



### **Key Stage 3 - Organisation of the curriculum**

The curriculum is organised into 3 Key stages – KS3 (Years 7/8) KS4 (Years 9/10 & 11) and KS5 (the sixth form – Years 12 & 13). Each Key stage has a model for the delivery of the subjects expected to be taught from which a timetable is constructed. The models are reviewed each year and developed to take into account national and local initiatives, student choices and staffing constraints.

The school week is split into 25 hours and the model below shows how this time is divided.

#### **Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8)**

Yr	En	Ma	Sc	ICT	PE	ML	D&T	(Mu Dr Art) Creative arts	(Ct/Ps/Hum)	Total
7	4	4	3	1	2	2	2	3	4	25
8	4	4	3	1	2	2	2	3	4	25

The Key Stage 3 curriculum meets the requirements of the emerging national curriculum and ensures that all students are offered a broad and balanced curriculum covering all core and foundation subjects plus Citizenship and Philosophy and Ethics.

The core subjects are presently English, mathematics and science, which are compulsory across Key Stages 1 - 4.

Foundation subjects for Key Stages 1 - 3 are:

- Art and design;
- Design and technology (D&T);
- Geography;
- History;
- Information and communication technology (ICT);
- Music;
- Modern foreign languages (MFL) (at Key Stage 3 only);
- Physical education (PE); and
- Citizenship (at Key Stage 3).

Foundation subjects for Key Stage 4 are:

- Citizenship;
- Information and communication technology; and
- Physical education.

In Year 8, students are guided through a process which seeks to match their aspirations and ability with the subject choices for their Key Stage 4 experience, where national external examinations are taken to give either a GCSE or a BTEC qualification. Student data as well as Fischer Family Trust chance material (both WAG and AtL) are scrutinised and a dialogue with students, parents and teaching staff is undertaken so that each student is engaged on the most appropriate course for the next stage of their school career. There are constraints for access to some subjects due to restricted workshop space or staff expertise, but on the whole, students have a free choice of 3 subjects, in addition to the core subjects.