



CURRICULUM POLICY

Lead Governor: Link Teaching and Learning Governor

Senior Leadership Team Link: Assistant Headteacher Last ratified: December 2023

Next Review Due: December 2025

As a school, we are committed to providing the best education for all our students by providing them with a balanced curriculum which is personalised for their particular needs. We believe this gives them the best opportunity to succeed and achieve their potential, whilst within the school and beyond.

This policy provides the framework in which the curriculum can be developed ensuring it meets the school's overall aims.

Curriculum Aims

- 1) The school will ensure that all National Curriculum Statutory Orders are met, as well as statutory Religious and Health-related Education requirements, within the general provision of a broad and balanced curriculum.
- 2) The curriculum will build upon the KS2 curriculum allowing us to challenge students and set high expectations, while being sensitive to individual needs, circumstances, abilities and stages of development. It will promote the highest standards of progress and achievement for all students.
- 3) All departments will use the curriculum to provide opportunities to actively promote our school ethos of Ambition, Courage and Excellence.
- 4) The curriculum will provide a broad, balanced educational experience which is differentiated and accessible to all.
- 5) The curriculum should seek to extend beyond the National Curriculum requirements to provide a variety of stimulating educational experiences which add to students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, thus preparing them to be active and responsible citizens within society.
- 6) Our extra-curricular enrichment provision will look to provide new opportunities to our students and further expand upon the learning taking place in the classroom.

These aims will be achieved through a curriculum which observes the following principles:

- Opportunities are equally accessible to all students.
- Opportunities reflect the context of students' lives and respond to their interests and needs.
- Curriculum experiences actively promote equal opportunities and raise aspirations.
- Curriculum experiences meet the requirements of the National Curriculum and include citizenship, careers, enterprise, work related learning and personal and social development learning, which will include appropriate drugs and sexual health & relationships awareness.
- Students have access to a wide range of enrichment activities.
- Students have access to a range of appropriate learning pathways at KS4 and post 16.
- Students develop confidence and independence in order to prepare them for the next stage in their education, training, employment and adult life.
- Students develop relevant skills in order to fully respond to the demands of modern society.

Reference should also be made to the following policies:

- Teaching and Learning
- Assessment, Marking, Target Setting and Reporting Policy
- Sex Education
- Equality
- Homework

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

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Student gather in house groups and at times year groups (depending on content) to deliver key messages on our ethos and other key topics that arise throughout the year.

Appendix 1 to the Curriculum Policy

Oakmoor statement on Assemblies

All House assemblies take place in either the theatre or the Sports Hall. On assembly mornings, Mentors should take students immediately to the Hall at 8.30 a.m. Registers should be taken in the Hall. Mentors should stand by their Registration Group throughout the assembly.

Academic and Pastoral Leaders (APLs) should organise a rota for a Mentor to monitor the door and late arrivals. Any students who are late to assembly stand at the side of the hall on arrival.

The names of students who are persistently late or who fail to turn up to assemblies, should be given to the APL at the end of the assembly so that further action can take place.

Any member of staff with an idea for an assembly should contact Callie Evans or their APL to raise their idea for discussion.

At the end of the autumn and summer term, there is a whole school assembly. These assemblies take place in the Sports Hall and an individual plan is published before each assembly.

Appendix 2 to the Curriculum Policy

Oakmoor School Statement on the English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

Oakmoor School shares the government's commitment to ensuring that all students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum.

The EBacc curriculum includes study of the following at GCSE Level:

- English Language
- Mathematics
- 2 Sciences
- Geography or History
- A Modern Foreign Language (French or Spanish at Oakmoor School)

The government's view is that The EBacc, while comprehensive, still enables pupils to continue to study additional subjects that reflect their individual interests and particular strengths. The governors and staff do not fully agree with this view and recognise that for some students a curriculum which includes The EBacc may not fully meet their needs, interests and aspirations. Our view is that the school should offer the curriculum it believes to be appropriate to the needs of each student in our school. As part of the options process we look at each individual's option selection and have appropriate conversations to best guide them to a curriculum that supports their engagement, final outcomes and their subsequent life chances.

This would mean that the proportion of students taking courses that comply with EBacc requirements would vary from year to year, according to the needs of the students.

In effect, therefore, the school's position will continue as follows:

- We will give clear advice to parents/carers and students about the implications of students following courses which are EBacc compliant and non-EBacc compliant. We will also provide advice during the options process from Post 16 colleges re their entry criteria and requirements.
- We will express to students and parents/carers during the year 8 options process the importance of continuing to follow a broad and balanced curriculum at KS4 and how the EBacc pathway supports this requirement.
- In addition, it should be noted that all students will have the opportunity via options in Year 8, to select the full EBacc curriculum if they so wish.

NB: Since 2014/15, the national average for the percentage of pupils entering the English Baccalaureate has ranged from 38.2% to 40%.

The percentage of students at Oakmoor School selecting the EBacc route way has increased from 6% in 2013 to 31% (39 students) in 2020.

In 2021, 29% of the cohort selected the EBacc route way, which equates to 47 students.

In 2022, 25% of the cohort selected the EBacc route way, which equates to 38 students.

In 2023, 24% of the cohort selected the EBacc route way, which equates to 45 students.

RATIFICATION DATE AND CHAIR'S SIGNATURE

Ratified/Signature:

Print Name:

Date: