



## **Oak Grove College Curriculum**

Our core purpose is ensuring all of our students are nurtured so that they develop the communication, social, life and vocational skills necessary to take an active role as citizens in the local, national and international community.

This is achieved by creative approaches to learning where many off site visits are undertaken, the grounds are used extensively and a practical approach to the curriculum is taken, underpinned by the development of literacy and numeracy.

Personal learning is central to our curriculum organisation where we adopt a competency based curriculum model.

It has five key areas:

Competencies for Learning

Competencies for Relating to People

Competencies for Managing Situations

Competencies for Citizenship

Competencies for Life

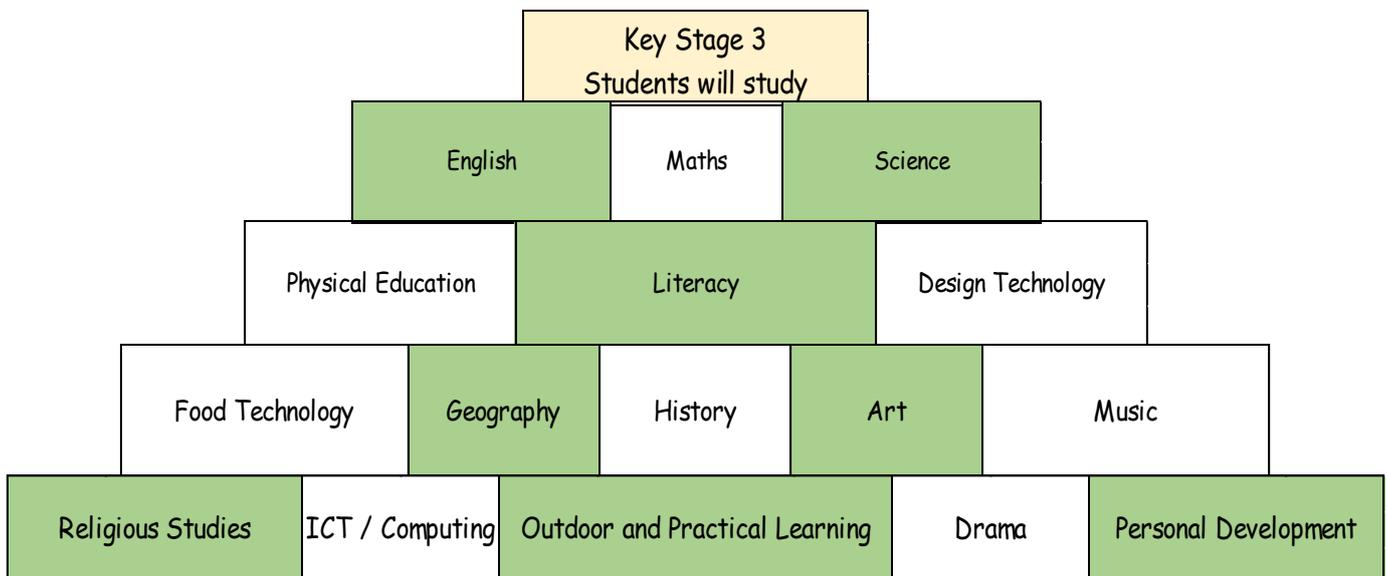
## **College Structure**

The College operates a learning need (family group) based structure, with each group having its designated base in the building. In order to create balanced tutor groups and provide the most appropriate learning and support environment, some students are grouped differently and may be in tutor groups with a wider age range of students (especially those students with SLD & PMLD). However, for all students we aim to ensure that there are positive social and educational inclusion opportunities. We see this as essential to our goal of preparing students for being fully part of the community after College. Each family group is led by a Pastoral Leader who has overall pastoral responsibility for those in their group.

## Key Stage 3 Curriculum

Our curriculum is planned, delivered and assessed at a pace and level appropriate to individual needs via a mixture of classroom teachers and specialist subject teachers. In this way, we aim to balance the care and support needs of students with the opportunities to be taught by specialist teachers in dedicated learning environments. There is a progressive shift towards this through Key Stage 3.

Within KS3 our class groups are kept small (4-12) and the curriculum is personalised and differentiated to meet the particular and special needs of the students.



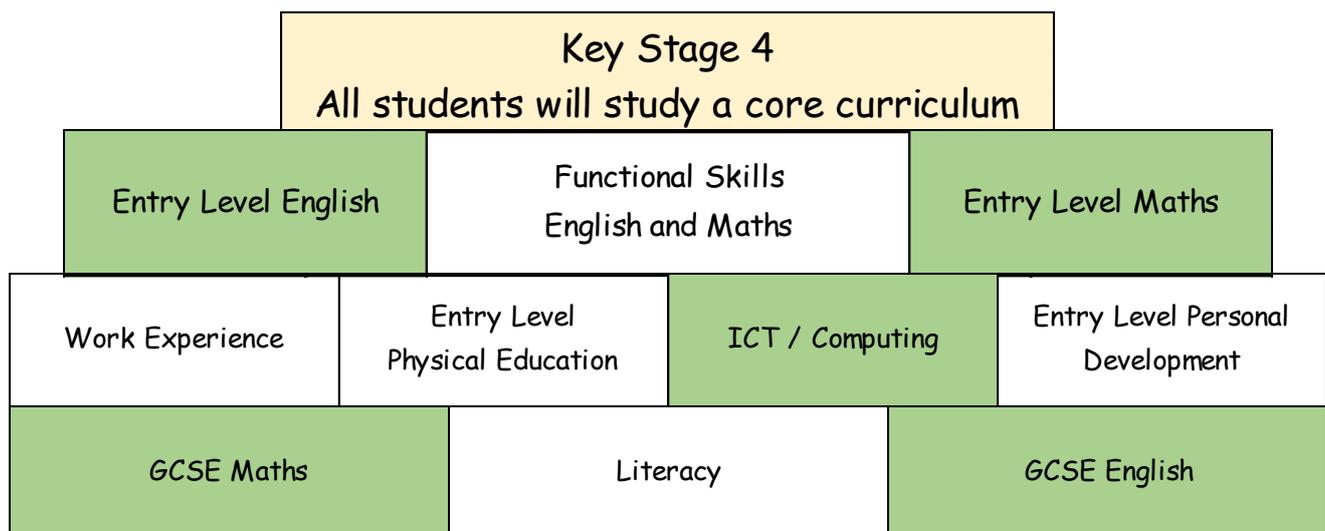
In Year 8 students will further build upon and develop their knowledge, understanding skills and confidence. In Year 9, students will begin to prepare for their options choices and transition to KS4.



## Key Stage 4 Curriculum

Our curriculum is planned, delivered and assessed at a pace and level appropriate to individual needs via subject specialist teachers, experienced in working with students with special educational needs. We aim to support a student's transition from Year 9 into Year 10 with a curriculum that is designed inspire students to achieve their very best, to take risks, to develop the skills to tackle new challenges in learning how to learn, and raise their future aspirations and ambitions. Students are offered a wide range of option choices to support the development of their academic, vocational and social skills.

Within KS4 our class groups are kept small (4 to 12) and the curriculum is personalised and differentiated to meet the particular and special needs of the students.



Currently at Oak Grove College we offer a full and varied range of choices from Entry Levels to BTECs to GCSEs in a wide range of subjects, which support both the traditional academic pathways and vocational work-related pathways. In KS4, the option choices that we offer vary year on year as we try and match these up to the students' interests to offer a more personalised learning.

**Key Stage 4**  
 Students will have the opportunity to select option choices from a range of subjects on offer below

Media Studies	GCSE Music	Entry Level Design and Technology	GCSE Geography	
Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze/Silver	Entry Level History	GCSE Science	Entry Level ICT	
Drama Entry Level Performance Skills Level 1	Entry Level Creative Media	BTEC Photography Award	Princes Trust Entry Level Personal Development and Teamwork	
Dance	BTEC Home Cooking Skills	Sports Leaders	Level 1 Healthy Living	GCSE French



## Koa

Students in the Koa family group follow a more supported pathway, which places greater focus on communication and social skills. This group stays together for both lessons and tutor time. The aim is to enable the students to progress and develop in order to integrate into the wider academic and social opportunities of each day. Koa students have a clear programme route from KS3 - 6<sup>th</sup> Form.

The learning and teaching in the Koa family group is delivered by highly specialist staff, experienced in working with students with severe learning difficulties. They recognise that these students learn best when:

- They understand what they are doing
- They are engaged
- They have opportunities to communicate
- They have opportunities to make choices
- They are part of a community

This key themes are incorporated into every lesson that is delivered in the curriculum.

Koa Family Group Students will study			
Communication		Numeracy	Science
Physical Education	Literacy	Music	Personal Development
Independent Living Skills	Humanities	Creative Arts	Leisure Activities

## Animus

In the Animus family group, a holistic approach is taken and the curriculum is personalised for each individual student. It is important to engage with the individual in order to learn to help them move forward and we recognise that each student contains their own strengths, needs and interests that must be reflected in the curriculum; it is about recognising what they can achieve, not what they can't.

Each student is assessed with their personalised needs by both classroom staff and other professionals who are involved in the care and development of the student. After this has been done each student has personalised targets written called 'Key Progress Objectives' which are done in partnership with home and other agencies. The Key Progress Objectives focus on the four key areas of our curriculum:

Communication

Sensory Cognition

Independence

Physical Development

Students in Animus, have a personalised timetable based on their individual needs. This means that they will have access to the experiences that would most benefit their development and enjoyment. The students Personal Progress Objectives and timetable are reviewed at the end of each term to see if they still fully meet the individual's needs.

To enrich the four main curriculum areas and to make sure that our students have a breadth of age appropriate experiences within their time at school, these experiences focus on using the senses to explore the world around them.

Alongside the topics based experiences students will also have other experiences/therapies such as Music Therapy, Horse riding, Rebound therapy, Technology, Swimming and Residential, Relaxation.



## Sixth Form Curriculum

The Sixth Form at Oak Grove College, allows students to continue their studies while looking to prepare them for moving on to either further education or adult services. The Sixth Form has two routes available for students:

- One Year Transition Course
- Three Year Life Skills Course

### One Year Transition Course

The purpose of the course is to continue to develop the students' academic knowledge alongside vocational courses like performing arts and outdoor and practical learning. Students also spend one day at Northbrook College as part of the course. By building in time at Northbrook College, the students become familiar with the structure and surroundings as well as gaining an insight into possible courses available to them when they leave Oak Grove College. The design of this curriculum evolves each year depending on the interests of the cohort of students.

#### Example One Year 6th Form Offering

Example One Year 6th Form Offering				
Entry Level English		Rockschool Diploma for Musical Practitioners Level 1, 2 and 3	GCSE Art	
GCSE English	GCSE Music		Entry Level Computing	Entry Level Maths
Duke of Edinburgh Award Gold	Entry Level History	GCSE Maths	BTEC Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts	BTEC Photography Award

## Three Year Life Skills Course

The three year life skills course aims for students to continue with academic subjects, though with a greater focus on developing skills to prepare students to be successful and develop independence ready for when they leave Oak Grove College. Students have the opportunity to develop vital independence skills through subjects like travel training and meal preparation, whilst still learning and developing their personal and social skills. The course is tailored to their needs with some students having a focus on developing communications skills through a specific curriculum.

### Example Three Year 6th Form Offering

Example Three Year 6th Form Offering			
Entry Level English		ASDAN Personal and Social Development	BTEC Photography Award
Travel Training	Entry Level History	Entry Level Computing	Entry Level Maths
Duke of Edinburgh Award Gold	Sports	ASDAN Employability	Meal Preparation

