



Curriculum Policy

1. Aims of the Curriculum

The curriculum at Wellacre supports the aims, ethos and values of the school by:

- ◆ Providing opportunities for all students to learn and to achieve;
- ◆ Promoting students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and preparing all students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life;
- ◆ Ensuring that equality of opportunity in access to the curriculum is an entitlement;
- ◆ Ensuring that extra-curricular activities play an important part in school life;
- ◆ Providing students with every opportunity to be happy and successful learners;
- ◆ Building on students' strengths, interests and experiences both inside and outside school;
- ◆ Ensuring that important skills are embedded in the curriculum for all subjects, using a wide range of practical, theoretical and creative learning opportunities.

2. Objectives relating to the curriculum aims of Wellacre are that:

- ◆ Students will become aware of their abilities and in so doing should develop them to their maximum potential;
- ◆ Students will be aware of the needs of the communities of which they are a part, and be prepared to contribute fully to the life of those communities;
- ◆ All students will be offered a curriculum that has breadth and depth and is tailored to the differing needs of students;

- ◆ Students who leave Wellacre should:
 - be confident in their dealings with adults and peers;
 - be resilient in the face of challenge;
 - be able to develop good working relationships with others;
 - have knowledge of a wide range of cultures and through this come to respect the rights and needs of others;
 - be able to make sound judgements;
 - have developed a love of learning that will last for the rest of their lives;
 - be adaptable enough to react to the needs of a fast changing world;
 - be articulate, literate and numerate, and have lively, enquiring, independent minds.

The National Curriculum

In addition to supporting the aims, ethos and values of our school, our curriculum is mindful of the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum for all maintained schools and the key aims for all young people which are:

- ◆ To provide all students with an introduction to the essential knowledge they need to be educated citizens;
- ◆ To introduce students to the best that has been thought and said, and helps engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

Organisation of the Curriculum at Wellacre

Our taught curriculum is delivered through a fortnightly timetable (with some slight variation between Week 1 and Week 2) with each day divided into 5 lessons (a 50 period fortnight). There is also a 25 minute period after lunch for Tutor Time as part of our ongoing commitment to high quality pastoral support, student leadership, independent reading, '10 Quick Questions' numeracy initiatives, KS4 subject specialist intervention, assembly or form activity.

8.45-9.45am	Lesson 1
9.45-10.45am	Lesson 2
10.45-11.05am	Break
11.05-12.05pm	Lesson 3
12.05-1.05pm	Lesson 4
1.05-1.40pm	Lunch
1.40-2.05pm	AR/DEAR/Assembly
2.05-3.00pm	Lesson 5
Wednesdays 3.00pm-4.00pm	Co-Curricular

KEY STAGE 3 (Years 7 -9)

The curriculum for Key Stage 3 is as follows based on a 50 lesson fortnight:

Subject	Year 7 hours	Year 8 hours	Year 9 hours
English	9	9	9
Maths	8	8	8
Science	6	6	6
MFL	4	4	5* OR Computing
History	3	3	3
Geography	3	3	3
RE	2	2	2
RESPECT	1	1	2
Design Technology	2	2	3
Food and Cookery	1	1	1
Computing	3	3	5* OR MFL
Creative Arts and Media	3	3	3
Music	1	1	1
PE	4	4	4

- ◆ Currently, French is offered in Year 7 and 8 and French and Spanish in Year 9.
- ◆ In Year 8, students choose to study MFL or Computing in Year 9.
- ◆ All KS3 students follow the 'RESPECT' curriculum.

KS3 grouping arrangements

- ◆ There are no bands at KS3 with groups created from across the year group.
- ◆ English and Maths group students based on their KS2 data into a 'top set or two' and three or four more broadly mixed ability groups beneath.
- ◆ Science group students across the year group and choose to have one 'top set' and four mixed ability groups beneath it across KS3.
- ◆ Set changes can be made at any time during the academic year after consultation with Leaders of English or Maths in the first instance.
- ◆ Creative Arts and Technology have autonomy to group their own students.

	Blocks determining student groupings			
Year 7	English Humanities MFL	Maths Science Computing	Creative Arts & Technology PE	
Year 8	English Humanities MFL	Maths Science Computing	Creative Arts & Technology PE	
Year 9	English Humanities	Maths Science	Creative Arts & Technology PE	MFL Computing (determined by student options)
Year 10	English Maths	Science PE	Option blocks A B C	
Year 11	English	Maths	Science PE	Option blocks A B C D

KEY STAGE 4 (Years 10 and 11)

The curriculum in Years 10 and 11 gives students more choice but within a framework that ensures that students receive a broad and balanced education. All students follow a common core of subjects and supplement this with three option choices for Y10 and a legacy of four option choices in Y11. A structured guidance programme ensures that option choices meet the needs of individual students and choices are made in full consultation with parents.

Core Subjects at KS4

These are the subjects all students **MUST** study at Wellacre Academy:

- ◆ **Maths**
- ◆ **English Language and English Literature**
- ◆ **Combined Science**
- ◆ **PE**
- ◆ **RESPECT**
- ◆ **Work Experience** – Completed at the end of Y10

The EBacc refers to a combination of subjects that the government thinks is important for young people to study at GCSE.

It includes:

- English language and literature
- maths
- the sciences
- geography or history
- a **language**

Students at Wellacre are encouraged to complete the EBacc suite of subjects, however students are not compelled to do a modern foreign language.

Option subjects include the following (these are subject to change each year and are dependent on the needs and wants of the students and the subject expertise of teaching staff);

History, Geography, Computer Science, RE, French, Spanish, ICT, Performing Arts, Sport, Business Studies, Art and Design, Photography, Music, Engineering, Construction, Food and Cookery and GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics.

All subjects at KS4 are taken at Level 2: GCSE or Applied equivalent.

The curriculum for Key Stage 4 is as follows based on a 50 lesson fortnight:

Subject	Year 10 hours	Year 11 hours
English	8	8
Maths	8	8
Combined Science	9	9
PE	3	3
RESPECT	1	1
OPTION 1 (EBacc)	7	6
OPTION 2	7	5
OPTION 3	7	5
OPTION 4		5

SMSC education

RESPECT is a diverse and varied subject which covers three main strands; Relationships, Living in the Wider World and Health and Wellbeing. It also covers Careers Information, Education and Guidance (CIEAG), E-Safety, Sex and Relationships and PREVENT. All students in Years 7-11 have one hour of RESPECT a fortnight, apart from Y9 students who have one hour a week. Sex and Relationship education is covered in a separate policy.

Co-Curricular Provision

Every Wednesday all students participate in a co-curricular activity from 3pm to 4pm. Each activity will run for a term and students have an element of choice. Co-Curricular provision will furnish all students with the opportunity to broaden their experiences and to discover talents, passions and hobbies that they may never have considered before. Co-Curricular options include; Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, Beginners Spanish, Design Ventura, School of Rock, Media Squad 'BBC News Report', Eco-Cartography, Ruby, Boxing skills, Eco Centre, Debating Society. Keyboard, Justice League, Masterchef, Japanese language and culture, Cyber School, Theatre Props and Design, Bike Safe, Raspberry Pi, Astronomy Society, Cryptography, STEM Challenge, Eco Warriors and Glee Club.

Curriculum Enrichment

In addition to Wednesday Co-Curricular sessions, students are provided with plentiful opportunities to take part in workshops, field trips and visits to enrich and extend their learning beyond the classroom. These include:

- Granada TV
- University of Manchester
- Ogden Trust
- Working with published poets
- The Brilliant Club
- Tate Modern
- Manchester Art Gallery
- Royal Exchange Theatre
- The Proud Trust-Rainbow Flag Award
- Youth Sport Trust-Moving Minds
- Manchester United
- Wilmot Dixon

We also have a wide range of successful sport teams taking part in local and regional competitions in football, rugby, cross-country, athletics, basketball and cricket. Many of our students are Sport Leaders and organise sporting competitions for Trafford primary schools.

Community, Careers and Culture Week

Each year in July, we hold a **Community, Careers and Culture Week**. Students take part in a number of workshops led by members of our local community which enhance our SMSC provision.

All our Year 10 students also undertake a week of **work experience** which develops self-confidence, supports growing independence and forges links with local employers and apprenticeship providers. The experience also supports students in preparing for interviews and completing their CVs and personal statements.

Careers Education, Information and Guidance (CEIAG)

Wellacre holds a Gold CEIAG award for the quality of its education, advice and guidance. Students benefit from access to an impartial Connexions Careers Advisor and a bespoke careers offer which includes invite only events linked to career choices. Wellacre hosts a Careers Fair in the Spring Term annually to coincide with National Careers and Apprenticeship Week, with over 30 providers representing a wide range of sectors. CEIAG is part of the RESPECT programme in all year groups and has a designated area on the school website from which students and parents can find further information.

Review

A full curriculum review is undertaken each academic year to ensure that the curriculum matches individual student needs. This review is conducted by the Senior Vice Principal: Curriculum and Standards, the Principal and in consultation with Heads of Faculty. The policy is formally reviewed by the Curriculum and Standards Governing Body Committee annually.