

Alderman Knight Curriculum

The curriculum offered at Alderman Knight School reflects the individual needs of the pupils and the National Curriculum. The school works hard to ensure that all pupils benefit from a stimulating and creative curriculum that enables them to enjoy their learning, achieve well and develop feeling of self-worth and confidence.

In designing an appropriate curriculum the school, together with parents and carers and additional professionals as appropriate, continually assesses pupils' individual strengths as well as their individual needs. This allows their teachers to build on these strengths and use them to support development in other areas. This approach leads to a curriculum that provides wide ranging learning experiences with an appropriate balance for each pupil between academic achievement and individual needs in terms of personal, social and emotional development.

In addition for some pupils a specific curriculum experience is developed that enables the pupil to benefit from a continuum of provision between a mainstream school and the specialist provision at Alderman Knight School.

We are really proud that all pupils have the opportunity to study for a wide range of external accreditations and all pupils leave school with an impressive portfolio demonstrating their considerable achievements which provide them with a really good basis for further education and the world of work.

Key Stage 1 & 2 Curriculum

The Key Stage 1 and 2 curriculum at Alderman Knight School reflects the individual needs of the pupils and the stage they are working within. The P Scales and National Curriculum are taught using a thematic approach, providing opportunities for cross-curricular and contextualised learning through a broad and balanced curriculum. Children are grouped for English and Maths across some of the Primary phase to allow pupils to work in small groups on specific learning targets.

In addition to the curriculum, pupils at Alderman Knight also have opportunities to regular sensory sessions; swimming; Forest School; Horse Riding; and sessions focusing on life skills such as cooking and trips within the local community.

Phonics and Reading Schemes in Primary

Synthetic phonics is a method of teaching reading which first teaches the letter sounds and then builds up to blending these sounds together to achieve full pronunciation of whole words. Using the principals of the Read Write Inc. programme developed by Ruth Miskin, pupils are taught to recognise sounds and blend these together in order to read, spell and write. Children have access to Oxford Reading Tree and Read Write Inc. books with corresponding writing or 'ditty' books. Pupils are regularly assessed to ensure progress is made and groups are organised according to the sounds they are working on next. As children grow in confidence and understanding some pupils will progress onto the Storyworld series of books. There are 12 stages within this scheme. Once completed, pupils

become 'free readers' and are encouraged and supported to choose their own books from the school library. To help support all pupils choose the right level book from the library and to encourage reading for pleasure pupils use the Accelerated Reader Package.

Subject	Number of lessons over a two week timetable
English including library	8-11 dependent on group
Maths	6-9
Science	4-6
Swimming	4
Food/Art/DT on a termly rotation	4
Personal Social Development	2-4
Life Skills	2
Music	2
Humanities	4
Computing	2-3
Religious Education	1-2
Forest School	8 or 4
Assembly	1
Physical Education	2-4
Sensory Room	Dependant on group
Modern Foreign Languages	Dependent on group
Enrichment	Dependent on group

Key Stage 3 Curriculum

At Key Stage 3 teachers plan differentiated schemes of work based on the national curriculum programmes of study. More information on the topics studied each term can be found on the school website.

The core and foundation curriculum for Key Stage 3 is shown in the table below. This is based on number of lessons (each lesson is 45 minutes) over the two week timetable. The majority of classes in Key Stage 3 are taught in a secondary model with pupils attending classes with specialist teachers.

Subject	Number of lessons over the two week timetable
English	7
Maths	8
Science	6
Personal Social Development (PSD)	5
Physical Education (PE)	5
Food Technology	4
Design and Technology (DT)	4
Computer Science and IT	3
Art	3

Religious Education (RE)	2
Humanities	2
Enrichment	2
Music	2
Modern Foreign Languages	1
Drama	2
Assembly	1
Life Skills	2
Hymn Singing	1

In addition to this most tutor groups will have a 6 week block of forest school and swimming.

SLD Curriculum in Key Stage 3

Some pupils need a more bespoke timetable with a greater focus on learning to read and life skills. These pupils spend a greater amount of time in their base classroom and but still access some specialist teaching (e.g. DT and Food). They will have timetabled horse riding sessions and additional life skills lessons as well as timetabled rebound therapy sessions. Their curriculum is shown below:

Subject	Number of lessons over the two week timetable
English including Read Write Inc and library	9
Maths	8
Science	4
Swimming	4
Personal Social Development	3
Physical Education / horse riding	4
Forest School	4
Life Skills	4
Enrichment	2
Art	2-3
Music	2
Food	2
Assembly	1
Hymn Singing	1
Humanities	2-4
Design and Technology	2
Computer Science and IT	1-2
Sensory	2

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

Throughout Key Stage 4 pupils are supported to develop their full academic potential within an environment which supports and prepares them for post 16 placement in full-time

education or possibly into employment. Each pupil is offered a range of accredited courses and life skill units appropriate to their needs and abilities through from ASDAN, entry level and GCSE and equivalent qualifications. For more information on the different pathways open to our current Key Stage 4 pupils please see the school website.

Pupils are offered secure work experience placements in Key Stage 4. Work experience provides pupils with the opportunity to look into job roles they may wish to follow in the future. Preparation work prior to the placement and follow up work at the end of the placement are conducted in school.

Key Stage 5 Curriculum

Pupils in our post 16 unit have a personalised pathway dependent on their individual needs and abilities. This customised offer builds on their current knowledge, skills and understanding to ensure progression towards employability and independence at a level suited to their needs. The curriculum provides opportunities to develop essential life skills, vocational skills and academic learning as well as developing personal qualities.

For more information about the opportunities and personalised curriculum offered in Key Stage 5 please see the school website.