



Secondary curriculum policy

Curriculum content and delivery

All pupils are taught in mixed ability classes, with children of the same age. Pupils may be taught English, Maths and Science in ability groups if appropriate. Smaller groups are also created if particular support is required. Wherever possible, the curriculum follows the English National Curriculum though local requirements mean we must also teach Spanish Language & Literature and Spanish Social Sciences to Spanish nationals.

The Secondary department in KCS covers children from year 6 onwards, and builds on the achievements of the Primary (Year 3-5) department.

Subject lesson allocation

The school has a 35-period week.

Curriculum Design

The Deputy Head assumes responsibility for the design of a curriculum that matches the school aims. Heads of Departments assume responsibility for selecting the best specifications to offer in their subject and regularly review the success and appropriateness of existing courses to ensure the most positive academic outcomes for our pupils.

KS3 Curriculum

In KS3 pupils study a range of subjects, including: English, Mathematics, Science, French, History, Geography, Art, Music, Physical Education, Computing, Religious Education, Spanish Language and Literature and Spanish Social Sciences.

All lessons are taught by a series of subject specialists.

For exact subject allocations, refer to the Curriculum Design Diagram (Appendix 3)

KS4 Curriculum

In KS4 pupils continue with up to 10 subjects in preparation for General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE)/ International General Certificate of Secondary Education (International GCSE) examinations. We are keen to personalise the curriculum wherever desirable. It is possible to abandon one option subject in Year 11 in line with the best interests (academic and pastoral) of the individual child. These pupils are supported in a study-skills group in curriculum time.

The exact structure for each pupil at this stage will differ, as there is limited freedom for pupils to begin the process of specialisation. Each curriculum followed contains a compulsory element and an option element:

- Compulsory subjects include: English, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physical Education, PHSE and Spanish. Spanish nationals must also study Spanish Language and Literature and Spanish Social Sciences.
- Pupils typically choose three additional 'option' subjects to supplement their programme.



- These are: Art and Design, Media Studies, Information Communication Technology, Computer Science, History, Economics, German, French, Drama and Theatre Studies, Geography, Music and PE & Sports.

Most teaching is in mixed-ability groups though pupils may be streamed for Mathematics, English and the Sciences.

For exact subject allocations, refer to the Curriculum Design Diagram (Appendix 3)

Enrichment Studies

We offer a wide range of after-school and lunchtime extra-curricular activities. These activities vary each term and pupils sign up via their form tutor. Activities include Chess, Robotics, Book Club and the International Award (Duke of Edinburgh's Award).

Speaking and Listening, Literacy and Numeracy

Speaking and listening skills are taught within the English curriculum. Literacy is taught by the English department and is supported in all other subject areas. Numeracy is taught within the Maths curriculum and the skills are reinforced, where appropriate, within many other subjects.

Differentiation, Learning Difficulties, Disabilities and Gifted and Talented Pupils

It is acknowledged that, whilst the intake of King's College is selective, there is still a range of abilities within each cohort. Staff are expected to take this into account in their teaching in a variety of ways, which when appropriate can be informed by the College's educational psychologists. Academic Coordinators liaise with teachers and the educational psychologists to ensure that the needs of pupils in all these groups are appropriately met.

Personal, Social and Health Education

In KS3 and KS4 PSHE is delivered with curriculum time. The PSHE programme and its delivery are monitored by the Head of Department, in consultation with the Head and deputy of Secondary. One period per week is devoted to PSHE.

Opportunities, Responsibilities and Experiences of adult life

The curriculum and wider school experience encourages pupils to acquire skills essential for adult life. Students are encouraged to take on student leadership roles in the form of House Captains or acting as representatives on the Student Council. Our older students are able to nominate themselves for positions of responsibility including Head Boy and Head Girl, and prefects. The buddy and academic mentoring system also provides opportunities for Sixth Form pupils to show leadership by mentoring and supporting younger students on a weekly basis in a range of curricular areas.



Primary / Secondary School Curriculum Liaison

The Primary Department at King's College School, La Moraleja provide the majority of the Secondary school intake. Our pupils enter the Secondary department at the start of year 6, to enable them to have opportunities for specialist teaching in some key areas. We believe it is important to make the transition between the two parts of the College as easy as possible and to gain the benefits of co-operation between the sections. The Deputy Head assumes responsibility for the transition process, in partnership with the Head of Secondary and the Head of Primary. Knowledge of the curriculum near the transition boundary is important as is discussion about how things should be taught in order to maximise the benefits to pupil learning.

The Heads of Department of subject areas that exist in both schools are expected to maintain regular links with their counterpart in the Primary/Secondary school. The aims of this contact are:

- To ensure that the overall aims of the departments of the separate parts of the College are compatible.
- To be aware of differentiation - in particular to share ideas for differentiation other than by outcome.
- To look at samples of work from these year groups to give an idea of standards achieved.
- To look for areas of duplication that can be avoided and to look for ideas of topics that are missing or perhaps things that can be recapped and extended in the Senior School or treated from another angle.
- To discuss ways that things are taught to make sure that they are compatible or to gain an understanding of the reason if they need to be different. (This may not be appropriate in all subjects and it is more probable that it will originate from Secondary school departments who are aware of technical details that would be better addressed in a different way at the earlier stage. Although it may also be an opportunity for Primary School staff to explain why they feel they have to do something differently.)
- To look at opportunities for cross College links within department areas such as: lesson observation; possible joint year 5 and 6 events; Secondary department staff running an activity for year 5; teaching a 'one off' lesson or topic in the other school; staff from the other school judging competitions etc.

For all pupils entering the Secondary School from the Primary School, there is close communication between Heads of Secondary and Heads of Primary, as well as a program of transition events throughout term 3. Further information which may have an impact on the learning, progress and emotional well-being of pupils is also communicated by the Primary Heads.

Policy Reviewed: January 2018	Reviewed by : Jacky Walters
Next Review: September 2018	Approved: Elena Benito KGB November 2017



Appendix 3 – Curriculum Design Diagram

45 minute sessions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	
Year 6	English							Maths					Science			History		Geography		Art		Music		RE	PE		Computing		Lengua			Sociales	PSHE			
Year 7	English					Maths				Science					History		Geography		Art		Music	RE	PE		Computing	Lengua			Sociales		French		PSHE			
Year 8	English					Maths				Science					History		Geography		Art		Music	RE	PE		Computing	Lengua			Sociales		French		PSHE			
Year 9	English					Maths				Science					History		Geography		Art		Music	RE	PE		Computing	Lengua			Sociales		French		PSHE			
Year 10	English				Maths			Science					PE	PSHE	Lengua			Sociales		Optional subject 1				Optional subject 2				Optional subject 3								
Year 11	English				Maths			Science					PE	PSHE	Lengua			Sociales		Optional subject 1				Optional subject 2				Optional subject 3								