

HELLESDON HIGH SCHOOL

CURRICULUM POLICY

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Author: Alastair Ogle

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Ratified by the Governors' Policy Review Committee
on:

22 March 2010

Signed:



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Chairman

Introduction

The Curriculum in maintained schools must follow the law and statutory guidance and include the requirements of the National Curriculum. The Governing Body is required to make a Curriculum Policy Statement and to keep it under review. It must be available to Parents/Carers.

At the first meeting of the Governing Body during the Spring Term, the Governors shall review and approve the proposed Curriculum for the following academic year to ensure that it meets the requirements of this policy and offers broad and balanced opportunities for all students.

1. Aims

The School aims to:

- ensure that students develop the essential literacy and numeracy skills
- provide students with a full and rounded entitlement to learning
- foster students' creativity and develop essential skills, including learning skills
- promote a healthy lifestyle
- inspire students to a commitment to learning which will last a lifetime
- promote high standards in all learning and teaching

The School's Curriculum follows statutory requirements and the requirements of the National Curriculum. It is balanced and broadly based and promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of the students and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. The School's Curriculum contains:

- Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education that reflect the School's aims and ethos.
- Religious Education for all students
- appropriate Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG)
- an appropriate programme of Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills, (PLTS), Enterprise, Economic and Functional Skills.

2. Equal Opportunities

Entry to all programmes of study is based on academic suitability and appropriateness, regardless of sex, race, disability, religion or belief.

3. Disability

In accordance with the statutory requirements, the School aims to make the Curriculum accessible to all students as far as is reasonably practicable. The School has an Equality Policy which includes disability, race and gender and is available to Parents/Carers on request.

4. Disapplication

In accordance with the law, the School has the right to respond to individual needs by modifying the National Curriculum programmes, or by disapplying the National Curriculum for the duration of Key Stage 4 to:-

- allow a student to participate in extended work-related learning;
- allow a student with individual strengths to emphasise a particular Curriculum area;
- allow a student making significantly less progress than other students of his/her age to consolidate his/her learning and progress across the Curriculum.

Decisions about any of the above will only be made after discussion with the student and the Parent/Carer.

5. Religious Education

Religious Education is taught to all students. Parents/Carers have the right to withdraw a child from religious education.

6. Sex & Relationships Education (SRE)

The School provides Sex and Relationships Education in the Curriculum for all students, in which they are encouraged and guided by moral principles and taught to recognise the value of family life.

In accordance with the law the teaching of biological aspects of human reproduction remain compulsory for all students, but Parents/Carers may withdraw a Student from any other part of the sex education provided, without giving reasons.

7. Political Education

The promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the School is forbidden by law. Political issues are introduced in a number of courses and are presented in a balanced manner.

8. Physical Education (PE)

All students are expected to take part in the School's Physical Education programme. Students can only be excused from PE lessons for medical reasons, for which a note from a Parent/Carer, or other reasons agreed with the School, will suffice. A student excused from a PE lesson will be asked to assume a role within the lesson.

9. Extra-Curricular Activities

The School has a wide and varied programme of cultural and sporting activities that take place outside the formal Curriculum. All students are encouraged to take part in the programme.

10. Special Educational Needs

The School has a Special Educational Needs Policy for statemented and non-statemented students. The School will determine the appropriate courses in consultation with the Parents/Carers.

11. Concerns and Complaints

Parents/Carers who have concerns about any aspects of the Curriculum should discuss these in the first instance with the student's tutor. If the issue is not resolved, Parents/Carers should make an official complaint in writing to the Head Teacher.

12. Monitoring And Review

This Policy will be monitored by the Deputy Head Teacher (Curriculum), who will report to the Head Teacher on its implementation on a regular basis. The Head Teacher will report to the Teaching and Learning Committee of the Governing Body on the effectiveness of the Policy, and will recommend any changes.