



Curriculum Policy Senior School

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's:

- Prep School Curriculum Policy
- PSHE – Relationships and Sex Education Policy Whole School (not including EYFS)

School Values

The Mount School encourages everyone to:

- Respect and value every individual.
- Feel they have the freedom to flourish in a calm and caring community.
- Strive for personal excellence.
- Think and live adventurously.
- Make a positive contribution to our changing world.

This statement of values underpins all we do and ensures that we are faithful to our Quaker origins and ethos. Our curriculum aims to develop the values, skills and behaviours pupils need for the future. Through lessons and numerous extra-curricular activities, we aim to develop a range of character attributes such as resilience which underpin success in British society and the wider world.

Aims of the Curriculum

The broad and balanced curriculum has been planned to:

- encourage and stimulate the best possible progress and the highest attainment for all pupils;
- equip pupils with essential skills in literacy, speaking and listening, numeracy, computing and information technology and the ability to enquire and make connections across areas of learning;
- build on pupils' strengths and interests and develop confidence in their own capacity to learn and work both independently and collaboratively;
- enable pupils to think creatively and critically, and to solve problems;
- promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development including awareness and understanding of British values;
- develop pupils' physical skills and encourage them to recognise the importance of pursuing a healthy lifestyle and keeping themselves and others safe.

Where a pupil has an Education, Health and Care Plan, we aim to provide education which fulfils their requirements. Curriculum provision may be adapted where appropriate to meet individual needs, including for pupils with SEND and those with English as an Additional Language. In some cases, pupils may follow a modified or alternative curriculum pathway to ensure appropriate challenge, support and progress.

Curriculum implementation is supported through departmental schemes of work, planned sequencing of learning and regular assessment of pupil progress. The impact of the curriculum is evaluated through pupil outcomes, assessment information, work scrutiny and pupil voice to inform ongoing curriculum development.

Date of last review: February 2026
Date of next review: February 2027
Reviewed by: Deputy Head (Senior School)

Curriculum planning ensures clear progression in knowledge, understanding and skills from KS3 through to KS5. The curriculum is designed to remain broad and balanced while allowing appropriate specialisation at KS4 and KS5.

Curriculum Structure and Subject Provision

Linguistic	
KS3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English is a core subject We teach French, German and Latin in Years 7 to 9.
KS4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCSE English Language and English Literature are both studied. Study of a Modern Foreign Language is a requirement for all pupils with the capacity to access a foreign language at that level. GCSE French and German are available. GCSE Latin is available, if selected by sufficient pupils.
KS5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A-level English Language and Literature is available. A-levels in French and German are available in the Sixth Form. Latin and Classical Civilisation are available at A-level.
Mathematical	
KS3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathematics is a core subject.
KS4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All pupils take the AQA GCSE Mathematics and we facilitate Level 2 Certificates in Further Mathematics for the most able pupils at GCSE.
KS5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathematics and Further Mathematics are available at A Level and Mathematics is also offered as an AS Level.
Scientific	
KS3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Year 7 pupils undertake a combined science course to provide continuity and progression from Key Stage 2. In Years 8 and 9 they have specialist teachers in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
KS4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils opt to study Combined Science: Trilogy (2 GCSEs) or Separate Sciences (3 GCSEs).
KS5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology, Chemistry and Physics are all available at A-level.
Technological	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coding is embedded in the Computing curriculum and extra-curricular provision. iPads are used by every pupil.
KS3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Technology is a compulsory discrete subject. ICT has dedicated lessons that cover coding and digital literacy and online safety.
KS4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Technology is available at GCSE. Computer Science is available at GCSE.
KS5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art & Design: 3D Design is available at A-Level.
Human and Social	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal, Social, and Health Education (PSHE) is taught from Year 1 to Year 11. (see also, PSHE Policy)

KS3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History, Geography and Religious Studies are all compulsory subjects.
KS4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business, History, Geography and Religious Studies are all available at GCSE.
KS5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business, History, Geography and Religious Studies are all available at A-level. Economics and Psychology are also available at A-level. In the Sixth Form there is a programme of Life and Ethics. In addition to this, pupils in Sixth Form have the chance to further improve their research, organisational and personal skills as part of the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).
Physical	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE lessons are compulsory throughout the school, including Sixth Form. Sport is provided through a challenging programme which promotes individual skills, teamwork, competitiveness, good sportsmanship and etiquette.
KS3-KS5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By providing opportunities to compete in matches, national competitions and inter-school events we nurture the talented performer whilst equally catering for the enthusiastic participant. Physical Education can also be studied at both GCSE and A-Level.
Aesthetic and Creative	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A wide range of creative activities take place as part of the extra-curricular programme including LAMDA Examinations and Associated Board Music Examinations.
KS3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art, Design and Technology, Drama and Music are compulsory subjects.
KS4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art, Design and Technology, Drama and Music are all available at GCSE.
KS5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art, 3D Design, Drama, Music and Textiles are all available at A-level.
Careers	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of visiting speakers including emergency services, dentists, charities, present to pupils in every year group about what they do at work.
KS3-KS5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We provide all pupils in the Senior School, including Years 7 and 8 with access to accurate, up-to-date careers guidance that is presented in an impartial manner, enabling them to make informed choices about a broad range of career options and advice which helps to encourage them to fulfil their potential. Careers guidance takes place during PSHE lessons in Years 7 to 11, and in UCAS, Form Time and Personal Tutor sessions in Sixth Form. There is also a series of enrichment lectures aimed at KS5 pupils.

Year	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Lesson Allocation (Periods Per Week)						
English	5	5	5	6	7		
Maths	5	5	5	5	7		
ESL							
Science	5			9	8		
Biology		2	2				
Chemistry		2	2				
Physics		2	2				
French	3	2	3				
German	2	3	3				
Latin	2	2	2				
Class. Civ.							
Geography	2	3	2				
History	3	2	2				
RS	3	2	2				
Art	2	2	3				
DT	2	2	2				
IT	1	1	1				
Music	3	3	2				
Games	4	4	4	4	2	2	2
Drama							
Swimming	2	2	2				
Dance							
PSHE	1	1	1	1	1		
EPQ/UCAS						1	1
Life and Ethics						2	2
Option 1				4	4	8	8
Option 2				4	4	8	8
Option 3				4	4	8	8
Option 4				4	4	8	8
Option 5				4	4	8	8
Total	45	45	45	45	45	45	45

Monitoring and Review

Curriculum provision is reviewed regularly by Heads of Department and the Academic Team to ensure it remains broad, balanced and appropriately challenging, and that it supports pupil progress across all key stages.

Appendices:

- a. Structure of day
- b. Options Year 9 and Year 11

a. Structure of the Day

	Senior School	Prep School
8.30	Registration	8.40am
9.00	Lesson 1	Lesson time
9.35	Lesson 2	
10.10	<i>Travel Time</i>	
10.15	Lesson 3	
10.50	CHOC LUNCH	10.30 CHOC LUNCH
11.25	Lesson 4	11.00 lesson time
12.00	Lesson 5	LUNCH
12.35	LUNCH	1.00 - Registration
13.35	Lesson 6 (including registration)	1.15 - Lesson time
14.15	Lesson 7	2.15 BREAK
14.50	<i>Travel Time</i>	2.25 lesson time
14.55	Lesson 8	
15.30	Lesson 9	End of day – Activities and After School Care start
16.05	End of Day for Academic Teaching	
16.15	Activity Session 1	
17.00	Activity Session 2	
17.45	End of School Day/Boarders' Supper	

b. Options Year 9 and Year 11

Our KS4 curriculum is based upon GCSE qualifications. In the Autumn Term of Year 9 pupils start to choose their GCSE subjects. The normal workload for our pupils is 9 GCSEs, but pupils can study 10 if appropriate and fewer than 9 if that is in their best interests.

The following subjects at GCSE are compulsory, and these account for 6 GCSEs:

- English x 2 GCSEs - Language and Literature
- Maths – GCSE
- Science (2 GCSEs)
- French or German (for all pupils able to access the MFL curriculum)

P.E. and PSHE lessons are also a compulsory part of the curriculum.

Pupils choose a further three GCSEs from a list of optional subjects. Currently on that list are:

- 2nd modern language (French or German)
- 3rd GCSE in Science
- Art and Design
- Business
- Classical Civilisation
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Computer Science
- Geography
- History
- Latin
- Music
- P.E.
- Religious Studies

Our Post-16 curriculum is based upon A-levels. In the Autumn Term of Year 11 pupils start to choose their A-level subjects. The normal workload for our pupils is 3+ A-levels examined at the end of Year 13. Whilst we would advise studying only 3 A-level subjects, our 3+ A-level offer means that pupils can choose to study a 4th A-level or undertake an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) to supplement their chosen 3 subjects. Pupils choose their A-levels from a list of subjects:

- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Classical Civilisation
- Design Technology
- Economics
- English Language and Literature
- Fine Art
- French
- Further Maths
- Geography
- German
- History
- Latin
- Maths
- Music
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Psychology
- RS
- Textiles
- Theatre Studies