

Henry Tudor School

Curriculum Policy

Cwricwlwm

Review Annually Last Reviewed: Spring 2024 Next Review: Autumn 2025

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 learners 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 learners' needs and abilities.

Transition

Information will be gathered from Primary schools about learners' 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		
Subject	Year 7	Year 8	Year
			9(from
			2025)
Art	2	3	2
Drama	0	2	1
English	6	6	6
Geography	0	3	3
History	0	3	3
IT	0	2	2
Maths	5	6	6
Modern Language	3	2	2
Music	2	2	2
PE	4	4	4
PSE	1	1	1
RE		1	1
Science	5	5	6
Technology	3	3	3
Welsh	3	3	3
Skills - Y7 Inc. Hist,	15	2	3
Geog, RE, Drama, IT			

The curriculum is delivered in mixed ability teaching groups throughout Key Stage 3 with the exception of the Pathway groups which cater for the lower of the ability range. Art, Geography, History, PSE, RE, IT & Skills are delivered as part of the Transition Curriculum. Form groups are taught these lessons by a single member of staff over 15 periods in Y7, and 3 periods in Y8 & Y9.

Supported and basic skills groups

Primary colleagues advise us that some learners 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 learners 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.

Learners with minor learning difficulties, including behavioural difficulties, are withdrawn from some lessons to receive additional learning support. Learners 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 learners in key stage 4 study English, Maths, Science, Welsh, Welsh Bacc, Re and PSE.

We are now transitioning to a 2-year KS4 with 3 option blocks at 5 hours per cycle. This starts in Year 10. For the next academic year 2024/2025 we will follow the updated model, but options will start in Y9.

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

	Y9	Y10	Y11
English	7	6	6
RE	2	2	2
Welsh Bacc	3	3	3
Maths	6	7	6
Option A	5	5	5
Option B	5	5	5
Option C	5	5	5
PE	2	2	2
PSE	1	1	1
Double Science	6	6	7
Full course Welsh	4	4	4
IT	2	2	2

The above serves as indicative timings as timings may be adjusted to fit the staffing capacity. 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: learners may be required to make alternative choices. Welsh Bac has now moved to an options subject.

Basic Skills group

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

	Y9	Y10	Y11 2023
English	6	6	7
RE	1	1	1
Maths	6	6	6
Option A	4	4	4
Option B	4	4	4
Option C	4	4	4
Welsh Bac	4	4	4
PE	4	2	2
PSE	1	1	1
Double Science	6	7	9
Skills	8	9	4
Welsh	2	2	2

Sixth Form

The school offers a range of AS and A level courses including courses delivered through Esgol collaboration. The options pattern is agreed annually by the Esgol 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 8 periods per fortnight.

A Level subjects are allocated 9 periods per fortnight.

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

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. Additional activities may be arranged as outlined in the School's Policy on More Able and Talented Learners.

Disapplication

Learners with statements of Special Educational Need may be disapplied from some national curriculum subjects. Other learners 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.