



SDo/TKi

17 September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to provide information about the structure of the curriculum at Sybil Andrews Academy for Key Stage 3.

Curriculum Structure

Our curriculum is built on the principals of a traditional offer of academic subjects built around the English Baccalaureate. Both the school and government feel this provides young people with the best grounding to move into further education, apprenticeships and the world of work. In addition, Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) provides the grounding needed to be successful in Key Stage 4 (GCSE years 10 and 11). In Key Stage 4 students are ability grouped for Maths, English and Science but in elective option subjects, children are taught in mixed ability groups.

Currently in Years 7 and 8 we teach Maths in ability groups based on data provided from KS2 SATs. In year 7 English starts as mixed ability groups and during the first half term is reviewed and students are then put into ability groups. This allows us to ensure the broader strengths of each child is considered in conjunction with the outcome of their SATS.

For other subjects, classes are taught in mixed ability. Teachers are trained to differentiate and ensure that all abilities are challenged appropriately.

We review groupings regularly to ensure that students are in the most appropriate learning environment.

Providing Information

Ahead of parents evenings the school will provide information on the progress, effort, attitude to learning and homework of each student.

Each child is set a challenging target in each subject based on prior attainment.

In the school we assess and track children using a scale from 9-1, adjusted to each curriculum year. As a guide a child making excellent progress will remain at their target grade throughout an academic year. Equally a child behind expectations is making excellent progress if over the year their assessed grade closes to their target.

Over the course of the year we provide opportunities to discuss the progress of your child with subject teachers at parents evenings. In addition you can contact teachers or your child's learning coach directly should you wish to discuss learning related matters.

Kind Regards

Mr. S. Douglas
Vice Principal

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