

## Curriculum Policy

### RATIONALE

All our pupils should receive a broad, balanced and relevant education that provides continuity, progression and challenge while taking individual differences into account. Our policy looks to provide for the needs of all our pupils and continually seek to extend and expand our provision while allowing our pupils to achieve recognised and accredited qualifications.

### AIMS

- To help all our pupils develop intellectually, emotionally, socially, physically and morally as responsible citizens.
- To provide a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum which incorporates the strong Catholic ethos of the College
- To develop our pupils into life-long learners with an ability to apply themselves to a wide variety of tasks and physical skills.
- To meet the requirements of the Northern Ireland Curriculum
- To meet the requirements of the Entitlement Framework and provide access for pupils in KS4 and KS5 to a broad range of courses through collaboration with the Foyle Learning Community.
- To help pupils acquire understanding, knowledge and key skills relevant to school, higher education and adult life and employment.
- To ensure continuity and progression within the school and between the key stages.
- To promote full partnership between the pupil, home and the community.
- To encourage a respect for the school and its environment so that learning is a positive and pleasurable experience for everyone.

### PROCEDURES

- Regular department meetings
- Departmental reviews of courses and specifications offered at all levels, Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. Differentiated courses may be provided within a subject area to meet the pupils' needs and abilities
- All students are entitled to examination entry in their chosen subjects, provided that they have met the basic requirements of attendance and coursework or controlled assessment completion.
- Whole school and departmental focus on learning and teaching strategies
- Strong emphasis on the acquisition and application of the key skills of Literacy, Numeracy and I.C.T. throughout the curriculum
- Develop a wide variety of links with outside agencies and the local community through work experience, enrichment programmes, educational visits and visiting speakers, etc.
- Support for pupils with Special Educational Needs is provided in class and through intervention and support activities.
- Additional support is provided for pupils through revision sessions, mentoring, Homework Club, etc.

- Formal assessments of learning are conducted according to our assessment schedule and targets are shared with students and their parents regularly. Formal reports are issued to each year group once per year and interim report of grades achieved reported after Winter Assessment to Years 8 – 11.
- Advice and guidance on subject options, career paths, further and higher education is provided through our Careers Manager, pastoral and curricular leaders
- Information sessions on Careers and options (KS4 and KS5) for parents and pupils
- Work experience provision at Key Stage 4 and Work Shadowing in Key Stage 5.
- Continual review and monitoring of the curriculum provision by the School's Leadership Team.
- Optional courses offered at KS4 will be subject to demand with general a minimum of 10\* pupils required to make a viable class
- Optional courses offered at KS5 will be subject to demand with general a minimum of 8\* pupils required to make a viable class. With courses of less than 8 pupils these will be accommodated within FLC where possible.
- \* This number may vary depending on staffing resources available.

**This policy was last reviewed by the Leadership Team: January 2017  
Due to be Reviewed: Sept 2019**