5	En5 7	Ma5 8	Sc5 6	Fr5 4	Sp 4	Pe5 4	Ar5 2	Dn5 2	Dr5 2	Ge5 2	Hi5 2	It15 2	Mu5 1	Pd5 2	Re5 2
9W6	En6 7	Ma6 8	Sc6 6	Fr6 4	De 4	Pe6 4	Ar6 2	Dn6 2	Dr6 2	Ge6 2	Hi6 2	It16 2	Mu6 1	Pd6 2	Re6 2
9W7	En7 7	Ma7 8	Sc7 6	Fr7 4	Sp 4	Pe7 4	Ar7 2	Dn7 2	Dr7 2	Ge7 2	Hi7 2	It17 2	Mu7 1	Pd7 2	Re7 2
9W8	En8 7	Ma8 8	Sc8 6	Fr8 4	De 4	Pe8 4	Ar8 2	Dn8 2	Dr8 2	Ge8 2	Hi8 2	It18 2	Mu8 1	Pd8 2	Re8 2

KEY STAGE 4

Our KS4 curriculum has evolved from a traditional GCSE structure with all students following courses in Maths, English (up to 2 GCSEs), Science (2 or 3 GCSEs), Games and Pd - both not examined with Pd providing the time for the delivery of Relationships and Sex Education, Health Education Careers, Core IT, Citizenship and Core RE – as well as ‘Option’ chosen subjects. In recent years we have introduced elements of vocational study into this package, to broaden our provision, and currently have Level 2 BTEC courses in Sport, Business, ICT and Health and Social Care alongside traditional GCSE options.

Both Year 10 and Year 11 are 8 form entry. Structurally, the compulsory part of the curriculum is organised in the same half year groupings that start in Year 9, but all Option Blocks are accessed by the whole year group. Students are set in English, Maths and Science in half year blocks. In Option subjects, students are loosely set in Languages and PE, but are in mixed ability groupings elsewhere.

In the Core all students study both English Language and English Literature GCSEs. The most able Mathematicians are entered for examination in both GCSE Maths and AQA Level 2 Further Maths at the end of Year 11. In Science, the majority of students will study Trilogy Science, a combined Science course equivalent to two GCSEs and the most able will study separate science GCSE qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Students in Years 10 and 11 will, on average, study 9 subjects at KS4 including 4 Option subjects. When making their Option choices students can choose from a broad range of KS4 subjects, including GCSE and BTEC qualifications, in the following subject areas:

Modern Foreign Languages	French, German, Spanish
Humanities	Geography, History, Religious Studies
Creative Arts	Art, Design Technology (Product), Drama, Media Studies, Music
Other	Business Studies, Computer Science, Information and Creative Technology, Physical Education, Health and Social Care

Students are not restricted when making their Option choices. They select six subjects in preference order from the full range of subjects that we offer, from which four option subjects are then allocated. Option blocks are then created, for timetabling purposes, enabling the KS4 curriculum to be adapted each year to best meet the needs of all learners with the resources that we have. Approximately 85% of students are allocated their top 4 Option choices.

For a few students, studying 4 Option subjects is not appropriate and as such we offer an Alternative KS4 pathway. In addition to three Option subjects, these students will also study for an Open Award Entry Level Certificate. In the Core subjects (English, Maths and Science) students will study both GCSEs and Entry Level Certificates at Levels 1-3.

Curriculum diagram for Year 10:

Tutor	English	Maths	Science	Core PE	PSCHE	Core IT	Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
10W1	En1 8	Ma1 7	Sc1 9	Pe1 3	Pd 2	It 1	Dr 5	Bs 5	Ar 5	Ar 5
10W2	En2 8	Ma2 7	Sc2 9	Pe2 3	Pd 2	It 1	Ge 5	Dn 5	De1 5	Bs 5
10W3	En3 8	Ma3 7	Sc3 9	Pe3 3	Pd 2	It 1	Hs 5	Dr 5	De2 5	Cs 5
10W4	En4 8	Ma4 7	Sc4 9	Pe4 3	Pd 2	It 1	Hi 5	Fr1 5	Dn 5	Ge 5
10W5	En5 8	Ma5 7	Sc5 9	Pe5 3	Pd 2	It 1	Ms 5	Fr2 5	Ge 5	Hi 5
10W6	En6 8	Ma6 7	Sc6 9	Pe6 3	Pd 2	It 1	Pe1 5	Ge 5	Hs 5	Re 5
10W7	En7 8	Ma7 7	Sc7 9	Pe7 3	Pd 2	It 1	Pe2 5	Ms 5	Hi 5	Sp1 5
10W8	En8 8	Ma7 7	Sc8 9	Pe8 3			Pe3 5	Re 5	It 5	Sp2 5
									Ws 5	

Curriculum diagram for Year 11:

Tutor	English	Maths	Science	Core PE	PSCHE	Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
11W1	En1 8	Ma1 7	Bi Ch Ph 9	Pe1 4	Pd 2	Ar 5	Ar 5	Ar 5	Bs 5
11W2	En2 8	Ma2 7	Sc2 9	Pe2 4	Pd 2	Bs 5	De1 5	Cs 5	Dn 5
11W3	En3 8	Ma3 7	Sc3 9	Pe3 4	Pd 2	Hi 5	De2 5	Dn 5	Dr 5
11W4	En4 8	Ma4 7	Sc4 9	Pe4 4	Pd 2	Ms 5	Dr 5	Fr1 5	Ge 5
11W5	En5 8	Ma5 7	Sc5 9	Pe5 4	Pd 2	Mu 5	Ge 5	Fr2 5	Hi 5
11W6	En6 8	Ma6 7	Sc6 9	Pe6 4	Pd 2	Pe1 5	Hi 5	Ge 5	Re 5
11W7	En7 8	Ma7 7	Sc7 9	Pe7 4	Pd 2	Pe2 5	Hs 5	Hi 5	Sp1 5
11W8	En8 8	Ma8 7	Sc8 9	Pe8 4	Pd 2	Pe3 5	It 5	Hs 5	Sp2 5
						Re 5	5	Ms 5	Ws 5

KEY STAGE 5

With open access entry to our Sixth Form, the post-16 curriculum provides opportunities to study a wide range of Level 3 courses with both traditional and vocational A-Levels and BTECs. Currently there are 25 post-16 courses available to choose from. The Sixth Form curriculum is based around 5 Option Blocks, with the majority of Level 3 courses being offered in Blocks A-D allowing GCSE English Language and Maths to be offered in Block E for those students who need to retake them. Students are encouraged to follow 3 subjects throughout KS5, with a small proportion taking 4 courses. Variations on this arrangement are negotiated on an individual basis with Sixth Form Tutors. Vocational courses are timetabled with traditional subjects and the majority of those students who follow a Level 3 BTEC course will also be studying an additional A2 subject to give them the equivalent of a 3 A-Level course. Since September 2020 students can study the BTEC National Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care which is equivalent to 3 A-Levels. In addition to this, we have a number of Year 12 and Year 13 students who are completing an AS Extended Project - students are encouraged to opt into this where it will be particularly valuable for them to do so.

Initially, as part of the Sixth Form application process, students will indicate in preference order their top 4 preferred subjects to study at KS5 – this enables the 5 Option blocks to then be created and can be adapted each year to best meet the needs of all learners with the resources that we have. In some instances, where demand for a course is low, courses may not be viable to run.

Discussions with Leek High School about collaboration regarding Sixth Form provision continue. Currently, two Year 13 Option blocks are timetabled at the same time - this allows students to travel between the two sites to access additional KS5 courses. Students from Leek High School presently study Biology, Geography, Sociology, Further Maths, Physics, and BTEC Business Studies at Westwood. Westwood students have the opportunity to study Law at Leek High School. In addition,

there is also joint provision for BTEC Level 3 Sport and OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical in IT, where teaching is split equally between both sites.

Curriculum diagram for Year 12:

Block A		Block B		Block C		Block D		Block E	
Ar	8	Dr	8	Bs	8	Ch	9	EnLt	8
Bi	8	De	8	Fr	8	Dn	4	Ge	8
Hi	8	Ge	8	Ms	8	EnLn	9	Ma	8
Hs	8	It	8	Pe	8	Hs	8	Xpj	8
CrMa	8	FMa	8	Ph	8	Ma	8	WS5	2
WS4	2	So	8	Pg	8	Py	9		
		Sb	8	Py	8	WS1	2		
		WS2	2	WS3	2				

Resit Maths		Resit Eng		Ext Project	
Ma	5	En	4	Xpj	2

Curriculum diagram for Year 13:

Tutor	Block A		Block B		Block C		Block D		Block E	
WS6	Ar	9	TrHs	8	Bi	9	Ch	9	Bi	9
WS7	Dr	8	Lw	8	Bs	9	CrMa	4	EnLt	9
WS8	EnLn	9	Mu	8	Dn	9	Hi	9	Ma	9
WS9	Ge	9	Pg	9	Ge	9	Hs	9	Pe	9
WS10	Hs	8	Ph	9	FMa	9	Ms	9		
WS11	Sb	8	Py	9	So	9	Py	9		
			Sb	8						