

Linton Village College

Curriculum Policy

The Every Child Matters Agenda - we share the Government's aim for every child, whatever their background or their circumstances, to have the support they need to:

- be healthy
- stay safe
- enjoy and achieve
- make a positive contribution
- achieve economic well-being

Linton Village College's Mission Statement - our ambition is to be a world class centre of learning and so we aim:

- to be a vibrant learning community which embraces change and is at the vanguard of innovation in education
- to provide outstanding teaching and learning, a personalised curriculum and superb learning environment
- to sustain outstanding levels of achievement at all key stages
- to equip our learners with the skills, attributes and values they need as 21st century global citizens
- to collaborate with community partners to foster social cohesion and to ensure that our community prospers
- to nurture exceptional leadership at all levels in the organisation.

Therefore the curriculum at Linton Village College aims to:

- foster a love and commitment for life-long learning by being relevant, stimulating and engaging for all students;
- enable students to discover and develop talents and pursue excellence;
- be personalised, responding to learners diverse needs and enabling every student to develop the skills they need to follow their current interests and future aspirations;
- enable students to acquire understanding, knowledge and skills relevant and applicable for adult life and employment in a rapidly-changing world;
- enable students to achieve qualifications from courses which are challenging and robust, recognised by post 16 course providers and employers, therefore enabling them to gain economic well-being;
- offer a range of qualifications to overcome barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of students;
- provide equality of opportunity for every student regardless of race, background or gender;
- develop personal moral values, respect for and tolerance of others; to become effective citizens in local and global communities; able to make a positive contributions to society;
- develop skills and knowledge to keep themselves and others safe and healthy;
- develop students who have lively and enquiring minds, able to question and debate rationally; to be creative and innovative thinkers.

Organisation of the Curriculum

The college timetable is organised with 50-one-hour lessons over a 2 week period.

Key Stage 3 – Years 7 to 9

Year	English	Maths	Science	Humanities	Languages	Technology	PE	Arts	ICT	Deep Learning Day
7	5	5	5	9	5	6	4	4	2	5
8	6	6	6	9	6	5	4	6	2	
9	6	6	6	9	6	5	4	6	2	

English and maths – developing students’ literacy and numeracy is of the highest priority at LVC. Students who enter the school below expected levels are given intensive, additional lessons through a Fresh Start programme and one-to-one tuition. Literacy and numeracy are also taught across the whole curriculum.

Science – includes biology, chemistry and physics.

Humanities – includes history, Religious Studies (RS), geography and citizenship.

Languages – include French in year 7 and Spanish and French in years 8 and 9. Some students have the opportunity to learn a language of their choice through *Language Futures*, an innovative approach to self-access language learning. Some students are accelerated in year 8 and 9 French and achieve a GCSE at the end of Key Stage 3.

Technology – all students learn the range of technology subjects including food, resistant materials, design and technology and graphics. Personal finance skills are taught within the Technology Enterprise Faculty. In year 9 students take part in a mini-enterprise project.

Physical Education (PE) – all students learn a wide range of sports and games

Arts – includes art, music, drama and dance.

ICT – students are taught functional skills which they also apply within their other subjects.

Learning to Learn – once a fortnight, year 7 have a *Deep Learning Day* where they develop their Personal Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS) through a variety of cross curricular themes. PLTS and L2L skills are also taught and reinforced across the whole curriculum.

PSHE – personal, social, economic and health education are taught through 4 discrete days as well as throughout the whole curriculum.

Key Stage 4 – Year 10 - 11

Year	English	Maths	Science	PE	RS	Option 1 - 5
10	6	5	10	2	2	5 each
11	6	5	10	2	2	5 each

English – all students study for English Language GCSE and the majority also take English Literature GCSE.

Maths - all students study for a GCSE qualification in mathematics. Some student may be entered for Entry or Level 1 numeracy qualifications. Statistics can be taken as an option, which also gives some student the opportunity to study the Free Standing Maths Qualification at Level 3.

Study Skills - a small number of students each year study Single Award Science for 5 lessons per fortnight and use the remaining 5 lessons to develop their literacy and numeracy study skills. This course leads to Level 1 and Level 2 qualifications in Adult Literacy and Numeracy (ALAN).

Science – many students study Double Award Science leading to 2 GCSE qualifications which includes biology, chemistry and physics disciplines. All Double Award students take ‘Science’ GCSE and then they can either take ‘Additional Applied Science’ or ‘Additional Science’ depending on their future qualification and career pathways. Many students opt to take separate biology, chemistry and physics sciences within one of their option blocks.

Options – students are able to have free choice of a very wide range of courses which are outlined in the Options Booklet found on our website (www.lvc.org). These include traditional GCSE subjects as well as more applied and vocational courses such as BTECs; Diplomas; Young Apprenticeships; ASDAN and other life-skills courses and some Level 3 (AS) qualifications.

Physical Education (PE) – all students follow a core PE/Sports course. Some students have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and gain a Junior Sports Leadership qualification. Many students opt for PE or Dance as a GCSE or BTEC subject option.

Religious Studies (RS) – most students follow a GCSE short course in RS. Many students opt for Philosophy and Ethics GCSE as an option subject. RS also covers many citizenship and other PSHE topics.

PSHE – personal, social, economic and health education are taught through 4 discrete days as well as throughout the whole curriculum.

Partnership – in order to broaden the range of our curricular offer, some of our learners study one or more subjects at one of our partner schools and colleges.

Information and Guidance/Careers Education – students are strongly supported in making their choices at transition stages. They are taught the skills of effective decision-making throughout their five years at the school and given impartial information and guidance at key moments in their school careers. The school works in partnership with parents/carers and the Connexions Careers Advisory service to support each student in their option choices.

Extra Curricular Provision

We have a broad extracurricular offer which enriches and extends the curriculum at the school. There are many lunchtime and after school clubs including:

- Sport – all the major sports have clubs for all the years to participate. Inter school fixtures are an important and regular feature.
- Music – extensive participation in a wide variety of clubs which include: String Orchestra, Wind Band, Harmony Choir, Pop Choir, Flute Choir, Guitar Ensemble, Samba Band, Brass Group and Rock School. Most of the children will experience concert performance, many on trips abroad.
- Drama - there is a lower school drama club, Linton Youth Theatre and an annual school production. The youth service also has a number of issue based drama groups.
- Young Chamber of Commerce and Robotics groups.
- Art – Gifted, Talented and Passionate Art Club and ArtsAward Scheme.
- Other clubs and open sessions at lunchtime include: ICT, maths, science, art, Christian Union and games and puzzles.

For detail of our full extra curricular offer visit our website (www.lvc.org)

Students also have many opportunities to go on local and foreign trips including skiing; adventure expeditions; history visit to the battlefields; geography visit to Mount Vesuvius; sports water adventure trip in the South of France; and many more.