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## **Curriculum Policy 2021-2022**

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King Edward's School is proud to offer to all of its pupils a broad and balanced education, which is suited to pupils across the ability range and is appropriate to their needs. The School aims to provide an environment which nurtures children to achieve success in their chosen fields, to become happy, confident and independent learners, to develop academic potential as well as integrity, global awareness, wisdom, humility and a sense of duty.

### **The aims of the curriculum policy are:**

- To ensure that all pupils receive a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum
- To support learning at all academic levels and inspire intellectual adventure
- To monitor the range of subjects taught and curriculum time allocated to each subject area
- To encourage independent thought, leadership and teamwork skills and a sense of responsibility and service towards others and the environment
- To provide continuity of learning and preparation for the next phase
- To develop problem-solving, communication and creative skills
- To develop a sense of inquiry

### **Lower School & Third Form**

The Lower School is a two-year programme. All pupils take the core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Latin, Religious Education, Art, Design Technology, Music, Information Technology, Drama and Physical Education. Pupils also follow a course in the Pursuit of Excellence to equip them with the skills and mind-set to access all areas of the curriculum. All pupils in the 1st Form study one modern foreign language, either French or Spanish. In the 2nd Form, pupils continue their study of their chosen MFL and Latin, and also study German. All subjects are taught in form groups, except for Mathematics and Languages which are taught in sets and DT, Art and Food Science which are taught in smaller groups as part of a carousel. Pupils move to Middle School at the start of 3rd Form. The curriculum is similar to Lower School, with pupils taught in five form groups for most subjects, with Maths and English being taught in sets. Pupils choose two languages from the following: English as an Additional Language, French, German, Spanish, Latin and Classical Civilisation, of which one must be a modern language.

## **Middle School**

The GCSE curriculum builds firmly on the foundation built in 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Forms. All pupils take IGCSE English Language, IGCSE Mathematics and IGCSE Science. Nearly all will take English Literature and a Modern Foreign Language, neither of which would be dropped without extensive consultation and a recognised SEN requiring a reduced curriculum. In Art, pupils follow the Fine Art Course which encompasses a range of artistic techniques such as Drawing, Printmaking, Ceramics and Photography; in Design Technology the courses focus on Resistant Materials or Food. The option blocks are constructed to meet the choices of individuals, but checks are made to ensure that pupils undertake a balanced programme and do not close educational or career doors. Pupils are taught in ability sets in English, Mathematics and Science. All pupils also follow a course in PSHE.

## **Pre-Sixth Form**

Since 2009, the school has offered a very successful Pre-Sixth course designed to offer those joining King Edward's in the 5<sup>th</sup> Form the opportunity to enhance their English language skills if necessary and to experience the full range of subjects on offer so they may make an informed choice of subjects for the full IB Diploma or A-levels. The main purpose of the course is not to obtain examination qualifications, although this is possible. Pupils have a rich diet of English Literature and Language, Mathematics, a modern foreign language or Latin, Combined Science, with the option of taking GCSE Physics, Mathematics, and Economics. They also take Drama, Design Technology (Resistant Materials/ICT) and Art. The course also includes Games, PSHE and Music. The Pre-Sixth Form cohort includes those pupils wishing to take A-levels as well as the IB Diploma.

## **Sixth Form**

King Edward's has offered the International Baccalaureate Diploma since 2004. A-levels were reintroduced in September 2015. The IB Diploma aims to provide a genuine breadth of study beyond 16 so that pupils can keep their options open a little longer. All pupils take their own language, a foreign language, a humanity, a science, Mathematics and an arts based subject or a second subject from the other curriculum areas. In most subjects Standard and Higher Level pupils are taught in the same group, with additional periods for the Higher Level pupils. Mathematics is taught in separate groups for Higher and Standard Level. Alongside the IB, King Edward's offers a range of A-levels for those pupils who are committed to the in-depth study of a smaller range of subjects. Both programmes will provide the opportunity for pupils to become independent, reflective learners, equipped for life beyond school.

## **Statutory requirements**

Marriage in the light of the *Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013* and Relationships and Sexual Education (RSE) are covered through PSHE lessons according with statutory requirements to deliver these topics to all pupils. Politics is covered in RS (issues relating to war, criminal justice system, equality, legal limits of abortion, euthanasia), and through political philosophy as part of the IB Philosophy course. Politics is also taught through Geography, Modern Foreign Languages and of course in History throughout the course (change in rule from Saxon to Norman, changing power of the monarchy in 16<sup>th</sup> century, civil war, causes of wars, Russian revolution, Watergate scandal, Hitler's rise to power, Cold War, rise of dictators). Fundamental British values are given due regard both within the

curriculum in subjects such as History, Religious Education and PSHE and without the curriculum in Chapel, Assembly, tutor time and the Sixth Form Programme. This list is not exhaustive.

### **Co-curricular and Enrichment**

All pupils are required to participate in a balanced range of Creative, Action and Service activities and academic enrichment. In the Lower and Middle Schools, pupils have Games and PE twice per week. In the Sixth Form, part of the Games afternoon can also be devoted to service activities.

### **The needs of the individual**

It is also recognised that some pupils will need an adjusted programme of study. All pupils are screened for learning needs. Learning support can be provided for those who need help with literacy and numeracy (see Additional Needs and Inclusion policy). Specialist music tuition is also available. If it is appropriate to enter pupils for examinations at an early stage because they are ready for it, we will do so. All departments are expected to provide extension work for the more able.

Our unique and flexible curriculum is intended to enhance the development of all our pupils, preparing them for a full and engaged international life.

## ***Curriculum 2021-22***

The number after each subject corresponds to the numbers of 55 minute periods allocated per fortnight

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p><u>1<sup>st</sup> Form</u><br/>           English 7<br/>           French/Spanish 6<br/>           Latin 2<br/>           History 3<br/>           Geography 3<br/>           RE 2<br/>           Mathematics 7*<br/>           Science 8<br/>           Art 2<br/>           DT/FT 4<br/>           Drama 2<br/>           ICT 2<br/>           Music 2<br/>           PE 4<br/>           Games 4<br/>           PSHE 2</p> | <p><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Form</u><br/>           English 6<br/>           French/Spanish 4<br/>           German 4<br/>           Latin 3<br/>           History 3<br/>           Geography 3<br/>           RE 2<br/>           Mathematics 7*<br/>           Science 8<br/>           DT/FT/Art Carousel each subject 2 lessons for 2 terms<br/>           Drama 2<br/>           ICT 2<br/>           Music 2<br/>           PE 4<br/>           Games 4<br/>           PSHE 2</p> | <p><u>3<sup>rd</sup> Form</u><br/>           English 6<br/>           Mathematics 7<br/>           Science 8<br/>           History 4<br/>           Geography 4<br/>           Religious Education 2<br/>           Languages, 2x4 (see grid on page 5)<br/>           Music 2<br/>           Drama 2<br/>           ICT 2<br/>           Art 2<br/>           DT/FT 4<br/>           PE 4<br/>           Games 4<br/>           PSHE 2</p> |
| <p><u>4<sup>th</sup> Form</u><br/>           English 7<br/>           Core language 6<br/>           Mathematics 7<br/>           Science 12<br/>           Option a 6<br/>           Option b 6<br/>           Option c 6<br/>           PE 4<br/>           Games 4<br/>           PSHE 2</p>  | <p><u>5<sup>th</sup> Form</u><br/>           English 7<br/>           Core language 6<br/>           Mathematics 7<br/>           Science 12<br/>           Option a 6<br/>           Option b 6<br/>           Option c 6<br/>           PE 2<br/>           Critical Thinking 2<br/>           Games 4<br/>           PSHE 2</p>  | <p><u>Pre-Sixth</u><br/>           English 8<br/>           Mathematics 7<br/>           Non-examined Science 13 or<br/>           Science &amp; IGCSE Physics 17<br/>           Language 6<br/>           Economics 10<br/>           The Arts 10 (Drama 3, DT/ICT 4,<br/>           Art 3)<br/>           PSHE 1<br/>           Games 4<br/>           Music 1</p>   |
| <p><u>L6<sup>th</sup> &amp; U6<sup>th</sup> IB</u><br/>           HL 9 (except HL Maths 10)<br/>           SL 6 (except SL Maths 7)<br/>           TOK 4<br/>           Games/Outreach 4</p>   |   | <p><u>L6<sup>th</sup> &amp; U6<sup>th</sup> A- level</u><br/>           12 periods per A<br/>           Level Games/Outreach 4</p>   |

\* Subjects in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Forms taught in set grouping, not in a Form

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### ***3<sup>rd</sup> Form Languages Curriculum 2021-22***

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| <b>Box A</b>  | <b>Box B</b>           |
|---|------------------------|
| French (Continuers)   | French (Continuers)    |
| German (Continuers)   | German (Continuers)    |
| Spanish (Beginners)   | Latin                  |
| Spanish (Continuers)  | Classical Civilisation |
| English as Additional Language<br>(for non-native beginners only) |                        |

- Pupils to continue with two of French/Spanish (continuers)/German. Alternatively, one may be dropped to study Spanish Beginners or Latin/Classical Civilisation or Learning Support/EAL.
- Those taking Learning Support or EAL should not undertake Spanish Beginners at this stage but should consolidate French/German/Spanish (continuers) group.

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## **4<sup>th</sup> Form Option Blocks 2021-22**

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French – 2 Groups  
Spanish – 1 group  
German – 1 group  
EAL – 1 group

| <b>Block 1</b>                           | <b>Block 2</b>  | <b>Block 3</b>   | <b>Block 4</b>                                      |
|--|---|--|---|
| Art<br>Triple Award Science<br>Geography | Design Technology<br>Latin<br>Food Science<br>History<br>Computer Science | Physical Education<br>Computer Science<br>Music<br>Religious Studies | Geography<br>History<br>Drama<br>Physical Education |

The school reserves the right to withdraw a subject the group is not viable.

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## **5<sup>th</sup> Form Option Blocks 2021-22**

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French – 2 groups  
Spanish – 2 groups  
German – 1 group  
EAL – 1 group

| <b>Block A</b>                 | <b>Block B</b>   | <b>Block C</b>  | <b>Block D</b>   |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Triple Science<br>Art<br>Drama | Geography<br>History<br>Computer Science<br>Classical Civilisation | Geography<br>PE<br>Computer Science<br>Drama<br>Music | DT<br>History<br>Religious Studies<br>Food<br>Art<br>Latin |

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## ***Pre-Sixth Form Curriculum 2021-22***

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This course is designed for pupils from overseas or those seeking to relocate to the United Kingdom. It provides a one-year course that would help to prepare 15-16 year olds for the IB Diploma programme or A-levels.

| <b><i>Subject</i></b> | <b><i>Number of lessons per fortnight</i></b> | <b><i>Comments</i></b>   |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| English               | 8   | A choice of courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• B2 First certificate for Schools, taught by the English/EAL Departments</li> <li>• An IGCSE course in English language for native speakers and those proficient in English, taught by the English Department</li> </ul>                                |
| Mathematics           | 7   | Most pupils follow the IGCSE course; Additional Mathematics is also an option  |
| Science               | 13-17   | Shared between Biology, Chemistry and Physics with the possibility of a GCSE in Physics.   |
| Language              | 6   | A choice of courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• French/German/Spanish (according to previous experience), with the possibility of an IGCSE</li> <li>• Latin (according to previous experience) with the possibility of a GCSE</li> <li>• Latin for beginners with the possibility of a GCSE</li> </ul> |
| Humanity              | 10  | Economics (with the possibility of an IGCSE)   |
| The Arts              | 6-10  | Three periods per fortnight each of Art and Drama, and 4 periods of Design Technology; a non examination course. Music lessons will be available (at extra cost) to those who wish to have them in place of one of the components  |
| PSHE                  | 1   | Non examined course  |
| Games                 | 4   | Non examined course followed by the rest of the year group with total integration  |
| Music                 | 1   | Non examined course  |

The aim is not necessarily to put a heavy emphasis on examination entries, although a good range is available for those who want this and are motivated by it. The main purpose is to allow for the development of language skills and the acquisition of thinking and learning skills that are required on the IB course.

Those students opting for IGCSE in Physics do not take DT as part of their Arts course.



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## ***L6<sup>th</sup> Form IB Curriculum 2021-22***

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| <b>Group 1</b>   | <b>Group 2</b>            | <b>Group 3</b>             | <b>Group 4</b>                            | <b>Group 5</b>   | <b>Group 6</b>                            |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|---|
| English A<br>Language &<br>Literature  | English B<br><br>French B | Economics<br><br>Geography | Biology<br><br>Physics                    | Maths Analysis<br>& Approaches<br>Higher                     | Music<br><br>Theatre Arts                 |
| German A<br>Language and<br>Literature                                       | German B<br><br>Spanish B | History<br><br>Philosophy  | Environmental<br>Systems and<br>Societies | Maths Analysis<br>and<br>Approaches<br>Standard              | Visual Arts<br><br>Business<br>Management |
| Native<br>Speaker Self-<br>Taught<br>Language and<br>Literature (SL<br>only) | Spanish ab<br>initio      |                            |   | Maths<br>Applications<br>and<br>Interpretations<br>(SL only) | Chemistry                                 |

- Pupils choose one subject from each box, three at Higher Level and three at Standard Level. In addition, each pupil will follow a course in Theory of Knowledge, complete CAS and write an Extended Essay.
- Those taking HL Maths can take their Group 2 subject at SL only.
- The School reserves the right to withdraw a subject if the group is not viable.

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**U6<sup>th</sup> Form IB Curriculum 2021-22**

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| Group 1  | Group 2                        | Group 3                | Group 4  | Group 5   | Group 6                |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------------|--|---|------------------------|
| English A<br>Language &<br>Literature                    | English B                      | Business<br>Management | Biology  | Maths Analysis<br>& Approaches<br>Higher                | Music                  |
| German A<br>Language &<br>Literature                     | French B                       | Economics              | Physics  | Maths Analysis<br>& Approaches<br>Standard              | Theatre Arts           |
| Native speaker<br>self-taught<br>Literature<br>(SL only) | German B                       | Geography              | Environmental<br>Systems &<br>Societies<br>(SL only) | Maths<br>Applications &<br>Interpretations<br>(SL only) | Visual Arts            |
|  | Spanish B                      | History                | Sports Exercise<br>& Health Science                  |   | Business<br>Management |
|  | Spanish ab<br>Initio (SL only) |                        |  |   | Economics              |
|  |                                |                        |  |   | Philosophy             |
|  |                                |                        |  |   | Chemistry              |
|  |                                |                        |  |   | Computer<br>Science    |
|  |                                |                        |  |   | Biology                |

- Pupils choose one subject from each box, three at Higher Level and three at Standard Level. In addition, each pupil will follow a course in Theory of Knowledge, complete CAS and write an Extended Essay.
- Those taking HL Maths can take their Group 2 subject at SL only.

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## ***A-level Curriculum 2021-22***

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Pupils should select three or, in some cases, four A-level subjects from below (Maths and Further Maths count as separate A-level subjects).

### Lower Sixth

| <b>Block 1</b>        | <b>Block 2</b>     | <b>Block 3</b> | <b>Block 4</b>   | <b>Block 5</b>            |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Design<br>Technology  | English Literature | Physics        | Biology          | Theatre                   |
| Economics             | Maths              | Psychology     | Geography        | Business                  |
| Physical<br>Education |                    |                | Computer Science | Classical<br>Civilisation |
| Philosophy            |                    |                | History          | Art                       |
| Chemistry             |                    |                |                  | Further Maths             |
|                       |                    |                |                  | Music                     |

The School reserves the right to withdraw a subject if the group is not viable.

EPQ will also be available for the L6th A Level programme.

### Upper Sixth

| <b>Block A</b>       | <b>Block B</b> | <b>Block C</b> | <b>Block D</b> | <b>Block E</b> |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Design<br>Technology | History        | Maths          | Business       | Art            |
| Chemistry            | Physics        | Geography      |                | Music          |
|                      | Biology        |                |                | Group 6 IB     |

**The acronyms used in the Curriculum Policy can be interpreted as follows:**

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| CAS   | Creativity, Activity and Service – a core component of the IB course |
| DT    | Design Technology  |
| EAL   | English as an additional language                                    |
| FT    | Food and Textiles  |
| HL    | Higher Level IB course   |
| ICT   | Information and Communication Technology                             |
| IGCSE | International version of the GCSE                                    |
| KS3   | Key Stage 3 (the curriculum for 11 -14 year olds)                    |
| OCR   | One of the examination boards  |
| PE    | Physical Education   |
| PSHE  | Personal, Social and Health Education                                |
| RE    | Religious Education  |
| SL    | Standard Level IB course   |
| ToK   | Theory of Knowledge  |