

Curriculum Strategy

PRIMARY PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THIS POLICY

JAMES EYTLE, BEVERLEY MELLON (PRINCIPALS)

LAST REVIEW DATE

July 2020

NEXT REVIEW

July 2021

Curriculum Strategy

1. Introduction

Albemarle College is committed to the provision of a personalised curriculum for all our students, devised by Senior Management following rigorous recruitment consultation with students and parents in order to provide support and achieve maximum academic potential while developing a good work ethic, life skills and a positive attitude.

2. Aims

Our aims in devising personalised and constantly monitored and updated curricula are:

- To offer highly individualised and optimally delivered public examination curriculums with opportunities for extra supervised study sessions
- To provide equal opportunities for all students to achieve their potential
- To provide a wide, varied and enriched syllabus across the disciplines
- To encompass Science, Arts and Humanities without prejudice
- To provide a safe, comfortable environment and professional feedback on progress

3. Curriculum Content

The College provides the following A level, IGCSE and GCSE subjects for first-time or retaking students.

All provision is made to ensure that a student has access to any and all the subjects they require (timetable permitting). Albemarle does not offer Vocational Qualifications.

AS students take 4 AS subjects and A Level students take 3 A Level subjects in their second year. Only in rare exceptional cases will a student be permitted by their Curriculum Manager to take 4 A Level subjects in their second year.

Full-time or part-time attendance is provided for the following:

A Level Subjects

Sciences, Computing & Mathematics

Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computing, Mathematics, Further Mathematics

Business & Social Sciences

Business Studies, Economics, Geography, Media Studies, Film Studies, Politics, Psychology, Sociology

Arts, Humanities & Languages

English Literature, History, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Art & Design, French, Photography, German, Russian, Spanish

EPQ – (AS Level only)

GCSE & IGCSE Subjects

Sciences & Mathematics

Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Computing

Business & Social Sciences

Business, Geography, Media Studies, Religious Studies, Sociology

Arts, Humanities, Languages

English Language, English Literature, History, Religious Studies, Art & Design, Photography, French, German, Russian, Spanish

University Preparation

Preparation and support for a variety of university tests is provided through intensive one-day courses and tuition for UKCAT, BMAT and SAT preparation for students applying to US universities.

EFL

Preparation for the IELTS examinations is taken very seriously and regular, timetabled lessons are compulsory for all international and second language students following rigorous tests to assess the level of spoken and written English.

Revision Courses

Revision Courses for public examinations are offered prior to public examinations in May and June at the College's discretion.

4. ULS is Provided for AS Students

ULS

The University & Life Skills programme is compulsory for the AS year group. Visiting speakers from various professions and universities offer advice on careers and degree courses, students learn skills in public speaking, CV preparation, isometric testing, essay writing and teamwork. A ULS Diploma is awarded at the end of the year and may be used in a UCAS Personal Statement.

EPQ

The EPQ is an opportunity for students to develop the essential skills for higher education and the workplace. They will gain valuable research and project management skills. The EPQ also grants UCAS points which universities accept as part of their entry requirements for courses. The EPQ has a taught element which comprises of 50 hours of skills acquisition led by teachers. The remaining 70 hours will be spent on independent work by the students which will be supervised by teachers.

5. Timing of Lessons

Lessons run for fifty minutes from 9am to 6pm with a ten minute break between classes.

6. Evening Study & Saturday Study

Supervised study sessions run from Monday to Thursday from 5pm-630pm for those wishing to complete homework, sit mocks or finish work in a quiet, monitored environment. The College is open for supervised study from 10am-2pm on Saturdays.

7. Schemes of Work & Differentiation

All teaching staff are expected to produce detailed and comprehensive schemes of work for each subject, syllabus and year group that they teach, outlining how the syllabus will be taught across the academic year. Copies are kept by the Vice Principal and by individual tutors. All tutors are expected to be fully cognizant of efficient techniques and strategies for making provision for students of differing needs and academic abilities.

8. Homework, Reports & Mock Examinations

Homework is set regularly each week by every subject tutor. Incomplete or unattempted homework will result in a student being entered for Evening Study or Saturday Study (see above).

Regular mock examinations are held monthly in each subject and results posted monthly (Oct-April) on the Albemarle on-line reporting system after each set of tests by the College Administrator.

Personal Tutors will arrange monthly meetings with Students to review their monthly mock results and to set targets for the next month's set of mocks. Personal Tutors will place updates on the Griffin system, meant for internal use only.

Full written reports are provided twice a year by each tutor for every student they teach – at the end of the Autumn and Spring terms. These are then processed and made live to parents.