

## Shirebrook Academy Curriculum Statement 2020-21

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### **Covid-19 Response:**

In response to the Covid-19 enforced school closure in March 2020 and projected continued disruption to learning in 2020-21 the following temporary adaptations have been made to the curriculum statement.

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### **Intent:**

- To continue to provide a full curriculum to all students studying all subjects
- To support students to adjust to being back in school and to build on the learning they have done during lockdown
- To allow students to re-adjust to school life and rebuild the learning community
- To establish where the students are in their learning so we know what to prioritise
- To use this information to ensure students are secure in their knowledge, understanding and skills needed to move on.
- To progress learning by moving on to new content and the next sequence of learning, encouraging students to make use of their independent learning skills outside of school.
- To establish a positive culture using a range of positive language in relation to learning.

### **Implementation:**

- No change to curriculum plan in terms of subjects taught and curriculum allocation
- Adaptations to environment to ensure safety of all students and staff – curriculum adaptations due to teaching in non-specialised environments at KS3 (DT, Art, Science)
- Adapted start of year delivered via extended 'PD' curriculum upon return to school to allow students to share experiences and re-engaging with school
- Y11 students triaged to ascertain base knowledge from Y10 and inform future planning
- Adjustments to curriculum in all subjects to ensure essential content is prioritised – 'gateway knowledge'
- Transparency with students so they know what their learning journey will look like.
- Use of remote learning to support students working from home
- Use of blended learning to consolidate and/or extend learning and offer experiences unable to take place in lesson time.

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## Shirebrook Academy Mission Statement

Shirebrook Academy aims to be

*“A community of inspiration, excellence and opportunities for all to grow”*

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According to an African proverb, *‘it takes a whole village to raise a child’*. Similarly, it takes a whole school to educate a child with everyone in the school community playing a vital role. Educating a child is a collective endeavour, we stand and fall as a team, we celebrate each other’s success and we take collective responsibility and support each other when we fail. So, the chief responsibility of everyone at Shirebrook Academy is to make sure that every student has the best possible experience of school and is able to be the best that they can be.

That means placing equal value on all the different aspects of a good education.

**Good qualifications** are obviously vital for a young person’s future, they are the keys that open doors to further and higher education and employment.

But we strongly believe that education is about much more than passing exams. It is about **developing skills** that we need at work and for future study – communication, teamwork, problem-solving, organisation, self-discipline, leadership.

It is developing a **love of learning** that will last a lifetime, approaching learning with a **‘growth mindset’** that makes us see mistakes and failure as a natural part of learning.

It is about fostering the **values and character traits** that make us fully rounded adults who make a positive contribution to our community – kindness, compassion, courage, honesty, integrity.

It is about learning how to live a **healthy, happy and fulfilling life**. Planning for the future and taking control of our own life.

It is about making the most of experiences, **broadening minds & developing interests** in the world around us – that might be sport, music, art, theatre, foreign travel, charity work – doing things we have never experienced before and might not get the chance to experience if not through school.

To fulfil this educational vision every member of Team Shirebrook pulls together in the same direction, certain of our goals and confident in our ability to achieve those goals.

We are all leaders, we are all learners and we are all valued members of this *“community of inspiration, excellence, and opportunities for all to grow”*

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*These values are the foundation for our curriculum intent*

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## The Shirebrook Academy Curriculum

### Rationale

Our curriculum is driven by our values and underpinned by the needs of our community. We serve a proud and close-knit community that places a high priority on loyalty and character values. It is an area of high economic deprivation in which few families have experience of higher education. It is geographically isolated and transport links to larger towns and cities are poor.

This context and our knowledge of the barriers faced by some children growing up in economically deprived areas have led us to develop a curriculum that seeks to enrich lives, build community and inspire all young people to take control of their lives and create opportunities for themselves to thrive.

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### **Intent:**

- 1.** To support students to lead physically & mentally healthy, happy and fulfilling lives, to stay safe and make informed choices.
  - 2.** To ensure equality of opportunity to educational experience so that no student is disadvantaged due to their family's economic situation, their gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, special educational need or disability.
  - 3.** To broaden students' minds and develop interest in life beyond their immediate environment and experience
  - 4.** To challenge students to be ambitious for themselves and their community
  - 5.** To prepare students for life, learning and work beyond age 16 and foster the values and character traits that makes us fully rounded adults
  - 6.** To ensure students experience a broad ranging and full educational experience beyond exam preparation
  - 7.** To ensure students obtain the qualifications they need to be able to take control of their post 16 destination.
  - 8.** To ensure the curriculum meets the needs of all students by prioritising the needs of the individual over the requirements of whole school accountability measures.
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**Implementation:**

Please see subject specific areas of the website for information on how the curriculum content is planned, sequenced, taught and assessed.

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Students are taught in blocks of 50 minute lessons, some of which are double periods of 100 minutes

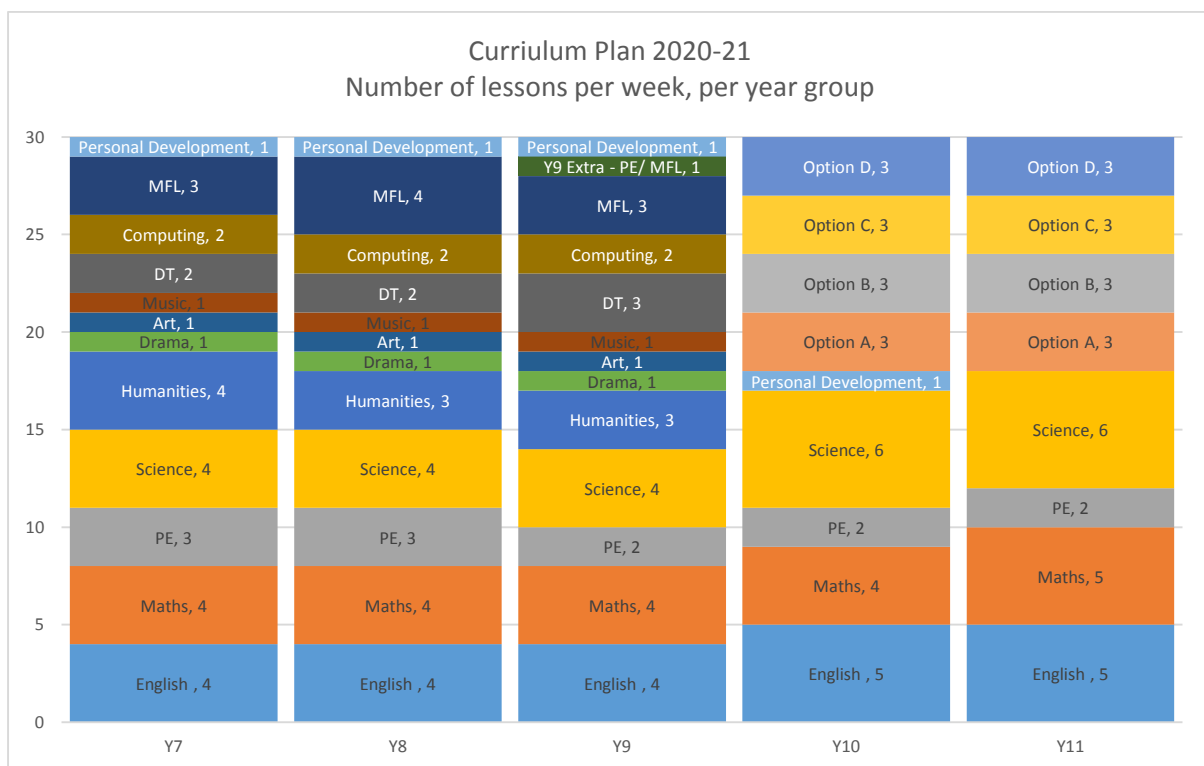
**At KS3** students cover all the National Curriculum subjects for all three years 7, 8 and 9

At KS4 students are offered a broad choice of academic and vocational qualifications.

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**Implementation:****The Shirebrook Academy Curriculum Plan**

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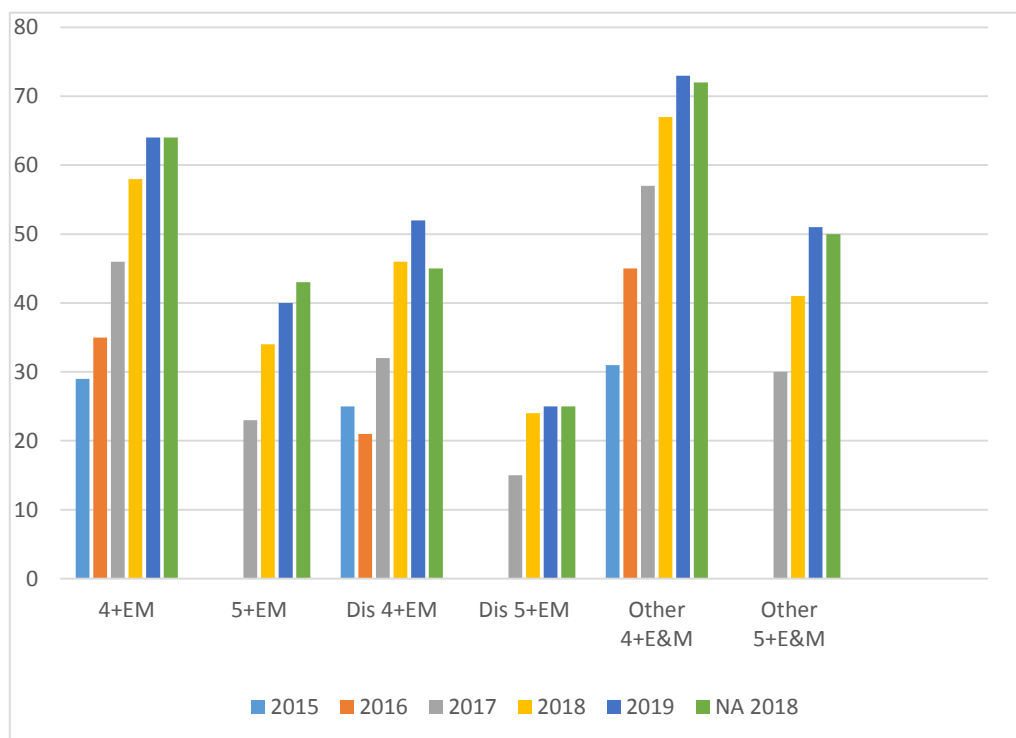


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**Impact:****The Shirebrook Academy Improvement Journey 2015-2019**

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- Positive post-16 destinations, NEETS figures are regularly at or close to zero
- Increasing proportion of students accessing apprenticeships – 9% in 2018, up from 3% in 2016
- Outcomes improved each year since 2015
- Gaps between disadvantaged at Shirebrook Academy and ‘other’ students nationally closing



- 4+E&M has improved by 35% and is now at national average.
- 5+ E&M has improved by 17% since 2017
- Disadvantaged students 4+E&M has improved by 27% and is above the national average for disadvantaged students.
- Disadvantaged students 5+E&M improved by 8% since 2017 and is equal to national average for disadvantaged students
- ‘Other’ students 4+ E&M has improved by 42%.
- ‘Other’ students 5+E&M improved by 21% since 2017.
- Both are above the national average for ‘other’ students