



Easthampstead Park Community School Curriculum Statement

Reviewed: January 2021

At Easthampstead Park Community School, our aim is to provide an excellent educational experience for all our students. Our curriculum is carefully planned to cover the national curriculum framework, offering students an increasing level of challenge to 'deepen' learning with a belief that students can excel in all areas regardless of circumstance.

Our vision for our school community and our curriculum is to model for students high expectations and to expect the same from them. As their studies continue into KS4 and 5, we seek to inspire them to continue to extend their knowledge and learning well beyond their time with us and contribute positively to their local community, building our "village's" capacity to thrive. The planned curriculum reflects the abilities and diversity of the community which we serve, promoting resilience and building character to deal with the changing world in which we live and embracing our local context.

Easthampstead Park Community School curricular aims are to:

1. Provide all students with a broad and balanced curriculum throughout their learning journey at Easthampstead Park Community School including an clear emphasis on following the English Baccalaureate pathway where appropriate.
2. Adhere to, or go beyond, the National Curriculum in most subjects to ensure greater depth and breadth in learning.
3. Provide carefully planned sequences of learning which enable all students to build and learn new knowledge and skills building on their prior knowledge.
4. Provide students with engaging lessons taught by highly skilled teachers with opportunities for experiences to learn beyond the classroom.
5. Allow students to learn from their mistakes, using an array of feedback methods to clarify misconceptions and secure knowledge learnt over time.
6. Plan assessment based on curricular aims to test out how well the curriculum has been learnt.
7. Support the students to achieve the highest possible results in national tests.
8. Prepare students for the next phase of their education or employment and life in modern Britain, taking account of pupils' aspirations, the local, national and global job markets.
9. Develop students' character and look for opportunities to add to their cultural capital.
10. Ensure diversity is celebrated to ensure all students feel welcomed, supported and valued in the school community and the curriculum reflects their background and experiences.
11. Use a range of reading strategies to advance literacy skills and access texts at all levels.

Easthampstead Park Community School aims to ensure all students access a varied co-curriculum beyond lessons, and achieve this through providing a broad range of essential experiences. There is a strong emphasis on ensuring our disadvantaged students are supported to gaining full access to all these opportunities. We know from experience it helps build resilience and increases engagement within the life of the school if a child will participate.

Threaded within our academic and pastoral curriculum, are strands of Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education (SMSC) which cover themes such as:

- Making and maintaining positive relationships

- Staying safe and healthy (including Sex and Relationships Education and cyber-safety)
- Respect of self and others- linked to character development
- Equality and inclusion – especially tolerance, respect and understanding of people from protected groups, including those with different faiths and beliefs
- British values eg: rights and responsibilities, democracy and the rule of law

Easthampstead Park Community School has reviewed its PSHE curriculum for 2020-2021 in light of the Government guidance on Relationships Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education. Our provision meets the statutory requirements and staff, governors and parents have been able to input their views into the review.

Curriculum Development

The planned curriculum has been evolved by senior and middle leaders working together. Governors have also had the opportunity to comment during this period of reflection and review. Curriculum Leaders have developed their subject based curriculum and assessment frameworks, ensuring they fully support the whole school vision. Easthampstead Park Community School sees the curriculum as dynamic and therefore, our work on the curriculum is ongoing. Leaders are constantly making adjustments based on feedback and review, taking into account the needs of different cohorts within the school. The school follows a “plan, do, review” approach.

Underpinning the implementation of the curriculum is a teaching staff with a high percentage of subject specialists across all curriculum disciplines. The staff expertise and knowledge has supported the sequencing, resourcing and delivery of the planned curriculum. Staff have been generous in sharing their subject knowledge with colleagues from within and outside the school and we subscribe to a continuously improving model of staff development. The school offers a comprehensive programme of continuous professional development which allows research-based practice to be brought into classrooms across the school in support of delivering the planned curriculum effectively [View our 2020-2021 CPD programme here.](#)

Schools of Learning

The school operates three schools within a school - Discovery, Destiny and EPCS6. Each school subscribes to the whole school's strategic vision but has a slightly different emphasis. Students were involved in choosing the names of Discovery and Destiny and this gives a clue to their sense of purpose.

Discovery School

Reflects the opportunities students have to explore and develop their knowledge and understanding of the world. Initially it covered Years 7 to 9 but was shortened when KS3 delivery within two years was thought to help support greater attainment at GCSE. Our data indicates that students benefited in some subjects from having a 3 year KS4 but not others and we now plan to reverse this decision so that students can fully benefit from extended opportunities to study a broader range of subjects in Year 9.

The existing programmes of study followed by students in Discovery School set them up for a transition year in Year 9 prior to starting their GCSEs in Year 10 and completing in Year 11. This allows students access to some new GCSE subjects earlier than would be the case if the options pathways were initiated in Year 9. We have sought to retain some elements of this going forwards, with students having a taster of some new subjects such as Media, Photography and Business Studies. See the Year 9 section below for further details.

Destiny School

Covers the two years of study in preparation for GCSE and currently the Lead for Destiny has oversight of the transition year in Year 9. This will change from 2021 when Year 9 will be incorporated back into Discovery school.

A small number of students in the last three years have followed an alternative pathway mixed with a more traditional GCSE offer. This has been beneficial to a minority of students who due to emotional regulation concerns, may have been educated outside of the school in the past. By using an outside provider, Skill Force, the school was able to meet their needs and retain a strong working relationship with parents to

support their child. This has depressed the school's attainment and progress scores as the qualifications studied while of real relevance and support for the students, did not count within the Government's League tables. Skillforce was dissolved in June 2019 and the school took the opportunity to retain specialist staff released by the company. The school also changed the course, so it was better aligned with Progress 8. The first year group following the new Public Services programme will gain their GCSE qualifications in Summer 2022.

EPCS6

This is the school's sixth form model which offers two pathways and allows students to transition onwards studying predominantly L3 programmes of study with a L2 offer for those seeking to round their skills prior to entering employment or an apprenticeship. The school has a real emphasis on supporting students to realise their ambitions and to broaden their understanding of the options open to them post 18. Engagement with potential employers is high and students have benefitted from the support provided.

Curriculum allocation and rationale

KS3: Discovery School

Year 7-9 2020-21

In Year 7-9, all students have a 30 min PREP period at the start of each day. For at least 3 days in 5, this is focused on guided reading, to build students' vocabularies through exposure to quality literature. On the remaining days, the period is focused on development of character, PSHE and the embodying of British Values.

In Year 7 and 8, all students follow a common curriculum:

Subject	70 min periods per fortnight - Year 7 and 8
English	5
Maths	5
Science	4 (From Sept 2021, this will change to 5)
Humanities (Geography, History, RS)*	8
Art	3
DT	3
Performing Arts (Dance, Drama, Music)	4 (From Sept 2021, this will change to 3)
PE	3
MFL (Spanish or German)	3
Computing	1
Personal Development	1

*In Year 7, students study a thematic integrated Humanities curriculum. In Year 8, students have 3x lessons of History, 3x lessons of Geography and 2x lessons of Religious Studies per fortnight.

Year 7-8 Project Group:

A bespoke pathway for students entering Year 7 with low prior attainment in Reading and Maths. For 2020-2021, students in Year 7 were identified based on the Cognitive Ability Tests (CATS) where their SAS mean score was below 82. Students in Year 8 were identified based on having a KS2 SATS standardised score of less than 90 in Maths and English. Rather than studying MFL, students following the Project pathway spend 3.5 hours per fortnight following a bespoke curriculum focusing on literacy, numeracy and social skills. A key aim of Project is to ensure students make at least expected progress and more wherever possible, and to enable students to access mainstream KS4 pathways.

Year 9:

Historically, students have made subject choices in the summer of Year 8, allowing them to explore these disciplines in detail in a ‘transition year’ before beginning GCSE study in Year 10. From September 2021, Easthampstead Park Community School has revisited the curriculum offer and students will now not make subject choices until the end of Year 9. This ensures all students study a broad range of subjects for as long as possible. As a result, current Year 8 students in 2020-2021 will not make subject choices until summer 2022.

The new Year 9 curriculum from September 2021 has been designed to allow students to sample aspects of new subjects they could choose to study at KS4. For example, as part of the Year 9 Art curriculum, students will have the opportunity to sample elements of Photography, and as part of the IT curriculum, students will have the opportunity to sample aspects of Business Studies. The intention is to develop students' understanding of the subjects building on the subject offer within KS3 so they can make informed course choices.

Year 9 curriculum until August 2021

Subject	70 mins lessons per fortnight - Year 9 2020-2021
English	7
Maths	7
Science	6
Subject 1	4
Subject 2	4
Subject 3	4
Subject 4	4
PE	3
Personal Development	1

Year 9 curriculum from September 2021

Subject	70 min periods per fortnight - Year 9 2021-2022
English (includes introduction to Media Studies)	6
Maths	6
Science	6
History	3
Geography	3
MFL (Spanish or German)*	3
Art (includes introduction to Photography)	2
DT Food	1
DT Resistant Materials/Computer Science/Child Development**	2
Performing Arts (Dance, Drama, Music)	2

PE	2
Citizenship	1
Computing (includes introduction to Business Studies)	2
Personal Development	1

*A small group of students, who have been part of the Project group in Year 7-8, study Public Services in Year 9 rather than MFL. This prepares them for studying a Public Services qualification as one of their KS4 options.

**A class of students who are interested in studying GCSE Computer Science in Year 10 will study an introduction to Computer Science in Year 9. Likewise, a class of students who are considering studying GCSE Child Development in Year 10 will study an introduction of Child Development in Year 9. All other students (4 classes) will study Design Technology: Resistant Materials.

KS4: Destiny School

Year 10-11

At KS4, all students study a core curriculum of GCSE English Language, English Literature, GCSE Maths, GCSE Combined Science and PE (non examination.) Students additionally select to study 4 options subjects (previously 3 prior to 2020.)

No student is excluded from any subject choice at KS4. This flexibility is enhanced by the fact that the timetabling and scheduling of classes is demand-led, with timetabled blocks of subjects being created only in response to the choices which students make. This allows well in excess of 95% of students to study their first choice combination of subjects.

Students for whom a GCSE language course is fully accessible are highly encouraged to study either German or Spanish. The number of students choosing to study languages has steadily increased in recent years, with 48% of students studying Spanish or German in Year 10 in 2021-2022. Most students elect to study History and/or Geography.

Core curriculum	Options
GCSE English Language	GCSE History
GCSE English Literature	GCSE Geography
GCSE Maths	GCSE Spanish
GCSE Combined Science	GCSE German
PE (Non-examination)	GCSE French
GCSE Citizenship	GCSE Fine Art
A small number of students also are offered functional skills in Maths and English	GCSE Photography
	GCSE Computer Science
	GCSE Media Studies
	GCSE 3D Design
	OCR Child Development

	BTEC Hospitality and Catering
	OCR Cambridge Nationals Creative iMedia
	BTEC Enterprise
	NCFE Health & Fitness
	BTEC Public services
	BTEC Music or Performing Arts

For 2020-2021, Easthampstead Park amended its Year 11 curriculum time allocation to support curriculum recovery following the period of school closure due to COVID-19. In 2020-2021 Year 11 students have an additional 'Champion Lesson' each week in Science and each of their GCSE option subjects. This additional 40 min lesson takes place from 3.10-3.50 Monday to Thursday, and is compulsory for all students.

Year 10 and 11 curriculum until August 2021

Subject	70 mins lessons per fortnight - Year 10	70 mins lessons per fortnight - Year 11
English	7	8
Maths	6	7
Science	7	7+1x 40 min 'Champion lesson'
Subject 1	5	5 +1x 40 min 'Champion lesson'
Subject 2	5	5 +1x 40 min 'Champion lesson'
Subject 3	5	5 +1x 40 min 'Champion lesson'
GCSE Citizenship	2	N/A
PE	2	2
Personal Development	1	1

Year 10 and 11 curriculum from September 2021

Subject	70 mins lessons per fortnight - Year 10	70 mins lessons per fortnight - Year 11
English	7	7
Maths	7	6
Science	7	7
Subject 1	4	5
Subject 2	4	5
Subject 3	4	5
Subject 4	4	N/A*

GCSE Citizenship	N/A	2
PE	2	2
Personal Development	1	1

*Last year group studying 3 rather than 4 KS4 option choices.

Year 10 and 11 students additionally have a 30 min PREP period each day. In Year 10, this period is focused on guided reading (at least 3 sessions each week) and PSHE. In Year 11, this period is focused on subject enrichment.

KS5 - EPCS6

Year 12-13

Most students starting Year 12 study three Level 3 qualifications (some may be eligible to study four.) Most take A Level courses but some take a mixture of A Level and Technical options. On top of three Level 3 qualifications, students can opt to study Core Maths in Year 12. In Year 13, students can additionally opt to undertake the Extended Project Qualification. In Years 12 and 13 students have 7x 70 min lessons per subject per fortnight, in addition to supervised directed independent study (6x 70 min periods per fortnight).

Courses that are available are:

GCE Fine Art	GCE Biology	GCE English Literature	GCE Film Studies
GCE Graphic Design	GCE Chemistry	GCE Mathematics	GCE German
GCE Photography	BTEC L3 Business Studies	GCE Further Mathematics	GCE Spanish
GCE English Language	WJEC L3 Applied Certificate in Criminology	GCE Media Studies	GCE History
GCE Geography	BTEC L3 Performing Arts	BTEC L3 Music	GCE Physics
GCE Sociology	GCE Psychology	BTEC L3 Sport	BTEC L3 ICT
Core Maths (Year 12 only)	EPQ (Year 13 only)		

Level 2 Ready to Work Pathway

A small number of Year 12 students each year follow our one year Level 2 Ready to Work Pathway. This pathway is aimed at students who did not secure their 5 GCSE passes, including English or Maths and who would otherwise leave Year 11 at risk of being NEET. All students follow a common curriculum comprising BTEC Level 2 Travel and Tourism, NCFE Level 2 Employability, BTEC Level 2 Public Services, GCSE/Level 2 Functional Skills English and GCSE/Level 2 Functional Skills Maths. As part of the Employability course, all students undertake work experience one day per fortnight, organised by the school. The aim is that by the end of the year, all students leave with the necessary qualifications and skills to begin either a vocational college course or an apprenticeship.

Curriculum time allocation by subject in EPCS6:

EPCS6 - Level 3	EPCS6 - Level 2 (Year 12 only)
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Subject	No. of 70 min lessons per fortnight	Subject	No. of 70 min lessons per fortnight
A-Level Option A	7	Level 2 BTEC Travel and Tourism	5
A-Level Option B	7	Level 2 NCFE Employability Skills	5
A-Level Option C	7	Level 2 BTEC Public Services	4
Supervised Study	6	Work Experience (1 day per week)	8
Core Maths (Y12)	4	GCSE Maths resit	6
EPQ (Y13)	2	GCSE English resit	6
Personal Development	1	Personal Development	1