



NORTHAMPTON SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Curriculum Update 2020

At Northampton School for Girls our core aim is to provide students with educational excellence so that they can access university, higher education, employment or an apprenticeship. We are committed to a curriculum that is rich in knowledge and skills; we firmly believe that knowledge begets knowledge. Powerful knowledge gives students the cultural literacy and cultural capital they need to become active citizens in society and further their personal aspirations and ambitions. Through the enacted curriculum there is an expectation that students retain what they have been taught in their long-term memory. There is a strong emphasis on retrieval practice, sequencing and interleaving, with a curriculum design model that ensures progression.

We follow a broad and balanced curriculum which, as a whole, includes the national curriculum, PSHE (personal, social and health education), assemblies and our extensive extra-curricular provision.

At Key Stage Three (Years 7, 8 and 9), our girls study English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, French, Spanish, Computer Science, Art, Music, Dance, Drama, PE, Ethics and Philosophy (which includes Religious Education) and Design Technology (rotating between Food, Textiles, Timbers and Papers & Boards). PSHE is also delivered to include Sex & Relationships Education, British values, Citizenship and Careers.

At Key Stage Four (Years 10 and 11), students follow courses which lead to GCSE qualifications or equivalent. Most students study nine or ten subjects at GCSE. All students study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Sciences (combined or three separate). They then choose four more courses from: Art, Computer Science, Creative iMedia, Dance BTEC, Drama, Ethics & Philosophy, Film, French, Food, Geography, History, ICT, Music, Product Design (Textiles, Timbers and Papers & Boards), Spanish and Sport BTEC. In addition, all students continue to take PE lessons and follow our PSHE programme which includes Careers, Citizenship and Sex & Relationships Education.

We are flexible in the way that we build the curriculum for our learners. Therefore, students wishing to pursue more GCSEs, or perhaps to take GCSEs early, can be accommodated. For example, many students take a GCSE in additional languages. Further Mathematics GCSE is also offered to our more able students. Equally, students for whom a reduced package is appropriate have the option of pursuing more vocational qualifications in school, including the highly successful Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CPE).

All students are required to stay in education or training until they are 18 years old. We assume that all students will wish to continue their Post-16 studies at NSG. We offer A Level programme and Level 3 vocational courses to match students' abilities, aptitudes and interests. Further details are available on our website.

Please note that our curriculum is constantly developing and therefore may change from year to year. This information on this curriculum update is correct at the time of going to press (*September 2020*).

For more information please visit our website: www.nsg.northants.sch.uk