

# **KINGSWOOD HOUSE SCHOOL**

## **Curriculum Policy**

This policy relates to the whole school including the Early Years Foundation Stage.

### **Kingswood House aims to:**

- Develop the individual abilities of each child in a secure, caring and friendly environment where they are happy and motivated to learn and to appreciate the benefits of healthy living and physical fitness.
- Encourage participation, enjoyment and success in all areas of the school's curriculum to create a well-rounded, confident child who shows respect, tolerance and compassion towards people and the environment.
- Help children develop self-worth and maturity so they are equipped to deal with life's challenges and are well-prepared for the next stage of their education.
- Create a strong partnership between parents, children and staff to foster social awareness and to allow all members of the school community to feel valued and appreciated.
- Fulfil the potential of each pupil in our care.
- Encourage children to explore beliefs and experience; to respect faiths, feelings and values; to enjoy learning about themselves, others and the surrounding world; to use imagination and creativity and to develop the ability to reflect upon what they observe and experience.
- Guide children towards recognising right and wrong; respecting the law; understanding the consequences of their words and actions, and those of others; investigating moral and ethical issues and offering reasoned views.
- Encourage children to use a range of social skills; to participate in the local community; to appreciate diverse viewpoints; to participate, volunteer and cooperate; to resolve conflict; to engage with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.
- Help children to appreciate cultural influences; to appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; to participate in culture opportunities; to understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

### **Introduction**

The school provides full-time supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age (in accordance with Section 8 of the Education Act 1996), which gives pupils experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education.

The curriculum throughout the school has breadth and balance. There is effective integration of knowledge, skills and understanding. Personal and social capabilities and identified cross-curricular aspects, including ICT permeate the curriculum.

- In its most narrow definition, our remit is to prepare our pupils thoroughly for the next stage of their education, whatever age they leave the school.
- However, we believe that we are preparing children not only for their education elsewhere, but also for the life that lies beyond this.
- We regard the school years they spend with us as forming the base on which our pupils will build their future education.
- We therefore aim to give our pupils as broad an education as possible during their time with us.
- To this end, we place a strong emphasis on a broad curriculum, with Music, French and PE all taught by specialist teachers right from the Reception Class.
- The pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, including an understanding of British Values, is also given strong emphasis, by incorporating Circle Time into the Lower Prep curricula and a structured PSHE programme.

### **Aims of the curriculum**

At Kingswood House School we undertake to:

- Have high expectations of the children and ourselves
- Raise levels of attainment for all pupils, enabling them to achieve their personal best
- Prepare pupils for the standards and styles of entrance examinations into senior schools suited to their abilities and temperament
- Develop confident, disciplined and enquiring learners who are able to
- make informed choices
- Foster a love of learning
- Foster self-esteem and personal responsibility, linked to respect for the needs and feelings of others
- Facilitate considerate and positive relationships between all members of
- the school community
- Ensure equal opportunities in relation to gender, race, class, special needs and beliefs
- Provide a safe, happy work place
- Promote respect for the British values of democracy and the freedoms of the individual.
- Value and respect all cultures.
- Promote a thoughtful attitude towards the immediate and wider environment.
- Foster the development of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness.

The school gives experience in the following areas:

- Linguistic
- Mathematical
- Scientific
- Technological

- Human and social
- Physical
- Aesthetic and creative
- PSHE

### **Lower Prep: Reception**

The learning and development undertaken by every child in this department is planned in accordance with the framework 'The Early Years Foundation Stage Quality Framework'.

Under the guiding theme of Learning and Development there are seven clear areas of learning:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development  
 Communication, Language  
 Literacy  
 Mathematics  
 Understanding the World  
 Physical Development  
 Expressive Arts and Design

At the end of EYFS (i.e. Reception Year) formal assessments in the form of Record of Achievements and tracking scores are submitted to the local authority in conjunction with the EYFS requirements.

All areas of learning are of equal importance and are delivered in conjunction with each other. The development of each child is recorded through the use of Tracking Profiles which are submitted to the Local Authority at the end of Reception Year. These provide an accurate and detailed insight into the progress made by the individual. Observations made of each child in a variety of environments and learning situations ensure that an accurate recording of individual attainment is made.

A Record of Achievement is created throughout EYFS which records children's progress, targets and achievements. Parents are encouraged to input into this profile. Photographs, pictures, work and notes are collated throughout the child's time in EYFS. The Learning Journey is sent home at the end of Reception Year.

With a comprehensive view of the level of development for each child, an appropriate and challenging curriculum can be delivered to ensure that the needs of the individual can be met effectively.

On entry to Kingswood House all children will undertake a Baseline Assessment or informal assessment and observations, depending on the child, in order to ascertain stages of development, strengths and needs.

Many children will have followed an EYFS programme in a previous nursery and the records made by practitioners in that setting also provide vital information on Individual attainment and requirements for the coming year or for next schools.

Careful and flexible planning between all the staff in contact with the children ensures a wide, varied and effective curriculum is delivered.

Lower Prep (Reception to Year 4) teach a Creative Curriculum which takes a thematic approach. A chosen topic is planned in detail for half a term, after which, a new topic is taught. This allows more flexible teaching and cross curricular links to be covered. Science and Math are taught as discrete subjects.

### **Lower Prep: Years 1 and 2**

Form teachers are responsible for teaching English (speaking and listening, reading and writing), Maths, Science, History, Geography, Art, DT, IT and RS. Subject specialist teachers are employed in French, Music and Physical Education and Forest School.

The syllabus for each academic subject is planned in accordance with the National Curriculum and with the requirements of the Common Entrance and Scholarship examinations at 13+. Pre-Test requirements are also taken into account where appropriate.

### **Lower and Upper Prep**

In Years 3 to 6 the syllabus content and skills taught in Mathematics, English, ICT / Computer Science, DT, Art, Science, French, RS and History and Geography are broadly in line with the National Curriculum.

The broad curriculum continues to be delivered with generous allocations of time to specialist-taught French, Music and Physical Education from Years 3-5. Subjects are specialist-taught in Year 6. A Forest School specialist teaches Reception to Year 4.

In Years 7 and 8 pupils prepare for the following examined subjects through what is broadly a Common Entrance curriculum: Mathematics, English, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, French, History, Geography and RS.

Some pupils will follow an additional scholarship programme.

In addition, all pupils continue to be taught Art, Design Technology, Music, IT and Physical Education; Drama is taught as a timetabled subject from Year 7.

Throughout the school, PSHE (the Jigsaw programme) is an integral part of the curriculum and as such is the responsibility of all staff who come into contact with the children. It is also taught as an independent subject for all year groups, including Reception Class. The syllabus is delivered through these designated lessons, and through subject teaching, circle time, assemblies, church services, charity/community involvement, outings, class roles and responsibilities and guest speakers. In addition, the senior years 6-8 follow a programme of discrete lessons including sex education, drugs education, bullying, healthy living, money management etc. (See SOW for PSHE)

## **Senior School Curriculum Content**

We offer a range of subjects including a core of English Literature and Language, Mathematics, and Combined Science, with options for a Modern Foreign Language, Drama, Classics, Physical Education, Art, Design Technology, Music, Computer Science, History and Geography.

Educating the whole pupil has always been our philosophy and nowhere is this more evident than in our extensive Senior School extra-curricular programme which will help to develop practical and personal skills. Talents and interests will be encouraged and there will be opportunities to obtain qualifications that are widely recognised by educational institutions and employers. Pupils will also be able to participate in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Additionally our Year 9 pupils enjoy a 'Making of Modern Britain' trip and the challenge of planning, creating and managing a cross-curricular week for the benefit of the whole school.

Pupils will have the opportunity to undertake an accredited Higher Project Qualification (HPQ). This award takes the form of a largely self-directed and self-motivated project: pupils will choose, plan and research their own topic area before developing their ideas and deciding on a finished product. Extremely valuable and rewarding in its own right, this award also provides an excellent foundation for higher-level HPQ qualifications in the GCSE years and beyond.

## **Citizenship Programme (PSHE and The Kingswood House Way)**

Kingswood House School has developed a reputation for producing boys with an excellent sense of duty and care for others. In Year 9 and beyond, they will be able to work alongside various local, national and international voluntary organisations that care for people and the environment. This will offer many life changing experiences that will help them to become grounded and responsible citizens of the future. Whether the boys are helping the elderly, building new wildlife habitats or assisting charities at home or abroad, they will often work in small teams developing invaluable communication and logistical skills.

Our Citizenship Programme is an extension of our comprehensive pastoral curriculum which also includes personal finance, working with small businesses and participating in STRIDE to encourage entrepreneurship.

## **Career Guidance**

The school offers a comprehensive programme of Careers guidance for senior pupils.

## **Duke of Edinburgh**

By the end of Year 8, Kingswood House boys have acquired many skills and experienced adventure trips that will prepare them for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme in Year 9. Devised to develop self-reliance, independence,

physical activity and service to others, the scheme encapsulates many key values that mirror the School's ethos. Boys will also be able to achieve the Silver Award in Years 10 and 11.

## **Sport**

Sport is a very important part of the curriculum and Kingswood House School has unlocked the sporting potential in many of its pupils by exposing them to a broad range of team and individual sports. Our sporting programme is constantly evolving to meet the sporting interests of our pupils and in recent years boys have gone on to represent their country in hockey, cricket, skiing and ice skating. Two former pupils are current world champions, in wakeboarding and sailing. We are able to offer a range of individual and team sports including: -

Hockey	Rock Climbing	Basket Ball
Rugby	Judo	Racket Sports
Football	Swimming	Skiing / Snowboarding
Cricket	Gymnastics	

## **Other Whole School Considerations:**

### **Special Educational Needs and Enrichment**

We are a leading provider of dedicated support for the individual child. Kingswood House has a trained SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) who is in charge of our Study Centre, a dedicated centre for giving individual tuition for those children who have been diagnosed as having special needs. The Study Centre is staffed by qualified tutors specialising in literacy, numeracy, dyslexia, dyspraxia, speech and language, occupational therapy and English as an additional language. We also have a number of LSAs who support boys in the classroom. We also have a Senior School SENCo.

The SENCo's role is to support staff in identifying pupils' difficulties and planning teaching strategies, to liaise with parents and outside agencies, to co-ordinate staff in the Study Centre and the Learning Support Assistants. Individual Personal Learning Plans are provided for all children on the Special Needs Register and in particular for those with a statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan. (See Special Needs Policy)

All pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan have a multidisciplinary review of progress and the Individual Personal Learning Plan each term. Annually, there is a more formal multidisciplinary review for each of these pupils to complete the paperwork for the education and health care plan and amend provision if necessary.

We have an Able Needs Coordinator who helps identify and meet the needs of able and talented children.

We encourage children of all abilities to broaden their horizons. Each term a programme of extension and enrichment activities offers a diversity of experience. Pupils are encouraged to air their views on the development of their own education, to build on their strengths and to develop areas in which they have an interest.

### **English as an Additional Language**

Any child for whom English is an additional language is monitored by the Study Centre and given extra support if required, by our TEFAL trained tutor.

### **Reading**

To further support the acquisition and development of reading skills, a reading period is embedded in the formal timetable.

### **The Kingswood House Way Enrichment Programme**

A robust and dynamic Enrichment Programme relating to The Kingswood House Way is embedded in the Curriculum. An individual subject (or a combination of subjects) leads enrichment for a half-term period, providing initiatives and activities which can be taken up by all subject areas.

### **Trips and Outings**

Trips and outings form an important part of our curriculum. They are used to complement an area of learning and full use is made of the local facilities of museums, art galleries, theatres, historical sites and sites of scientific interest. Residential trips are made annually by Years 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 to promote team building and enhance subjects such as French and Science. (See Policy on Educational Visits)

Our curriculum is enhanced by tours of many British locations which link with the academic curriculum and provide further enrichment opportunities.

GCSE subjects are supported with other visits, which will bring subjects to life and enable boys to investigate topics in a hands-on, practical way.

All boys will have the opportunity to go abroad to visit the war graves, undertake geography fieldwork or go on the annual ski trip. In addition, there is a biennial water sports trip to France.

### **Homework**

A homework timetable is published each September. The Parents' Handbook sets out the purpose of homework, the types of homework that will be set and the times allocated for each year group. Homework is emailed to children and/or parents, depending on pupil age.

For pupils in Years 1 to 4, the Homework and Reading Diary is signed at home daily and checked by the form teacher daily.

## **Assessment and Reporting**

Assessment is an essential part of the teaching process. Regular assessments are made of pupils' work to establish a level of attainment and to inform future planning. Teachers use assessment information to track the progress of individual pupils and the Director of Studies uses it to monitor the effectiveness of the teaching and the curriculum.

Record-keeping, reporting and assessment procedures are defined in the Assessment Policy and in departmental handbooks.

## **Equal Opportunities**

We believe all pupils in the school should have equal opportunities and equal access to the curriculum. Because of the wide range of ability and special needs of our pupils the curriculum has to be specifically modified and differentiated to allow them access to it.

## **Staff Development**

In-service training is provided in order to update and improve standards of teaching and learning. Training needs are regularly assessed. Initiatives in curriculum development and teaching and learning styles are monitored to ensure teachers are well-equipped to deliver the curriculum effectively. INSET is delivered at the beginning of each term, often with follow-up sessions. It is recommended that staff attend two courses during the academic year; one related to their subject and one for their personal development.

**JKM July 2020**

**Next Review: July 2021**