

SIR FREDERIC OSBORN SCHOOL



CURRICULUM POLICY

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Signed by: _____ (print name)	Signature: _____

SIR FREDERIC OSBORN SCHOOL

CURRICULUM POLICY

At Sir Frederic Osborn School:

- We offer a broad and balanced curriculum which aims to provide our students with a rich experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, social, physical and aesthetic education and instil a love of lifelong learning.
- We aim to provide an enjoyable and stimulating education which fosters curiosity, independent thinking and creativity.
- We ensure that the planned curriculum is accessible to all students and delivers subject matter appropriate to the ages and aptitudes of our students.
- We offer a range of enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities which aim to broaden students' learning experiences beyond the classroom and confines of the taught curriculum.
- We provide students with access to high quality impartial advice and guidance to support them in making choices about their current and future education and careers
- We provide personal, social and health education which helps prepare students for adult life as responsible citizens with a clear understanding of *British values*.

Curriculum Organisation

The curriculum is organised into the three secondary school key stages:

- KS3 (Years 7 to 9)
- KS4 (Years 10 and 11)
- KS5 (Years 12 and 13)

Programmes of study are planned carefully to allow smooth transition between the key stages. The curriculum is delivered through a two week cycle of 50 x 1 hour timetabled lessons.

The KS3 Curriculum

At KS3 the curriculum complies with the requirements of the National Curriculum.

KS3 allocation in hours per fortnight (Until the end of July 2017)

	KS3
English	8
Mathematics	7
Science	7
MFL or literacy and numeracy support	4
PE	4
PSHCE	1
Technology	3
Art	2
Drama	2
Ethics and Philosophy	2
Geography / Nurture (Year 7 only)	3
History / Nurture (Year 7 only)	3
ICT & Computing	2
Music	2
	50

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- When students arrive in Year 7, they are placed in mixed ability tutor groups. They are taught in these groups for all subjects, except for English and mathematics (where they are taught in broad ability groups from October. Students are in separate boy/girl groups in KS3 and KS4 core PE).
- Students who are below expectations in English and/or maths will temporarily be dis-applied from French (4 periods) in Year 7. They will be given extra maths and/or English as appropriate. This will also be used as part of the secondary ready catch-up in conjunction with Nurture Group time.
- Students for the Nurture Group are identified using the transition information provided by our feeder primary schools. Students who achieved below the secondary ready score of 100 or those identified as having poor social skills (including behaviour, friendships etc.) will be considered for this group. Children attend the Nurture Group for regular sessions throughout the week instead of their timetabled Geography and History lessons (constituting approx. 6 hours a fortnight) and are expected to return to mainstream education as full time students after a maximum of four terms, some will return sooner. The students have a curriculum centred around a humanities theme whilst concentrating on Literacy, Numeracy and Social Skills.
- Support classes are timetabled against all languages in year 8 and 9 to enable students to be temporarily dis-applied from a/both language(s) so they can receive additional support in maths/English/other areas of the curriculum
- In Year 8, ability banding is extended such that mathematics and modern foreign languages are taught in broad ability groups. All other subjects are taught in mixed ability groups.
- Science begin KS4 courses in Year 9 to allow for sufficient delivery time over three years.
- In KS3, PSHCE (covering careers, resilience, personal development, health and relationships education and citizenship) is delivered through the curriculum.
- Although students have discrete ICT lessons, ICT capability is developed across the subject areas. All classrooms are equipped with at least one computer and either an interactive whiteboard or a projector. We have 8 modern computer suites which are fully networked with the latest software, plus a fully equipped Library.

The KS4 Curriculum

The KS4 core curriculum is comprised of; English, Maths, Science, Physical Education, Ethics & Philosophy and PSHCE. In addition, students have 3 (in Year 10) and 4 (in Year 11) further option choices. We have adapted our Curriculum provision from September 2016 into 4 route pathways. The vast majority of students will study two EBacc subjects (Computer Science / French / Geography / History and Spanish). The High Quality (HQ) list of subjects is outlined below.

Targeted students will receive additional English and mathematics to support them to reach their Good Progress Grade (GPG).

September 2017 Year 11 pathways

Subject	Year 11 Pathway 1	Year 11 Pathway 2	Year 11 Pathway 3	Year 11 Pathway 4
English	8	8	9	9
Mathematics	7	7	8	8
Double Science			10	10
Triple Science	10	10		
PE	3	3	3	3
Option 1	5 MFL	5 MFL	5 EBacc	5 HQ

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Option 2	5 EBacc	5 EBacc	5 HQ	5 HQ
Option 3	5 EBacc/HQ	5 HQ	5 HQ	5 HQ
Option 4	5 HQ	5 HQ	5 HQ	5 HQ
Ethics and Philosophy	2	2	2	2
Two Week Timetable	50	50	50	50

September 2017 Year 10 pathways

Subject	Year 10 Pathway 1	Year 10 Pathway 2	Year 10 Pathway 3	Year 10 Pathway 4
English	9	9	9	9
Mathematics	8	8	8	8
Double Science	0	10	10	0
Triple Science	12	0	0	0
BTEC Science	0	0	0	10
PE	4	4	4	4
Option 1	5 EBacc	5 EBacc	5 EBacc	5 EBacc
Option 2	5 EBacc	5 EBacc	5 HQ	5 HQ
Option 3	5 HQ	5 HQ	5 HQ	5 HQ
Ethics and Philosophy	2	2	2	2
ECDL	0	2	0	0
Study support	0	0	2	2
Two Week Timetable	50	50	50	50

- Options courses are reviewed every year to ensure that the courses offered continue to meet the needs of each particular year group
- Subject options will only run if there is sufficient student interest to make the groups viable. Should a subject be oversubscribed, the selection process is based around students' expressed order of preference. i.e. a student who ranked a particular subject first will be given a place over a student who ranked it second. Should there be too many first choices for all students to be placed, places will be allocated by lottery
- Selection by ability forms no part of the options placement process at KS4. However, guidance around which pathway is most suitable for students (including, for example, the decision about whether to study Double or Triple Science) is made in consultation with staff based on student's achievement in that subject area
- In KS4, PSHCE is delivered through the health and relationships education/citizenship programme and is supplemented by whole / half day workshops facilitated by school staff or visiting speakers, including a one week work shadowing experience for Year 10.

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KS4 Options

GCSE

- Art
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Design & Technology (Food Technology)
- Design & Technology (Product Design)
- Drama
- French
- Geography
- History
- Music
- PE
- Spanish

Non-GCSE Courses

- Curriculum Support / Study Skills

Level 2 / Level 1 courses

- BTEC First Award in Child Care (equivalent to 1 GCSE)
- BTEC Level 1 Award in Science (equivalent to 1 GCSE)
- European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) Level 2 (equivalent to 1 GCSE)

The KS5 Curriculum (Years 12 and 13)

- At KS5 the curriculum is currently organised together with our Consortium schools to provide access to the largest possible range of courses
- Similar to KS4, the availability of courses is dependent on sufficient student interest to make the course viable
- The curriculum across the consortium is reviewed annually to ensure that courses remain appropriate and meet the needs and aspirations of students
- Entry to the Sixth Form is dependent on students meeting the entry criteria outlined in the Consortium prospectus. Predicted average points score per subject at GCSE is used as a guideline. For an AS course, students are expected to gain at least five GCSEs at A* to C with at least a grade B in the subjects relevant to AS choices. Once AS results are known, some students who have studied 4 subjects reduce to 3 for A2
- The core curriculum of 3 or 4 AS/A2 levels or BTECs is complemented with a compulsory programme of PSHE and range of optional enrichment courses
- All students in Year 12 who take 3 subjects will be timetabled in the 6th form supervised study room for a number of periods. All students in Year 13 have at least two hours per week in the 6th form supervised study room
- Students can work towards an EPQ

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The choice of subjects is as follows:

AS/A2 Subjects delivered at SFO	Delivered through Welwyn Hatfield Consortium
Art Biology Business Studies Dance (BTEC L3) English Literature Extended Project Qualification Film Studies French Geography History Mathematics Performing Arts (BTEC L3) Physical Education Physics Product Design Sports Studies (BTEC L3)	Chemistry Childcare (BTEC L3) Computing Drama and Theatre Studies Economics English Language Fine Art Food Technology German Government and Politics Law Further Maths Media Studies Music Music Technology Photography Psychology Public Services (BTEC L3) Religious Studies Sociology Spanish Textiles

- To assist students in making choices, a Post 16 Information evening is held in December of Year 11. Students have full access to information, both from school and careers staff and from representatives of local FE colleges.
- All applicants to the sixth form are interviewed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team to assess the suitability of the courses chosen to the ability, aptitudes and aspirations of the student.
- Student choice of AS and A2 courses is enhanced by the Welwyn Hatfield Consortium provision.
- Students benefit from a pastoral support programme, delivered through tutorials. External speakers contribute to topics such as self-protection, bereavement, stress management, cancer awareness and drugs awareness.
- An enrichment programme in Year 12 develops breadth of experience. Students have the opportunity to take part in sporting and community activities, within the school or wider community. Timetabled lessons covering a wide variety of topics support the enrichment programme.

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Appendix 1

KS3 Curriculum Model 2016-2018

Year 7

Year 7	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
	English								Maths								Science						Art		DT	

Year 7	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
	DT	Drama	Music	Geography			History			Comp Science	French			E&P	PE			PSHCE						
				Nurture Group					Literacy / Numeracy Support															

Year 8

Year 8	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
	English								Maths								Science						Art		DT	

Year 8	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
	DT	Drama	Music	Geography			History			Comp Science	French			E&P	PE			PSHCE						
				Nurture Group					Literacy / Numeracy Support															

Year 9

Year 9	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
	English								Maths								Science						Art		DT	

Year 9	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
	DT	Drama	Music	Geography			History			Comp Science	French			E&P	PE			PSHCE						
				Nurture Group					Literacy / Numeracy Support															

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- There is a mirroring of the KS3 curriculum across all 3 year groups
- Ensure appropriate time for EBACC (P8) subjects
- Allow sufficient time on the curriculum for “non-academic” non-core subjects
- Removal of the 1 hour Option block across Years 8 and 9
- Support across all KS3 for low literacy / numeracy

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Appendix 2

KS4 Year 10) Curriculum Model September 2016-18

Green Route – High ability students

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
Group 1 CORE English Language and Literature									Group 1 CORE Maths							Group 2 EBACC Triple Science								

26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Group 2 EBACC Triple Science				Group 2 EBACC Geography History Computer Science French Spanish					Group 2 EBACC Geography History Computer Science French Spanish					Group 3 High Quality				PE			E&P			

- Increase to 9 hours per fortnight of English and 8 hours per fortnight of Maths (Group 1 Core Double weighted) 3 GCSEs
- Increase to 12 hours per fortnight of Science (Triple) 3 GCSEs
- 2 x Group 2 EBACC GCSEs
- 1 x Group 3 High Quality GCSEs
- Core PE increased to 3 hours per fortnight
- 2 hours per fortnight of GCSE Religion
- PSHCE delivered in drop down days
- Total GCSE Subject Count – 10

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Yellow Route – Middle ability students

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
Group 1 CORE English Language and Literature									Group 1 CORE Maths								Group 2 EBACC Double Science							

26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Group 2 EBACC Double Science		Group 2 EBACC Geography History Computer Science French Spanish					Group 2 EBACC Geography History Computer Science French Spanish					Group 3 High Quality					ECDL		PE			E&P		

- Increase to 9 hours per fortnight of English and 8 hours per fortnight of Maths (Group 1 Core Double weighted) 3 GCSEs
- Group 2 EBACC Core and Double Science (2 GCSEs) maintained at 10 hours
- 2 x Group 2 EBACC 2 GCSEs
- 1 x Group 3 High Quality GCSEs / Approved Vocational Subjects
- Core PE increased to 4 hours per fortnight
- 2 hours of GCSE Religion a fortnight
- ECDL delivered to support the development of ICT skills at KS4
- PSHCE delivered in drop down days
- Total GCSE Subject Count 9

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Blue Route – Middle / Low Ability students

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
Group 1 Core English Language and Literature									Group 1 Core Maths								Group 2 EBACC Double Science							
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Group 2 EBACC Double Science		Group 2 EBACC French Spanish Geography History Computer Science					Group 3 High Quality					Group 3 High Quality					PE			Study Support		E&P		

- Increase to 9 hours per fortnight of English and 8 hours per fortnight of Maths (Group 1 Core Double weighted) 3 GCSEs
- Double Science is studied in 10 hours per fortnight over 2 years (2 GCSEs)
- 1 x Group 2 EBACC (1 GCSE)
- 2 x Group 3 High Quality or Approved Vocational Subjects
- Core PE increased to 4 hours per fortnight
- 2 hours of GCSE Religion a fortnight
- PSHCE delivered in drop down days
- Total Subject GCSE Count 9

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Purple Route – Low Ability students

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
Group 1 Core English Language and Literature									Group 1 Core Maths								Group 2 EBACC BTEC Science							
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Group 2 EBACC BTEC Science		Group 2 EBACC French Spanish Geography History Computer Science					Group 3 High Quality					Group 3 High Quality					PE			Study Support		E&P		

- Increase to 9 hours per fortnight of English and 8 hours per fortnight of Maths (Group 1 Core Double weighted) 3 GCSEs
- BTEC Science is studied in 10 hours per fortnight over 2 years (2 GCSEs)
- 1 x Group 2 EBACC (1 GCSE)
- 2 x Group 3 High Quality or Approved Vocational Subjects
- Core PE increased to 4 hours per fortnight
- 2 hours of GCSE Religion a fortnight
- PSHCE delivered in drop down days
- Total Subject GCSE Count 9

All changes are subject to timetabling and staffing

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Appendix 3

KS4 Year 11 Curriculum Model September 2015-17

Green Route – High ability students

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
Group 1 CORE English								Group 1 CORE Maths							Group 2 EBACC Science									

26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Group 2 EBACC French Spanish					Group 2 EBACC Geography History Computer Science					Group 2 EBACC or Group 3 High Quality					Group 3 High Quality					PE		E&P		

- Increase to 8 hours per fortnight of English and 7 hours per fortnight of Maths (Group 1 Core Double weighted) 3 GCSEs
- Increase to 5 hours per week of Science (Triple) 3 GCSEs
- 2/3 x Group 2 EBACC GCSEs – One MFL / One Humanities
- 1/2 x Group 3 High Quality GCSEs
- Core PE reduced to 3 hours per fortnight to allow for 2 hours of GCSE Religion 1 GCSE 2 hours a fortnight in Year 10
- High Quality GCSE Choices: Art, Dance, Drama, Food Technology, Music, PE, Product Design, Film Studies
- PSHCE delivered in drop down days
- Total GCSE Subject Count – 11

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Yellow Route – High / Middle ability students

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
Group 1 CORE English								Group 1 CORE Maths							Group 2 EBACC Science									
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Group 2 EBACC French Spanish					Group 2 EBACC Geography History Computer Science					Group 3 High Quality					Group 3 High Quality					PE		E&P		

- Increase to 8 hours per fortnight of English and 7 hours per fortnight of Maths (Group 1 Core Double weighted) 3 GCSEs
- Group 2 EBACC Core and Double Science (2 GCSEs)
- 2 x Group 2 EBACC 2 GCSEs – one MFL and 1 Humanities
- 2 x Group 3 High Quality GCSEs / Approved Vocational Subjects: Child Development, Construction, ICT, Sport, Health & Social Care, Travel & Tourism
- Core PE reduced to 3 hours per fortnight to allow for 2 hours of GCSE Religion 1 GCSE 2 hours a fortnight in Year 10
- PSHCE delivered in drop down days
- Total GCSE Subject Count 10

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Blue Route – Middle Ability students

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
Group 1 Core English									Group 1 Core Maths								Group 2 EBACC Science							

26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Group 2 EBACC French Spanish Geography History Computer Science					Group 3 High Quality					Group 3 High Quality					Group 3 High Quality					PE		E&P		

- Increase to 9 hours per fortnight of English and 8 hours per fortnight of Maths (Group 1 Core Double weighted) 3 GCSEs
- Core and Additional Science is studied in 8 hours per fortnight over 2 years (2 GCSEs)
- 1 x Group 2 EBACC (1 GCSE)
- 3 x Group 3 High Quality or Approved Vocational Subjects: Child Development, Construction, ICT, Sport, Health & Social Care, Travel & Tourism (3 GCSE equivalents)
- Core PE reduced to 3 hours per fortnight to allow for 2 hours of GCSE Religion 1 GCSE 2 hours a fortnight in Year 10
- PSHCE delivered in drop down days
- Total Subject GCSE Count 9

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Purple Route – Low Ability students

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
Group 1 Core English									Group 1 Core Maths							Group 2 EBACC Science								
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Group 3 High Quality					Group 3 High Quality					Group 3 High Quality					Group 3 High Quality					PE			E&P	

- Increase to 9 hours per fortnight of English and 8 hours per fortnight of Maths (Group 1 Core Double weighted) 3 GCSEs
- Functional Skills will not count for the performance tables, but the points from GCSE Foundation Maths will be double weighted, e.g. G = 32 points. This will have greater impact upon the Core measure.
- Group 2 EBACC Science – Either 2 year CORE (1 GCSE) which will count for Group 2 or OCR Cambridge National Certificate which will count in Group 3.
- 4 x Group 3 High Quality GCSEs / Approved Vocational Subjects: Child Development, Construction, ICT, Sport, Health & Social Care, Travel & Tourism (4 GCSE equivalents)
- GCSE Religion Entry Level GCSE 1 hour a fortnight over KS4
- PSHCE delivered in drop down days
- Total Subject GCSE/Equivalent Count: 8

All changes are subject to timetabling and staffing