

Spalding KS4 Curriculum

Our curriculum model

Our curriculum is **developmental not chronological**: it is based on where a child is in their development, not which year group they are in. Students are assessed on entry in a range of ways, and their work is tailored to their current stage of academic learning and SEMH development.

For many of our students, their personal development and SEMH needs mean that work in this area has to be prioritised, as a vital first building block in their learning journey. Our curriculum model also recognises the importance of having a strong academic core: for us, this means focusing on literacy, including spoken language, reading and writing, as one of the primary tools through which all other learning is accessed.



Intent

Our KS4 curriculum is designed to:

- Engage all students in learning
- Enable all students to make progress from their individual starting points, and to have successes in learning
- Focus on developing student's social, emotional and mental health
- Focus on depth before breadth: having a strong curriculum focus on the facilitating subjects of English and Mathematics
- Support all students to make healthy and safe choices
- Support students to make positive decisions about their future and next steps
- Ensure that all students leave with at least one qualification, no matter when they join us



- Ensure that the majority of our students achieve a qualification in English and Mathematics
- Ensure that it is possible for all students to achieve five good passes at level 2, and that there are other pathways at other levels for students for whom this is not appropriate

Implementation

Students in KS4 take the following subjects, and are able to work towards the following qualifications:

SEMH	Policy currently in development
development	
Literacy	Policy currently in development
English	 All students follow the GCSE syllabus for English Language in year 10, taking the exam at the end of the year, and Literature in year 11. Students can have the opportunity of the Students will take functional skills and entry level exams where appropriate, at any point in KS4.
Maths	 All students follow the GCSE syllabus, with the aim of taking the exam at the end of year 11. Students will take functional skills and entry level exams where appropriate, at any point in KS4.
Science	 Students work on units from the Gateway Applied Science syllabus. The majority of students will work towards the Level 2 Award in year 10, and the Level 2 Certificate or Diploma in year 11. If year 10 students are not yet ready for Level 2 they will work towards Level 1 in year 10, and Level 2 in year 11.
PSHE inc RSE	 Students work on units from the NOCN course. If students are with us for a full year, they should achieve two qualifications in that year, one at level 1 and one at level 2. Students' PSHE work includes a comprehensive careers programme Work also includes Relationships and Sex Education: in year 10 students work towards NOCN level 1 award in Personal Wellbeing, which explores contraception, STIs and consent; in year 11 students look at Pregnancy, abortion and parenting, and online media risks and pornography. Our approach when teaching these topics is to include relationships, gender stereotypes and LGBT issues throughout all lessons. Students will also work towards AQA unit awards in topics specifically chosen based on their areas of need and interest.
PE	 All students have two hours of physical education once a week. All students also have regular opportunities throughout the week for physical activity.
Sports	 Students can choose to follow a course in Sports in their option slot. Students will work towards AQA unit awards.
Art	Students can choose to follow a course in Art in their option slot.Students will work towards AQA unit awards.
Cooking	All students will work towards a Level 2 BTEC in Home Cooking.



	 Students in year 10 can be presented for the level 1 BTEC if they are ready for it. If students in year 11 do not meet the criteria for level 2 they can be presented at level 1, if they have not already achieved it. If a number of students achieve level 2 BTEC in year 10, we will consider running a GCSE Cooking option group for them in year 11.
IT	Students work towards Entry level and/or Functional Skills IT qualifications as appropriate.