



## Curriculum Policy Statement

### Our Mission

#### *“Inspiring People Changing Lives*

*We are a Catholic Family of aspiration, dedicated to all our students excelling spiritually and academically in our school and beyond.*

*We change lives through our culture of high standards and expectations of everyone who learns and works in our school and a belief that achievement is for all. “*

Our school curriculum supports our aim of inspiring people and changing lives. It seeks to develop the spiritual, moral, social and cultural education of every child and equip them with the qualifications and personal qualities to make a success of their lives. We emphasise the important values that characterise living in Modern Britain and ensure our students understand the responsibilities of good citizenship.

The curriculum includes all the subjects we teach and the planned learning which takes place outside school lessons. We regularly review the curriculum that our pupils experience. In doing so we aim to strike a balance between a broad, balanced curriculum and one which allows pupils to concentrate on their strengths and interests.

Blessed Thomas Holford will provide a curriculum, which inspires, challenges and safeguards all our pupils, and enables them to become:

- **Successful learners** who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- **Confident individuals** who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- **Responsible citizens** who make a social and economic contribution to society

#### **Successful learners** who:

- Have mastered the essential learning skills of Literacy & Numeracy
- Are creative, resourceful and able to solve problems
- Have enquiring minds and think for themselves to process information, reason, question and evaluate
- Communicate well in a range of ways
- Understand how they learn and learn from their setbacks
- Are able to learn independently and with others
- Know about big ideas and events that shape our world
- Enjoy learning and are motivated to achieve the best they can

## Confident individuals who:

- Have a sense of self-worth and believe in themselves
- Relate well to others and form good relationships
- Are self-aware and deal well with their emotions
- Have secure values and beliefs
- Become increasingly independent, able to take the initiative and organise themselves
- Make healthy lifestyle choices
- Are physically competent and confident
- Are willing to try new things and make the most of opportunities
- Are open to the excitement and inspiration offered by a wide range of learning

## Responsible citizens who:

- Uphold British Values
- Are well prepared for life and work
- Are able to work co-operatively with others
- Respect others and act with integrity
- Understand different cultures and traditions and have a strong sense of their own place in school and wider society
- Appreciate the benefits of diversity
- Challenge injustice, committed to human rights and strive to live peacefully
- Maintain and improve the environment, locally and globally
- Feel that they can change things for the better

## Curriculum Content

### Key Stage 3 - Years 7 and 8

Year 7 pupils have 27.5 hours of curriculum time per week.

Year 8 have 25 hours of curriculum time per week.

Number of Hours per week	Year 7	Year 8
4 hours per week	English (1 hour Drama) Mathematics	
3 hours per week	Science Ready to Read (2.5 hours)	English Mathematics Science
2 hours per week	Geography History Religious Education Creative Technologies Languages (French or Spanish) Physical Education	Geography History Religious Education Creative Technologies Languages (French or Spanish) Physical Education
1 hour per week	Art Computing	Art Computing Music

\*Creative Technologies includes Electronics, Food Technology, Resistant Materials and Product Design and Music.

## The Edge

From September 2014 pupils in Year 7 will be taking part in a programme called “The Edge.” This will then be extended to other year groups from next year. The programme develops and accredits skills and qualities valued by employers and higher education – leadership, resilience, organization, team work and high level communication skills.

Accreditation is at three levels - apprentice, graduate and masters and students have to complete a range of activities from an approved list which can be undertaken in lessons or outside school.

## Key Stage 4 Curriculum - Years 9, 10 and 11

Year 9 have 25 hours of curriculum time per week (27 hours if Latin option is taken)

Year 10 have 25 hours of lessons per week

Year 11 have 29 hours of lessons per week

Number of Hours per week	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
4 hours per week	English Mathematics Science	Mathematics Science	English Mathematics Science
3 hours per week	Computing	English Computing Religious Education	Computing Religious Education <i>At least 3 from list below based on pupil choice</i>
2 hours per week	Religious Education Physical Education <i>At least 3 from list below based on pupil choice</i>	<i>At least 3 from list below based on pupil choice</i>	Physical Education
1 hour per week		Physical Education	

## The Core Qualifications all pupils work towards at Key Stage 4

GCSE Religious Education  
 GCSE English Language  
 GCSE English Literature  
 GCSE Mathematics  
 GCSE Mathematics  
 GCSE Statistics  
 GCSE Core Science  
 GCSE Additional Science

## **Pupils can opt to study up to four of the following subjects**

GCSE Business Studies  
GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry & GCSE Physics  
GCSE Design & Technology Child Development  
GCSE Design & Technology Electronics  
GCSE Design & Technology Food Technology  
GCSE Design & Technology Resistant Materials  
GCSE French  
GCSE Geography  
GCSE History  
GCSE Latin  
GCSE Spanish  
GCSE Physical Education  
GCSE Art and Design  
GCSE Media Studies  
GCSE Music

### **Citizenship**

Citizenship is taught through a combination of discrete provision in PSHEE with each pupil studying 25 hours each academic year through targeted subjects and out of class provision.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural values are taught across the curriculum to ensure all our learners promote tolerance of and respect for people of other faiths, cultures and lifestyles.

### **LitNum (Literacy and Numeracy)**

Pupils with a low prior attainment or Statement will study 2 Options in Key Stage 4 and the 2 hours per week due to. 1 hour on Numeracy and 1 hour on Literacy. The intervention is planned and coordinated by Head of Literacy and Numeracy.

### **Policy Updated July 2016**