

Two Page Curriculum Overview for Students and Parents

For all year groups, the year is split into four 9 week cycles.

Week 1	Assess prior learning	Teachers assess students prior knowledge to inform future planning and students receive Knowledge Organisers, subject sequencing sheets so they understand what we are teaching, possible misconceptions and how this fits in with other learning.
Week 1 - 7	Teaching	Teachers will formatively assess students during lessons
Week 8	Assessment Week	Information regarding the style of assessment below. Assessment used to inform teacher and student of the progress they are making and this is reported to parents
Week 9	Review and Improvement Week	Range of teaching and learning activities to cover gaps or deepen knowledge and skills.

In Year 7-10, cycles 1 and 3 the students assessment is short knowledge based questions to ensure they have the knowledge at their disposal to answer more complex in depth questions. In cycles 2 and 4 the assessment is in two parts. One part knowledge recall and one part more complex questions which require the application of knowledge. Some subjects may choose to allow students to have knowledge organisers for part 2. Year 11-13 is a mixture of the two and also includes exam style questions and past papers.

Students are given their percentage mark in the assessments and we then report this to parents along with the class average. We interleave content and check knowledge is being retained through daily low stakes quizzes in every lesson.

Assessment

Cycle	Year 7-9	Year 10	Year 11 and 13	Year 12
1	50 question knowledge recall assessment	50 question knowledge recall assessment	Mock Exam 2 (Dec)	Application of knowledge assessment
2	1) 50 question knowledge recall assessment 2) Application assessment	1) 50 question knowledge recall assessment 2) Application assessment	Mock Exam 3 (March)	Application of knowledge assessment
3	50 question knowledge recall assessment	50 question knowledge recall assessment	Exam Season	Application of knowledge assessment
4	1) 50 question knowledge recall assessment 2) Application assessment	Mock Exam 1	Exam Season	Mock Exam 1

- Knowledge recall will be 50 questions (unless agreed otherwise).
- 40 of the questions will be on that cycle's content - clearly seen in the Knowledge Organiser.
- The other 10 will be the 10 worst answered questions from the previous assessment cycle.

Cycle 1	50 questions
Cycle 2	40 questions + 10 worst answered from cycle 1 assessment
Cycle 3	40 questions + 10 worst answered from cycle 2 assessment
Cycle 4	40 questions + 10 worst answered from cycle 3 assessment

What is the rationale behind the curriculum design?

We ensure a broad and balanced curriculum that enables our children to both **achieve** and be **aspirational**. We have a 3 year Key Stage 3 and a 2 year Key Stage 4. Our starting point is the National curriculum <https://www.gov.uk/national-curriculum/key-stage-3-and-4>. Our subjects have all cross referenced with the National curriculum to ensure that our offer in each area is as good or better.

We make **Modern Britain** compulsory for all as we are passionate about teaching our children to be tolerant of others, be able to debate in a civilised and constructive way, to be aware of the changing culture in which we live in and increase their cultural capital. All of which may not be nurtured at home to a consistent level for all of our students.

All year groups have a comprehensive **careers programme** and **PSHE** is taught as a separate entity in year 7, 8 and 9 and **RSE** is delivered within these lessons. Year 10 and 11 are also taught Modern Britain and RE throughout and PSHE is then delivered through half termly 'collapsed days'.

When it comes to GCSE all of our students will study English (Literature and Language), Mathematics, Science, Modern Britain (RS), at least one humanity, at least one art, plus two options of their choice. We offer a full and extensive range of GCSE and vocational subjects at key stage 4. Our KS4 BTEC qualifications provide a good progression route for some students into level 3 and our GCSE support academic A-Level study into university courses.

How do we ensure an effective start to Key Stage 3?

We believe that our curriculum planning starts before our students have joined Stoke Damerel Community College through our extensive transition programme. Our feeder Primary Schools are visited by a member of our Leadership Team and our Head of Year for Year 7, and a bespoke package around transition has been carefully planned and implemented to ensure that all students' needs are met and they are challenged from the outset. This starts their journey with us, providing us with information on prospective students in order to make sure that they have a well-supported and positive start. The SENDCo will visit SEND and vulnerable students to make their transition more personalised and bespoke through enhanced transition arrangements. Students with low KS2 SATs scores and a low reading age who would struggle to adapt immediately to the demands of secondary education, embark on our foundation curriculum. These students are taught in smaller groups, receive additional literacy and numeracy lessons, as well as regular one to one support with our interventions team. They are given extra English and literacy input with a view to these students being able to access more of the mainstream curriculum when their comprehension, reading age, writing skills and technical accuracy have improved. We have started to use Direct Instruction for our nurture groups in English and Maths. The year group is split into two populations x and y, this enables 60 students in set one to support the notion of a self fulfilling prophecy. This is the case in English, Maths, and Science although beyond this students are generally in slightly mixed ability groups.