

Key Stage 3 - Years 7 - 9

In Key Stage 3 all pupils study a range of 13 subjects at Court Fields School. This provides them with the key knowledge and skills to be successful in Key Stage 4 and their exam courses.

These subjects are: English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Philosophy and Beliefs, Modern Foreign Languages, ICT, Physical Education, Design & Technology, Art, Music and Drama. All pupils also take part in a Personal Development programme. This includes Personal, Social and Health Education, Sex & Relationships Education, Citizenship and an introduction to the world of work.

During Key Stage 3 each subject's curriculum is divided into subjects for each year, from 7-9. Each subject has its own set of knowledge and skills that pupils need to master. The more fully they master this learning, the better prepared they will be for the next year's work, Key Stage 4 and beyond.


Every student is on a journey of learning where we assess progress from their own individual starting points at the start of Year 7. We use GCSE grades (now 1-9) to assess progress throughout KS3. This ensures that students understand how far they are along this 'journey'. They will also know what they need to do to achieve academic success by the end of year 11 (and beyond).

Each subject publishes a series of grade descriptors and success criteria. These set out the knowledge, skills and understanding that pupils must demonstrate to achieve that level. Reports throughout the year provide information about the grade that the pupil is expected to achieve at the end of the year.

Further information about KS3 subjects and assessment can be found on the individual links for each subject.

At the end of Year 9 a wide choice of subjects is made available to all pupils after careers advice and discussion with parents. These subjects are studied in Years 10 and 11 and usually lead to GCSE or equivalent qualification.

Year 9 Options

Nos of GCSEs	COMPULSORY CURRICULUM	Exams 2020	NATIONAL EXPECTATION – You need to select 1 of these subjects. There is an opportunity in the 'Open Choices' to select more.	CA/CW	Exam 2020	Open Choice – you need to select 2 subjects from the list below.	CA/CW	Exam 2020
1	English Language GCSE	2x50%	GCSE Computer Science	1x20%	2x40%	GCSE Art & Design	1x60%	1x40%
2	English Literature GCSE	1x40% 1x60%	GCSE French		4x25%	OCR Health and Social Care	3x25%	1x25%
3	Mathematics GCSE	3x33.3%	GCSE Spanish		4x25%	VCert in Food	3x25%	1x25%
4&5	Combined Science Trilogy GCSE	6 x 16⅔%	GCSE Geography		1x30% 2x35%	GCSE Computer Science	1x20%	2x40%
6	Philosophy and Beliefs Short Course(RE) completed end of Year 10	tbc	GCSE History		2x30% 1x40%	GCSE Design Technology	1x50%	1x50%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students will follow 5 GCSEs in the core time. Those choosing to take Separate Sciences (Chemistry, Biology and Physics) will choose this as an Option in order to provide enough learning hours. 						GCSE French		4x25%
						GCSE Geography		2x35% 1x30%
						GCSE History		2x30% 1x40%
						GCSE ICT	1x50%	1x50%
						BTEC Music	3x25%	1x25%
						BTEC Performing Arts	2x30%	1 x40%
						GCSE PE	1x40%	2x30%
						VCert in Health and Fitness	3x25%	1x25%
						GCSE Philosophy and Beliefs (RE)		2 x 50%
						GCSE Spanish		4x25%
						Separate Sciences – Chemistry, Biology, Physics (This is for top set only)		2x50% (for each Science)

Homework

Homework at Court Fields School consists of activities that:

- consolidate the work of a lesson or lessons
- extend the learning from a lesson or lessons
- provide opportunities to research new topics
- provide enrichment activities outside the classroom.

Homework helps to develop independent learning, research skills and personal work disciplines (e.g. time management and planning to meet deadlines) and is set for all students.

However, the amount and frequency with which is set is balanced with other important features of a healthy life, such as physical exercise, membership of clubs and other out of school activities. We have an Opportunities Club, which runs with a member of staff every day in the LRC, where students are welcome to stay and complete homework and use the school's wealth of resources.

Full details of the expectations for homework are given in the school's Homework Policy and timetable.