



Dame Alice Owen's School
The Dame Alice Owen Foundation - 1613

CURRICULUM POLICY

Policy agreed by Governing Body Curriculum Committee

Next review

Summer 2025

To be reviewed annually

To be monitored by Assistant Head, Curriculum.

This policy contains:

- Curriculum Intent
- Curriculum Statement
- Curriculum Offer



DAME ALICE OWEN'S SCHOOL

CURRICULUM INTENT

'To provide an enriching and inclusive experience for all'

At Owen's we aim to engage, inspire and challenge students of all abilities, equipping them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to experiment, investigate and create their own areas of expertise and reach their full potential. As students progress, they should be able to think creatively and critically; develop and respond to a thorough understanding of their place in an ever more complex society and to make informed and ethical choices. They should understand the significant impact they can have in shaping our future, whilst appreciating our shared current and historical cultural environment/heritage. Students should be equipped to foster a lifelong attitude of self-care through understanding the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle; understanding the benefits and characteristics of positive relationships whilst staying safe physically, virtually and mentally.

Our broad, relevant and balanced adapted curriculum aims to produce responsible literate and numerate citizens who enjoy reading, are innovative problem solvers, who are not afraid to make mistakes in their quest to learn and discover, and make a positive contribution to society. We aim to develop students who engage with diverse experiences and ideas and have the tools to communicate, debate, perform, imagine, scrutinise and empathise with the world around us. Our students should become critical and discerning users of digital technologies, be curious with scientific ideas, as well as evaluate different viewpoints across the diverse religious, theological and philosophical spectrum.

This is achieved in line with the 'OWENS' way

OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL
WINDOW TO THE WORLD
EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING
NEVER STOP LEARNING
SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY



DAME ALICE OWEN'S SCHOOL

CURRICULUM STATEMENT

In order to meet our Curriculum Intent, we at Dame Alice Owen's School aim:

- To provide a broad, relevant, balanced and adapted curriculum that has regard to the National Curriculum for all students.
- To develop Personal skills, Social skills, Health skills, Relationships and Sex Education through Learning for Life (PSHRSE), alongside Religious and Spiritual education at all stages of learning.
- To ensure all students are given access to that common curriculum.
- To ensure that the curriculum meets all legal requirements.
- To enable all students to progress and achieve their full potential within that curriculum through specialist teaching and ongoing monitoring and assessment.
- To support each subject and extra-curricular area with the appropriate resources.
- To provide continuity of curriculum through the different Key Stages.
- To monitor and review the curriculum with staff through classroom observations, book reviews, departmental reviews, meetings and INSET.
- To introduce change to the curriculum as a result of internal discussions of evidence based research and in response to external requirements.
- To identify areas within development planning, at departmental and at whole school level, which may need review, and to implement any change efficiently and smoothly.
- To pursue actively curricular initiatives which will enhance the curriculum offered by the School.
- To keep students, parents and governors informed and involved in the curriculum and any changes to that curriculum through the school website and online platforms, and through meetings, booklets and letters.

- To involve industry, commerce, alumni and outside agencies to enrich the experience of our students.
- To continue to enhance the curriculum to reflect the local, national and international community.
- To promote British values including individual liberty, the rule of law, belief in personal and social responsibility, respect for diversity, including of different faiths, beliefs and lifestyles. We seek to instil in students a sense of belonging, not just to the school community, but to the wider community and to the country; and
- To ensure all areas of the curriculum promote equality and tackle prejudicial discrimination.

This statement and together with the Teaching and Learning policy, and the School and Departmental Improvement Plans, demonstrate the implementation of these curricular aims.



DAME ALICE OWEN'S SCHOOL

CURRICULUM OFFER

At Key Stage 3 students will study:

- Mathematics
- English
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics (Science in Year 7)
- 2 Modern Foreign Languages (from French, German, Spanish)
- Art
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- Drama
- Food
- Geography
- History
- Music
- PE
- PSHRSE (Learning for Life)
- Religious Studies
- Textiles

At Key Stage 4 students will study:

- Mathematics
- English Literature and English Language
- Biology, Chemistry, Physics - As separate sciences or each within Combined Science (Trilogy)
- A Modern Foreign Language (from French, German, Spanish)

3 additional subjects are selected from the option columns which contain all other Key Stage 3 subjects, plus Business Studies, and Economics.

A personal development programme is followed, comprising of core PE lessons, a PSHRSE (Learning for Life) programme, a Spirituality course, and Careers education.

At Key Stage 5 students will study:

3 subjects picked from 4 option columns. All GCSE subjects can be taken at A level (depending on student uptake) except for Food and Nutrition. Additional subjects available are Further Mathematics, Music Technology, Politics, Psychology, Sociology.

Students will also complete a 'Futures' programme which encompasses aspects of personal development akin to the Learning for Life programme of study for KS3 and KS4, as well as specific advice and tuition for next steps in their education. Students will also have the opportunity to complete an Extended Project Qualification or Brewer's Award on a topic of their choice.

Alongside the taught curriculum, we have an exciting programme of extra-curricular opportunities. There is breadth of opportunity within our school clubs, comprising of extensive Music and PE groups as well as representations from the curriculum subjects and clubs focussing on identity. Our trips offer includes local, National, and International travel to consolidate understanding, develop character, and inspire students.