

THE CURRICULUM

We believe that effective learning and teaching takes place at Crofton School when:

- The curriculum is challenging and meets the varied needs of all students
- The curriculum provides opportunities for a wide range of interesting, balanced and relevant learning for students of all abilities
- The curriculum matches the needs and abilities of the students

Principles

The values that underpin the Crofton School Curriculum are:

- Fairness of access
- The promotion of tolerance
- The belief in the importance of individual and institutional self-esteem
- Equality of opportunity
- Care for individuals
- Honesty
- The belief in the school as the beginning of life long learning
- The importance of:
 - success for each individual
 - academic and personal challenge
 - collaborative partnership with parents and the community

At Crofton School we are striving to develop a curriculum which:

- is matched to all our students
- develop skills for now and the future
- promotes independent learning
- allows flexibility and variety in pace and differentiation by time
- exploits alternative methods of teaching and technology
- promotes non-examined enrichment extension activities
- is reasonable and management for both staff and students
- offers guided choice at both key stages
- considers progression from KS2 and beyond KS4
- values and promotes equality of provision for all
- works within the spirit of guidance of the National Curriculum and Secondary School Strategy

Practice

- The allocation of time across the curriculum can be found further on in this policy.
- At KS4 students can take GCSEs in a range of subjects.
- For students we think will not benefit from this curriculum, a work related curriculum is in place which includes work experience and college courses. Details of which can be found further on in this handbook.
- Parents and students are guided through the preference process for KS4 by having option talks, an option evening and individual counselling.
- ICT is taught to all students at KS3 and at KS4 is delivered through subject areas. In addition we offer a Aida course in ICT at KS4 as an option.
- A careers programme and work experience programme allows students insight into possibility beyond KS4.
- Some student take Statistics as an extension course in KS4.
- Parents wishing to withdraw their son or daughter from RE lessons must formally write to the Head Teacher to request this.
- Parents wishing to withdraw from aspects of the sex education programme in PSHCE on moral grounds must formally write to the Head Teacher to request this.
- In Years 8 and 9 we offer an Enrichment programme which extends and deepens the National Curriculum. Students choose their Enrichment activities on a termly basis except for those taking a second foreign language as their Enrichment.
- A School Improvement plan outlines the main areas for whole school development and each curriculum area contributes to planning and evaluating on a yearly cycle.
- The school supports an Equal Opportunities and Racial Equality policy which can be found further on in the handbook.
- All students at KS3 and KS4 follow a Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship education programme (PSHCE). Students at KS4 follow a Citizenship, Ethical, Moral and Spiritual course known as PDL.
- The importance of cross curricular themes: eg Literacy, Numeracy and ICT is reinforced when lesson planning.
- Special curriculum events are supported by the school eg Year 7 cross-curricular days.
- Extra curricular clubs and societies are encouraged.
- Although carefully monitored for impact, educational trips in curriculum time are encouraged.
- Many year groups have fun/team building trips at least once a year out of school time. Eg visits to theme parks or the theatre.
- Provision is made for students with Special Educational Needs (See SEN Policy)
- A period before Year 9, 10 and 11 examinations is kept free of interruptions to allow students and teachers to fully concentrate on revision activities.
- Participation in extra curricular quizzes and competitions is encouraged.
- The philosophy for PE at Crofton School is one of enjoyment and understanding the fun and health advantages of sport. We also offer GCSE PE.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE FOR 2009/2010 IS BELOW

2 week timetable – 60 periods

Crofton School KS 3 Curriculum Structure – Year 7

Faculty	Subject	Periods	Sets
English	English	7	8
MFL	MFL	6	8
Maths	Maths	7	8
Technology & ICT	Technology	5	10
	ICT	2	8
Science College & Network Learning	Science	6	8
Humanities & Personal Development	Geography	4	8
	History	4	8
	PSHE	2	8
	RE	4	8
Creative and Expressive Arts	Art	2	8
	Drama	3	8
	Music	3	8
	PE	5	8

Crofton School KS 3 Curriculum Structure – Year 8

Faculty	Subject	Periods	Sets
English	English	7	8
MFL	MFL	6	8
	MFL 2	2	2
Maths	Maths	7	8
Technology and ICT	Technology	5	10
	ICT	2	8
Science	Science	6	8
Humanities & Personal Development	Geography	3	8
	History	3	8
	PSHE	2	8
	RE	4	8
Creative and Expressive Arts	Art	3	8
	Drama	2	8
	Music	3	8
	PE	5	8
	Enrichment	2	10

Crofton School KS 3 Curriculum Structure – Year 9

Faculty	Subject	Periods	Sets
English	English	7	8
MFL	MFL	6	8
	MFL 2	2	2
Maths	Maths	7	8
Technology and ICT	Technology	4	10
	ICT	2	8
Science	Science	8	8
Humanities & Personal Development	Geography	4	8
	History	4	8
	PSHE	2	8
	RE	4	8
Creative and Expressive Arts	Art	3	8
	Drama	2	8
	Music	2	8
	PE	5	8
	Enrichment	2	10

Crofton School KS 4 Curriculum Structure – Years 10/11

Faculty	Subject	Periods	Sets Year 10	Sets Year 11
English	English	8	10	10
MFL	French	6	3	1
	German	6	1	4
Maths	Maths	8	10	10
Technology and ICT	Technology	6	5	6
	ICT (AIDA)	6	3	2
Science	Science including separate sciences	12	10	10
Humanities & Personal Development	Geography	6	4	5
	History	6	3	3
	PDL	2	8	8
	RE	6	4	4
	Sociology	6	0	1
	Business	0	2	2
Creative and Expressive Arts	Art	6	2	2
	Dance	6	0	1
	Drama	6	2	2
	Music	6	2	2
	PE	6	2	2
	Core PE	4	8	8
	Alternative Curriculum	6	2	4