

Clitheroe Royal Grammar School

Curriculum Policy

Staff member responsible: Deputy Headteacher Main School

Governors' Committee: Curriculum and Achievement

The curriculum at Clitheroe Royal Grammar School reflects our philosophy and aims to encourage students to:

- Develop lively, enquiring minds capable of original thought and well-balanced critical argument.
- Become confident, independent learners well-equipped for lifelong learning.
- Derive enjoyment from their learning which should extend their intellectual capacity, develop their interest and stimulate their curiosity.
- Embrace the many opportunities afforded by developments in information and communication technologies, whilst fully accepting the responsibilities that go with using them properly.
- Engage in a broad programme of experiences which enable them to appreciate their cultural inheritance and understand more about themselves and the world in which they live.
- Develop the capacities to make informed, rational and responsible decisions and to work in ways which enhance their self-respect and sensitivity to the needs of others, particularly those less advantaged than themselves.
- Develop a range of reasoned beliefs and values and a sympathy and respect for those held by others, which will prepare them to become considerate and responsible citizens.

We provide education that is suited to able students and there is great emphasis on academic excellence. Students need to secure the best achievable qualifications. However, we firmly believe that the value of our curriculum goes beyond purely what is examinable.

It is our intention to lay secure foundations for progression into Further and Higher Education and we consider preparation for Sixth Form Advanced Level study to be a key feature of our 11-16 education.

Our curriculum includes a wide variety of enrichment activities and we encourage students to take full advantage of these.

Lessons are taught by highly qualified and motivated staff all of whom are experts in their subject. All departments are well resourced and use the latest computer technologies.

Curriculum Provision

Key Stage 3

In Key Stage 3 students follow a broad and balanced course.

Year 7 students follow English, Drama, Maths, Science, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Design Technology, Textiles, Geography, Religious Studies, History, PE and Games, Art, Music, Computing, and Personal Development. Year 7 students study 2 languages from: French and German, German and Spanish or French and Spanish. They continue with these languages through to the end of Year 9.

Year 8 students follow English, Drama, Maths, Science, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Design Technology, Textiles, Geography, Religious Studies, History, PE and Games, Art, Music, Computing, and Personal Development. Year 8 students study 2 languages from: French and German, German and Spanish or French and Spanish. They continue with these languages through to the end of Year 9.

Year 9 students commence their GCSE courses in English, Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Biology. They also study Geography, Religious Studies, History, PE and Games, Computing and Personal Development (relationships and sex education).

Year 9 students opt to study two languages from: Spanish, French and German. Year 9 students choose three subjects from: Art, Music, Drama, Textiles, Food Preparation and Nutrition and Design Technology.

During the 'Guidance' form period all students follow a programme of Personal Development.

Key Stage 4 from September 2024

At the end of Key Stage 3 students select their GCSE courses. All Year 9 students are interviewed by a member of SLT or their Head of Year to help guide them about their GCSE options. Advice is given to ensure that the mix of courses taken by each student is balanced, leaving open maximum options for the Sixth Form and future career choice.

The GCSE examinations are completed at the end of Year 11 and include a core of:

English Literature;
English Language;
Mathematics;
Physics, Chemistry and Biology (as 3 separate GCSEs) **or** Combined Science Trilogy (worth 2 GCSEs);
one Humanity subject chosen from Classical Civilisation, Geography, History and Religious Studies.

One Language option is strongly advised but not compulsory, chosen from French, German or Spanish.

Students also choose from the following optional subjects. They are given free choice and every effort is made to meet those choices.

Classical Civilisation, Latin, Art: Fine Art, Music, Drama, Art: Textiles, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Design Technology, Physical Education, Computer Science, Geography, History, Religious Studies, French, German and Spanish.

Some students are given the opportunity to take Level 2 Further Maths GCSE.

Most students achieve 9 or 10 full GCSE qualifications in total.

In addition, students follow non-examination courses in Personal Development, Citizenship, Physical Education and RMPS.

In KS3 and KS4 the Personal Development and Citizenship programme includes the following themes:

Relationships and Sex Education
Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing
Living in the Wider World
Citizenship

Please see the Personal Development Programme for Study for further details.

Key Stage 5

In the Sixth Form students choose from 26 different A Level courses. Students study 4 or 5 subjects in Year 12 and continue with 3 or 4 of these in Year 13. A Level examinations are taken at the end of Year 13.

A Levels are linear, i.e. assessment of a student's knowledge and understanding takes place at the end of two years.

A Levels on offer are:

- Art and Design
- Business
- Classics
- Computer Science
- Design and Technology: Product Design
- Drama
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- English Language and Literature Combined
- Geography
- History
- Languages (French, German and Spanish)
- Maths
- Further Maths
- Music
- Physical Education
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)
- Sociology

The Extended Project Qualification is also on offer. Students benefit from studying their own individual project in depth and having to present their findings and evaluations to an audience.

Students also have the opportunity of studying the Core Mathematics Level 3 qualification and undertaking optional lessons in Critical Thinking.

The majority of the Sixth Form proceed to degree courses in universities including Oxford and Cambridge. Sixth Form students are encouraged to develop responsibility for their own learning, a skill crucial for those moving on to Higher Education and the world of work.

The curriculum is completed by a programme of guidance and enrichment activities. Students are guided by their Form Tutors in a weekly timetabled session and on a one-to-one basis by their Senior Tutor. In addition to this, Personal Development lessons are delivered by a subject specialist. The core guidance and enrichment activities undertaken by all students are work experience, Skills and Choices sessions and the Ethics, Philosophy and Religion Conference. There are many more optional opportunities in sport, music, drama, debating, overseas visits and exchanges and one-off competitions.

Equality and SEND

For further information about the curriculum and equality of provision and SEND, please see the following:

- Equalities and Inclusion Policy
- SEND Local Offer
- SEND Policy

Monitoring and review

This policy will be monitored by the Deputy Headteacher Main School overseeing curriculum development. It will be reviewed annually.

Date of last review:	March 2026
Date of approval by Governors:	March 2026
Date of next review:	March 2027