



**REDHILL HIGH SCHOOL**  
- CLYNDERWEN -

# Curriculum Policy

**Reviewed: 10/7/2024**

**Changes made:**

Page	Change	Reason	Made by	Reviewed by
3.	Remove reference to Welsh Bacalaureate.	End of qualification.	AM	BM
5.	Addition of Bethan Millington as Link Director	Reflect practice.	AM	BM

**Next review: 10/7/2025**

## **1. Statement of Purpose**

The Curriculum Policy reflects the terms of the school's registration under the Independent Schools Standards (2003) and its Mission Statement 'To provide a stimulating and supportive environment for all our students, so that they may be confident, curious and well-rounded young people'.

Specifically, the Curriculum Policy:

- establishes in writing the overall aims and structure of the curriculum.
- is supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work.

The Curriculum itself:

- gives pupils of compulsory school age experience in the following areas of learning: linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical, and aesthetic and creative.
- contains subject matter appropriate for the ages and aptitudes of pupils.
- enables students to acquire skills in speaking / listening / literacy / numeracy.
- provides personal, social and health education to reflect its aims and ethos.
- provides appropriate careers guidance (as detailed in Careers Guidance Policy).
- provides a programme of activities appropriate to students above statutory age.
- provides the opportunity for all pupils to learn and make progress.
- ensures adequate preparation of pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

## **2. Scope**

This policy applies to all students in its core principles. The more specific educational aims for different age groups are listed separately and set out the minimum range of experiences to which all pupils are entitled to have access.

## **3. Equal opportunities**

The school is committed to an inclusive, learner-centred curriculum where entry to all programmes of study is based on academic suitability and appropriateness, regardless of gender, race, disability, religion or belief.

In accordance with statutory requirements, the school aims to make the curriculum accessible to all pupils, as far as is reasonably practicable. The school has an Accessibility Plan which is available to parents and carers upon request.

## **4. The Lower School Curriculum**

In the Lower School (Years 7-9) students study the following subjects, each taught as distinct subjects:

English, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Art, Drama, Music, Geography, History, Religious Studies, French, Spanish, Welsh, PE, IT and PSHE.

The curriculum is designed to provide a grounding in content and subject-specific skills such that students may confidently transition to GCSE in Year 10, as well as enabling the students to progress in cross-curricular skill areas.

## **5. The Upper School Curriculum**

In Years 10-11, students study the following:

Core: English Language and English Literature, Mathematics, Mathematics–Numeracy.

Compulsory non-core: Biology, Chemistry and Physics, PE, Religious Studies and PSHE.

Options – selected from a range of GCSE courses, including Welsh.

## **6. The Sixth Form Curriculum**

In Years 12-13, a range of A / AS levels are offered. Generally, 4 AS are taken in Year 12 and 3 A Levels in Year 13.

## **7. Cross-Curricular Skills**

In order to ensure that the curriculum is as broad and balanced as possible and prepares students well for active citizenship and lifelong learning, Schemes of Work identify opportunities in each subject for the development of the skills below:

L - Literacy – developing skills in oracy, reading and writing to become an efficient and effective communication.

N - Numeracy - developing numerical reasoning using number, measuring and data skills.

DC - Digital Competence – developing skills, knowledge and attitudes that enable the confident, creative and critical use of technologies and systems.

TS - Thinking & Solving – marshalling critical and logical processes to analyse and understand situations and develop responses and solutions.

CI - Creating & Innovating – generating ideas, art, literature & designs. Having openness and courage to explore ideas and express opinions.

P - Personal Effectiveness – reflecting on and understanding oneself and others, behaving in effective and appropriate ways; being an effective and resilient learner.

These do not occur in equal measure in each subject but are identified where they can be developed organically. A curriculum map of the provision of the skills is scheduled for Trinity Term 2023 with a particular focus on Literacy and Numeracy.

## **8. Compulsory non-core subjects for 11-16 students**

The school will ensure that PE and PSHE are provided for all students up and including Year 11. Students will study for an RS GCSE. Parents may ask the school formally for students to be withdrawn from RS and PE, but no guarantees are given.

Science subjects are de facto compulsory, although students may opt to sit Double Award or Triple Award Science.

## **9. Personal, social and health education (PSHE)**

PSHE is an important and valued part of the school's curriculum. Learners are given the opportunity to:

- promote their health and emotional well-being and moral and spiritual development.
- to become active citizens and promote local and global citizenship and sustainable development.
- prepare for lifelong learning

All pupils in the school have access to weekly PSHE lessons or regular PSE days throughout the year time-equivalent to a weekly lesson. These are delivered by teaching staff as well as outside agencies. PSHE is delivered as blocked days for Year 10 and Sixth Form due to timetable constraints for 2022-23.

## **10. Physical education (PE) and Games**

All students in Years 7-11 are expected to take part in the school's PE and games programme. Students may be excused from the programme on medical grounds, for which a note from parents will suffice, or on account of other reasons agreed with the school. Years 12-13 are timetabled for PE and encouraged to join in.

## **11. Co-curricular activities**

The school has a wide and varied programme of cultural and sporting activities that take place outside the formal curriculum. All pupils are encouraged to take part.

## **12. Relationship & Sex education**

The school provides Sex Education in the basic Biology curriculum for all students. The broader aspects of Relationship Sex Education are covered in the PSHE curriculum in ways appropriate to the different year groups involved. These are encouraged and guided by moral principles and are students are taught to recognise the value of family life.

In accordance with the law, the biological aspects of human reproduction remain compulsory for all students, but parents may withdraw their children from any other part of the education programme provided by the school.

### **13. Homework Policy**

Please see separate policy.

### **14. Additional Learning Needs**

The school will determine the appropriate curriculum content and delivery in consultation with the parents and students involved.

In all cases, the school has the right to respond to individual students' needs by modifying or disapplying the relevant phase curriculum, in order to:

- allow a student making significantly less progress than other student of their age to consolidate their learning and progress across the curriculum.
- allow a student with individual strengths to emphasise a particular curriculum area.
- Or as part of a student's IDP to best support their individual needs.

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

### **15. Reviewing the policy**

In light of changes made to the statutory curriculum in Wales, the school will be conducting a curriculum review in Trinity Term 2023 to examine alignment and to prepare for qualification reform.