

ABBEY COLLEGE POLICY STATEMENT

Curriculum Policy

Rationale:

Abbey College aims to provide all students with a broad and balanced education, which allows the development of a wide range of knowledge, skills, and appropriate attitudes and values and encourages independent learning. Our curriculum is designed to be broad, balanced, and inclusive for all. It also has progression routes from KS3 through to KS5.

Objectives:

The curriculum at Abbey College aims:

1. To develop those aptitudes, abilities and personal qualities of all students that will enable them to play a positive individual role in our democratic society and that of the wider world, and to contribute to the continuing development of our society as discerning members.
2. To develop the practical, emotional, intellectual, aesthetic, social and moral dimensions of all our students.
3. To develop our students' ability to appraise themselves and to make considered and independent judgements and decisions.
4. To help our students achieve their true academic potential. To encourage our students to be self-motivated, to have pride in their achievements, to realise their aspirations and to pursue excellence.
5. To develop our students' compassion for and tolerance of others.
6. To widen opportunities for our students in order to increase their understanding of local, national and world-wide communities.
7. To promote tolerant, non-prejudicial attitudes in our pluralist society.
8. To assist our students to prepare themselves for the moral, economic, social and environmental responsibilities of life.
9. To provide opportunities for students to experience the world of work, and to understand the need for continuing lifelong education.
10. To provide opportunities for students to experience a range of extra-curricular activities (INTERACT), aimed at developing the whole person.
11. To encourage students' ability to persevere, and to be flexible and adaptable to change
12. To help students to appreciate and achieve a positive quality of life.

Guidelines:

All Years

1. Abbey College offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities (INTERACT) and learning development club, which are supported by late buses on 3 days each week.
2. Students who have Special Educational Needs are supported by the Learning Support team in a variety of ways, including in-class support, and small-group teaching and support.

Years 7-8

1. The vast majority of students follow a broad and balanced curriculum, which includes English, Maths, Science, Design and Technology, a Modern Foreign Language (MFL), History, Geography, RE, Art, Music, Drama, PE, and Social Studies (including Personal Development, Citizenship, and Careers Education).
2. A small number of year 7 students who need further support for literacy may be timetabled in The Bridge (a thematic curriculum group) or attend additional literacy sessions instead of MFL. Students who need further support with numeracy, literacy or social skills attend specific small groups designed to meet their learning needs, and also access programmes in the Literacy and Numeracy room, run by Learning Support.

Years 9-11

1. The Year 9-11 curriculum at Abbey College comprises a core including English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies (including Citizenship and Religious Education) and PE.
2. Students may express a preference for three additional subjects (Options process takes place in year 8), one of which must be Computing, a Modern Foreign Language, History or Geography. Most students therefore complete a package of qualifications which equates to the Progress 8 measure. A small number of students with special educational needs may only study an additional two qualifications.
3. Additional qualifications such as Statistics GCSE are offered to appropriate students in years 10 and 11 as extracurricular opportunities.
4. All students take part in a one-week work experience during Year 10, which can be extended to a second week in the Easter holidays.

Sixth Form

1. The sixth form curriculum comprises a range of Level 3 vocational and academic courses, which are chosen during Year 11.
2. Each course has its own entry requirements in terms of performance at GCSE/BTEC; further details of these can be found in the Sixth Form Prospectus.
3. Automatic entry requirements for study in the sixth form are 5 C+ grades at GCSE including English and Maths. Each entry is considered on an individual basis. All students without at least grade C in both English and Maths will retake the necessary exams until this is accomplished.
4. All students in the sixth form have the opportunity to take part in work experience and volunteering both within and beyond the school.

5. All students have a 6th Form tutor who monitors progress and encourages commitment to their studies.
6. Students completing examinations at the end of year 1 may automatically progress to year 2 directly only if the end of year exam is D grade or higher. Grades at E or U will not automatically continue into year 2. Individual programmes will be negotiated with Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance Assistant Head, Head of Sixth Form or Curriculum Deputy

Conclusion:

Effective application of this policy should ensure that all students at Abbey College have an appropriate curriculum, and are able to achieve to their full potential.

Policy Developed by:	Deputy Headteacher
Date Adopted:	November 2011
Reviewing committee:	Learner Progress and Engagement
Frequency of Review:	Every 2 years
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