# **Ysgol Harri Tudur**



# **Henry Tudor School**

## **Curriculum Policy**

# Cwricwlwm

Adopted by School Performance Committee: Autumn 2011 Review Annually Last Reviewed: Spring 2022 Next Review: Autumn 2022

## Ysgol Harri Tudur / Henry Tudor School Governing Body Curriculum Policy

## **Policy Overview**

The Governing Body aims to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to all students of compulsory school age. The curriculum should be inclusive and offer equality of opportunity.

The Governing Body will have regard to other statutory requirements such as Personal and Social Education, Work Related Education, Curriculum Cymreig and the requirement to deliver PE and RE throughout all key stages.

Appropriate grouping strategies will be employed to ensure, as far as reasonably possible, that work is adequately differentiated and delivered at a level suitable to pupils/students' needs and abilities.

## Transition

Information will be gathered from Primary schools about students' aptitudes and abilities to cope with a mainstream curriculum. Those with difficulties may be offered an additional Basic Skills curriculum.

## Timetable

The school uses a 48 period, 2 week timetable. Each lesson is of 1 hour duration. Any reference to the number of periods for subjects below refers to the number of periods per fortnight cycle.

## Key Stage 3

All national curriculum subjects are delivered as separate subjects. The numbers of lessons for each subject is as follows:

|                 | Number of Periods |        |  |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------|--|
| Subject         | Year 7            | Year 8 |  |
| Art             | 2                 | 3      |  |
| Drama           | 1                 | 2      |  |
| English         | 5                 | 5      |  |
| Geography       | 3                 | 3      |  |
| History         | 3                 | 3      |  |
| IT              | 2                 | 2      |  |
| Maths           | 5                 | 5      |  |
| Modern Language | 3                 | 3      |  |
| Music           | 2                 | 2      |  |
| PE              | 5                 | 5      |  |
| PSE             | 1                 | 1      |  |
| RE              | 2                 | 2      |  |
| Science         | 5                 | 5      |  |
| Technology      | 4                 | 5      |  |
| Welsh           | 3                 | 3      |  |
| Skills          | 2                 | 0      |  |

The curriculum is delivered in broad ability teaching groups throughout year 7 with the exception of, PE and Technology which are in ability sets and the special groups which cater for the extremes of the ability range. Art, Geography, History, PSE, RE & Skills are delivered as part of the Transition Curriculum. Form groups are taught these lessons by a single member of staff over 14 periods. PE groupings are defined following a brief assessment in mixed ability groups at the start of year 7. We have mixed ability mentor groups and teaching sets. In year 8 and 9 there is an increasing use of ability setting and the Transition curriculum continues on a more limited basis in year 8.

#### Supported and basic skills groups

Primary colleagues advise us that some students will not be able to access mainstream teaching materials because of low literacy and non-verbal skills standards. Parents are then consulted about their children joining supported and basic skills groups. Here the curriculum is modified to create time for these students to receive additional support each day. The modified curriculum is as shown:

| KS3 supported and Basic | Year 7 Basic | Year 7    | Year 8 Basic | Year 8    |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| Skills groups           | skills       | supported | Skills       | Supported |
| Art                     | 2            | 2         | 3            | 3         |
| Drama                   | 1            | 1         | 1            | 1         |
| English                 | 5            | 5         | 6            | 6         |
| Literacy / Numeracy     | 7            | 4         | 5            | 5         |
| Humanities              | 3            | 3         | 3            | 3         |
| IT                      | 2            | 2         | 2            | 2         |
| Maths                   | 5            | 5         | 6            | 6         |
| MFL                     | 1            | 3         | 1            | 1         |
| Music                   | 2            | 2         | 2            | 2         |
| PE                      | 5            | 5         | 4            | 4         |
| PSE                     | 1            | 1         | 1            | 1         |
| Science                 | 5            | 5         | 5            | 5         |
| Technology              | 4            | 4         | 4            | 4         |
| Vocational courses      | 2            |           | 2            |           |
| Welsh                   | 1            | 3         | 1            | 3         |
| Skills                  | 2            | 3         | 2            | 2         |

Note: Humanities encompasses Geography, History and RE.

Students with minor learning difficulties, including behavioural difficulties, are withdrawn from some lessons to receive additional learning support. Students with acute learning difficulties may be based in support centres for some or all of the timetable, with placement in selected mainstream classes where appropriate.

## Key Stage 4

All students in key stage 4 study English, Maths, Science, Welsh, Welsh Bacc, Re and PSE.

We have now moved to a 3 year KS4 with 4 option blocks at 4 hours per cycle. This starts in Year 9.

It is the schools intention to offer a range of both academic and vocational courses to suit a broad range of aspirations.

|                   | Y9 | Y10            | Y11 |
|-------------------|----|----------------|-----|
| English           | 6  | 6              | 7   |
| RE                | 1  | 1              | 1   |
| Welsh Bacc        | 3  | 3              | 3   |
| Maths             | 6  | 7              | 6   |
| Option A          | 4  | 4              | 4   |
| Option B          | 4  | 4              | 4   |
| Option C          | 4  | 4              | 4   |
| Option D          | 4  | 4              | 4   |
| PE                | 4  | 2              | 2   |
| PSE               | 1  | Drop down days |     |
| Double Science    | 6  | 9              | 9   |
| Full course Welsh | 5  | 4              | 4   |

The range of option subjects is agreed by the Governors' School Performance Committee each year. It is not the school's policy to allow subjects to run if numbers are very small: students may be required to make alternative choices.

#### Basic Skills group

Some students will not be able to access mainstream teaching materials because of low literacy and non-verbal skills standards. These pupils will continue to have access to a basic skills group throughout Ks4. The curriculum has been slightly modified to create time for these students to receive additional support each day. The modified curriculum is as shown:

|                | Y9 | Y10 | Y11 |
|----------------|----|-----|-----|
| English        | 6  | 6   | 7   |
| RE             | 1  | 1   | 1   |
| Maths          | 6  | 7   | 6   |
| Option A       | 4  | 4   | 4   |
| Option B       | 4  | 4   | 4   |
| Option C       | 4  | 4   | 4   |
| Option D       | 4  | 4   | 4   |
| PE             | 4  | 2   | 2   |
| PSE            | 1  | 1   | 1   |
| Double Science | 6  | 9   | 9   |
| Skills         | 6  | 4   | 4   |
| Welsh          | 2  | 2   | 2   |

## Sixth Form

The school offers a range of AS and A level courses including courses delivered at Pembrokeshire College. The options pattern is agreed annually by the Federation Steering Group and reported to the school's Governors.

It is not the school's policy to offer courses if the projected uptake is not viable.

AS level subjects are allocated 9 periods per fortnight. A Level subjects are allocated 8 periods per fortnight.

In addition to main subjects studied, sixth form students also study for the Welsh Baccalaureate.

Where there is sufficient uptake, re-sit lessons will be offered for GCSE English and Maths.

## Additional Learning Needs [ALN]

All matters related to the Additional Learning Needs curriculum are dealt with in the agreed ALN Policy.

#### More Able and Talented Children

More able and talented children are expected to follow the mainstream curriculum. Setting arrangements will accommodate many of their needs. Additional activities may be arranged as outlined in the School's Policy on More Able and Talented Pupils. More Able & Talented teaching groups run in both Year 7 and Year 8.

#### Disapplication

Pupils with statements of Special Educational Need may be disapplied from some national curriculum subjects. Other students may be temporarily disapplied because of personal circumstances or educational difficulties. This is always done with the agreement of parents.

### **Complaints about Curriculum**

Any complaint should be discussed initially with the Headteacher or their representative. If the complaint cannot be resolved at this level, the School's Complaints Procedure should be followed. Complaints relating to statutory aspects of the curriculum may also be referred to the local authority.