

The Curriculum

Students at Eastbrook School follow a broad, balanced curriculum which includes:-

- *the national curriculum*
- *promotion of the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students*
- *preparation of students for opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life;*

All students are encouraged to read widely, have access to the school library and are expected to read for 30minutes a day as homework. Students are encouraged to apply literacy and numeracy skills across the curriculum.

Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8)

At KS3, students follow a programme of subjects which include the national curriculum requirements:-

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Modern Foreign Language (French)
- History
- Geography
- Computing
- Design Technology (Manufacturing and Food Technology)
- Art
- Performing Arts (Dance, Drama & Music)
- ECS (Ethics and cultural studies incl. Citizenship, Sex & Relationship Education and Religious Studies)
- Accelerated Reader

Year 7 students are taught in groups according to prior attainment across all subjects.

Year 8 students are taught together in English, Maths and Science groups according to prior attainment and progress in the individual subjects. Students are taught in the same groups based on prior attainment for other subjects.

Year 8 students also receive a range of guidance before making a choice of 3 subjects to supplement the core curriculum in KS4 from Year 9, to ensure that the best range of subjects are taken to match their abilities, interests and career direction.

Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 & 11)

At KS4 students follow a three year programme of study towards Level 2 qualifications at GCSE and BTEC. All students continue to follow a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Studies and Physical Education. Religious Studies is delivered as part of the ECS programme.

Students personalise the remainder of their curriculum with guided options that include a range of subjects including GCSEs, BTEC and for current Y11 only, vocational courses offered in conjunction with local college providers. Some students are able to progress to Level 3 study in Y11 in the Performing Arts. Higher ability students in Y10 follow triple science.

Year 9 and 10 follow 3 option subjects while Year 11 students follow 4 options. This follows changes from Sept 2015 to provide more curriculum time for English, Maths and Science along with option subjects studied.

Option Subjects Available (2014-15)

Art – Art & Design (GCSE)	Art – Photography (GCSE)
Art - Textile Design (GCSE)	<i>Beauty</i> (City & Guilds)*
Business Communication Systems (GCSE)*	Business Studies (BTEC)
Child Development (GCSE)	Computer Science (GCSE)
<i>Construction</i> (BTEC)*	Dance (BTEC)
<i>3D Design</i> (BTEC)*	DT - Product Manufacturing (GCSE)
Drama (BTEC)	
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	French (GCSE)
Geography (GCSE)	History (GCSE)
Hospitality & Catering (GCSE)	Law (GCSE)
Media Studies (GCSE)	
<i>Motor Vehicle & Engineering Studies</i> (BTEC)*	Music (BTEC)
PE (GCSE)	Sociology (GCSE)
Triple Science (GCSE)*	

* Y11 only.

Italics indicate Y11 course taught off site on Thursdays

Increasing numbers of students are choosing to study French in combination with either Geography or History, which in combination with the core subjects meet the requirements of the English Baccalaureate. This is encouraged for all students who intend to go to university.

Key Stage 5 (Years 12 & 13)

At post 16, students continue to personalise their studies by choosing from a wide range of traditional academic and vocational pathways (both Level 2 and Level 3) at Eastbrook School or within our local consortium.

Students receive guidance toward post 16 study in Year 11 and there is an ongoing programme of Careers and University application guidance in order to prepare them for opportunities in later life.

Key Stage 3	Y7			Y8			Keystage 3
	hrs tt/wk	hrs / year	% Time	hrs tt/wk	hrs / year	% Time	hrs
English	7	137	14	7	137	14	273
Maths	7	137	14	7	137	14	273
Science	7	137	14	7	137	14	273
Language	4	78	8	4	78	8	156
History ¹	4	78	8	3	59	6	137
Geography	3	59	6	3	59	6	117
PE	4	78	8	4	78	8	156
ECS	2	39	4	2	39	4	78
Performing Arts	3	59	6	4	78	8	137
Art	3	59	6	3	59	6	117
Technology	3	59	6	3	59	6	117
Computing	3	59	6	3	59	6	117
Total	50	950	100	50	950	100	1900

Key Stage 4	Y9			Y10			Y11			Keystage 4
	hrs tt/wk	hrs / year	% Time	hrs tt/wk	hrs / year	% Time	hrs tt/wk	hrs / year	% Time	hrs
English	9	176	18	9	176	9	8	156	16	507
Maths	9	176	18	9	176	9	8	156	16	507
Science	10	195	20	10	195	10	8	156	16	546
PE	4	78	8	4	78	4	4	78	8	234
ECS / RE ² (Y10 & 11)	1	20	2	3	59	3	2	39	4	117
Option 1 ³	5	98	10	5	98	5	5	97.5	10	292.5
Option 2 ³	5	98	10	5	98	5	5	97.5	10	292.5
Option 3 ³	5	98	10	5	98	5	5	97.5	10	292.5
Opt 4 (Y11 only)		0					5	97.5	10	195
Computing	2	39	4							78
Total	50	950	100	50	950	50	50	950	100	5700

¹ Literacy built through the History curriculum

² ECS RE focus with Citizenship delivered in KS4 through drop down days

³ Subject options function as a foundation year for GCSE

Additional curriculum information

Parents who require more information about the school curriculum should contact
Mr. M Hickman – hickmanm@eastbrookschoool.org.uk

Nationally, there has been an ongoing review of qualifications which has been characterised by a move toward more rigorous, academic curriculum, with a greater focus on formal examinations.

From Sept 2015, students will be starting examination courses at the start of Year 9, and have 3 years of study, to allow more time and space for the increased challenges of final examinations to be addressed through in-depth, engaging and enjoyable learning.

With a condensed (2 year) Key Stage 3, students at Eastbrook School will experience a greater sense of pace and purpose. With a 3 year Key Stage 4, we will use the extra curriculum time to ensure that students gain the best grades possible in an increasingly challenging educational environment through:

- Gaining a real depth and breadth of subject-specific knowledge, understanding and skills.
- Learning and practising revision and examination techniques in GCSE lessons in a more thorough and integrated way.