

Magdalen College School Curriculum

At Magdalen we are fully committed to delivering an inspirational and inclusive curriculum that prepares students for the next stage of their learning. The Magdalen curriculum is built on a foundation of knowledge – developing the ability of students to learn, remember and recall facts, information and knowledge which is then used in application.

The Magdalen curriculum strives to develop excellence in all aspects of students' lives, challenging every student to achieve the best they can in every area of their endeavour. We believe the best way for students to demonstrate their potential and to be prepared for their next phase is through positive examination outcomes, alongside rich personal development through participation in the wider curriculum which includes extended learning days and trips as well as extra-curricular activities such as clubs, volunteering and sports.

To inspire curiosity in the world around them, the Magdalen curriculum provides opportunities for students to look out, to visit with or to work with people outside of their immediate school environment and to encounter opportunities and challenges not available in school.

Curriculum breakdown:

The Magdalen curriculum provides a logical and sequential pathway from the start of the Year 7 to the end of Year 11 and then to Year 13, providing students with the knowledge and the skills necessary to develop, deepen and achieve across a range of subjects and areas.

KS3 – Year 7&8

Students at Magdalen follow a wide range of subjects, providing a solid foundation for their future learning.

The subjects taught in KS3 are:

Subject	Lessons per fortnight	Subject	Lessons per fortnight
Literacy block#		Numeracy block	
English	7	Mathematics	7
Geography	3	Science	6
History	3	Art	2
Religious Education	3	MFL	2 French & 2 German
PSCHE	1	Computing	2
Drama	2		
Music	2		
Separate blocks			
Physical Education	4	Technology	4*

#Students are in one class for all subjects in the literacy block, based on their tutor groups, and a separate class for the numeracy block. Students are then in separate classes for PE and for Technology. Classes are set by ability depending on the profile of the group; in most cases, each half year group includes one 'top set' and a number of mixed ability groups.

*In Technology, students study a range of disciplines on rotation, including food, textiles, product design and graphics.

KS4 – Year 9, 10 & 11

Students make their GCSE options choices in the spring term of year 8 prior to starting their GCSE courses at the start of year 9. All students study a number of compulsory courses as well as choosing 4 subjects from a wide range that best meets their needs, interests and aspirations. Central to curriculum choices is the desire for all students to develop excellence in every subject they study, and to do the best they can in all activities.

The KS4 curriculum is show below:

Compulsory subjects for all students:			
Subject		Lessons per fortnight	
English		7	
Science		9	
Mathematics		7	
Games		3	
RE		4	
Students must study 1 of the following GCSE subjects (5 lessons per fortnight):			
History	Geography	French	German
Triple Science	Computing		
Students study 3 of the following (5 lessons per fortnight):			
Art & Design: Fine Art	Art & Design: Photography	Business Studies	Computer Science
Product Design	Drama	Food preparation & nutrition	Geography
History	ICT: ECDL	MFL – French	MFL – German
Music	PE	Science: Triple	Sociology

Magdalen Sixth Form – Years 12 & 13.

There is a place at Magdalen for all students who meet the entry criteria of 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or better, including Mathematics and an English GCSE. It is absolutely the right choice for many students who desire a broad level 3 programme of study and who aspire towards university or higher level apprenticeships or employment.

The A levels taught in the sixth form, over 8 lessons plus 4 supervised study lessons per fortnight, are:

Art & Design: Fine Art	Economics	Mathematics	Physical Education
Art & Design: Fashion & textiles	English Lit. & Lang.	Further maths.	Psychology
Business Studies	English Literature	MFL - French	Science – Biology
Computer Science	Geography	MFL - German	Science – Chemistry
D&T: Product Design, 3D design	Health & Social Care	Music	Science - Physics
Drama & Theatre studies	History	Philosophy & Ethics	Sociology

In addition, all sixth form students are offered the extended project qualification (EPQ).

For our highest achieving students, places are available on the Magdalen Scholarship programme. This is organised in conjunction with Magdalen College School, Oxford, one of the UK's most prestigious private schools. Students travel to Oxford to work alongside Magdalen College students there, on an academic project of their choosing. Places on this scholarship programme are highly competitive and sought after.

The Extended Learning Programme (ELP),

The timetable for 6 days in the year is collapsed (termed 'extended learning days' / ELDs), and students within their year groups (years 7 – 13) participate in a range of activities focusing on PCSHE, careers advice, and subject enrichment. Activities might include STEM activities, visits to castles, over-night camps, trips to France, presentations by external specialists in PCSHE, a trip to the NEC to the Skills show, outdoor /

adventurous activities, and trips to universities, as well as working on topics in school. For year 10 students this includes a week's work experience in the summer term. The ELP is part of the Magdalen curriculum and as such is compulsory for all students.

For your information, in 2017-2018 a voluntary contribution in the region of £105 has been requested from the parents / carers of year 7 students towards the ELP; for year 8 students it is £90, and for years 9, 10 and 12 it is approximately £25. Year 11s and year 13s have no trips planned this year.

The extra-curricular programme

A wide range of activities are organised for students at lunchtimes and after school, Free to students, these include a wide range of sports clubs and activities, as well as activities based around music, drama and so on.

I Horner

November 2017