



Stanchester

Academy

Curriculum Policy

2023-24

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Smith', written over a faint horizontal line.

Headteacher

Approval Date: July 2023

Review Date: July 2024

Context

Stanchester Academy is a Year 7-11 school serving the district of Yeovil. We are one of four schools serving the town of Yeovil and the surrounding area.

Our catchment serves a wide area with a high proportion of students being bussed into the academy.

Curriculum Vision

Stanchester Academy ensures all students achieve by delivering a relevant, ambitious, and engaging curriculum which provides both breadth and depth. We organise our staff, resources, and lessons carefully to provide all our students with access to a transformational educational experience that will enable them, irrespective of their starting point, to fulfil and realise their ambitions.

Stanchester Academy promotes care, respect, and high standards in all aspects of our school life. Our aim is to ensure the curriculum meets the needs of the young people in our school, preparing them for adult and working life in the 21st century. We recognise that the needs of every individual student are different and that the world our students enter is a rapidly changing.

Our courses in Years 7 to 11 comply with the requirements of the National Curriculum. The curriculum is reviewed each year.

Our curriculum aims to:

- Offer a curriculum where students have the best chance to improve their social mobility.
- Provide high quality education that delivers a transformative learning experience to all our students.
- Deliver expert and effective teaching based on our principles.
- Enable all students at our school to achieve their academic ambitions.
- Nurture students' individual talents.
- Emphasise the importance of educating the whole child with attention to their personal, physical, emotional, health and social development.
- Provide a curriculum that delivers depth and understanding rather than teaching to examinations.
- Extend and challenge all students by regular diagnostic and formative assessment to enhance learning.
- Provide seamless transition at all stages of a students' educational career.

Curriculum outcomes

Stanchester Academy's curriculum will:

1. Lead to qualifications that will support students in the next stage of their learning/working journey
2. Fulfil statutory requirements
3. Meet the needs of young people of all abilities in the college to fulfil their potential
4. Prepare students to make informed and appropriate choices at the end of KS3 and KS4

5. Ensure continuity and progression within the school and between phases of education, increasing students' choice during their career
6. Ensure students develop personal moral values, respect for religious values and tolerance of other races' beliefs and ways of life
7. Help students understand the world in which they live

Key stage curriculum

At all Key stages our curriculum offers students clear progression routes onto the next stage of their learning.

At Key stage 4, the curriculum conforms to the National Curriculum programmes of study and all other statutory requirements. We offer a range of options to enable students to fulfil their potential and prepare them for the next stage of their learning at post 16. We expect all students to take at least History or Geography as part of their four option subjects, this way we quality assure a balanced curriculum for all students. All students participate in physical education.

Curriculum timings

The school operates on a two-week timetable. There are 50 lessons across a fortnight made up of single lessons of length 60 minutes. The school day is split into the following:

Period	Duration
Tutorial	8:20 - 8:50
Period 1	8:50 - 9:50
Period 2	9:50 - 10:50
Break	10:50 - 11:10
Period 3	11:10 - 12:10
Period 4	12:10 - 13:10
Lunch	13:10 - 13:50
Period 5	13:50 - 14:50

Curriculum Overview

- At Key Stage 4, all students study the core academic subjects at GCSE: English, English Literature, Mathematics and Science (Combined or Triple awards). All must take at least History or Geography.
- At Key Stage 4, students study a minimum of 9 subjects: the core academic subjects, and four option subjects. This is both academically challenging as well as offering a wide breadth of study.
- All courses at Key Stage 4 are challenging and rigorous following, and extending on, the awarding bodies' specifications.
- Students are well supported through the option process to ensure they are on pathways that allow the greatest chance of academic success.
- Students are appropriately guided to whether they study Combined Science or Triple Science in Year 9. The Combined Science pathway is delivered within the allocated core lesson time, however Triple Science also takes the place of one of the option subjects.
- Students are only set in ability groups in Mathematics and Science. For all other subjects students will be in mixed ability groups.
- Physical Education (PE) promote healthy bodies and mind and all years 7 – 11 receive 4 lessons per fortnight.

- Tutor time and RE cover students place in society and how to be reflective and responsible citizens.

Year 7

Subject	No. of Lessons a Fortnight
English	8
Mathematics	8
Science	6
PE	4
DT	2
Geography	3
History	3
RE	2
Spanish	4
BDS	3
Art	2
Music	2
Drama	2
PSHE	1

Year 8

Subject	No. of Lessons a Fortnight
English	8
Mathematics	8
Science	6
PE	4
DT	2
Geography	3
History	3
RE	2
Spanish	4
BDS	3
Art	2
Music	2
Drama	2
PSHE	1

Year 9

Subject	No. of Lessons a Fortnight
English	8
Mathematics	8
Science	6
PE	4
DT	2
Geography	3
History	3
RE	2
Spanish	4
BDS	3
Art	2

Music	2
Drama	2
PSHE	1

Year 10

Subject	No. of Lessons a Fortnight
English	10
Mathematics	9
Science	9
PE	4
Option A	5
Option B	5
Option C	5
Option D	5

Year 11

Subject	No. of Lessons a Fortnight
English	10
Mathematics	9
Science	9
PE	4
Option A	6
Option B	6
Option C	6

GCSE Options:

GCSE Art, Craft and Design
 GCSE Business
 GCSE Computer Science
 GCSE Drama
 GCSE Geography
 GCSE History
 GCSE Photography
 GCSE Physical Education
 GCSE Spanish
 GCSE Triple Science
 Cambridge National in Creative iMedia
 Cambridge National in Sport Studies
 BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice
 NCFE V-Certs Creative Design and Production
 NCFE V-Certs Food and Cookery