



WAKEFIELD GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

CURRICULUM POLICY

Our courses are designed to provide girls with a wide experience of life and thus prepare them effectively for the future. They aim to deliver a wide-ranging set of values and skills suitable for the world in which they live.

We aim to provide girls with a broad range of academic experiences which will allow them to make well-advised choices of courses at the end of Year 7, Year 8, Year 9, Year 11 and Year 12. We seek to prepare girls well for these courses because their performance in them will determine the next stage of their academic career.

We take into account the requirements of the National Curriculum without following it to the letter, and offer other subjects such as Latin and Classical Civilisation to broaden our curriculum.

We aim to offer girls as much choice as possible for GCSE, AS and A Level. However, depending on the numbers choosing a subject at each of these stages we may not be able to offer all subjects every year. We provide a timetable based on girls' initial choices. We cannot guarantee that changes will be possible once the timetable process has begun.

Key Stage 3 Curriculum 2011-2012

The School week is divided into 30 periods, each 50 minutes long, although we teach over two weeks and the number of lessons is distributed 'per cycle'.

Subject	Key Stage 3		
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Art and Design	4	2	3
PSHE	2	1	1
Drama	1	1	1
English	6	6	6
French	6	4	4
Games	4	4	4
Geography	3	3	3
German/Spanish	0	4	5
History	3	3	3
Information Technology	3	2	2
Latin	3	3	3
Mathematics	7	6	6
Music	3	3	2



Physical Education	2	2	
Religious Education	2	3	
Science			
Biology	2	3	2
Chemistry	2	3	3
Physics	2	3	3
Technology (4 groups in carousel: DT1DT2, Food and textiles)	4	4	3
Total	60	60	60

In Years 7 and 8 all subjects (except Maths (half year sets in Year 8), German and Spanish in Year 8) are taught in form groups. Technology is taught in mixed form groups. Generally there is a common curriculum, but there is a choice of Spanish or German at the end of Year 7. This is studied alongside French to the end of Year 9.

In Year 9 girls continue with the majority of the core curriculum but now have a choice between Classical Civilisation and Latin. French and Mathematics are set across the year group according to ability. Most other subjects (except Technology) continue to be taught in form groups.

Key Stage 4 Curriculum 2011-2012

The following GCSE subjects are offered to girls in Key Stage 4.

All subjects have 6 periods per cycle except English and Mathematics which have 7.

GCSE Subjects

Awarding Body	Subject Title
AQA	Art and Design
AQA	Biology (AQA Certificate)
AQA	Chemistry (AQA Certificate)
AQA	Classical Civilisation
AQA	Design Technology: Food Technology
AQA	Design Technology: Product Design
AQA	Design Technology: Textiles
AQA	Drama
AQA	English (AQA Certificate)
AQA	English Literature (AQA Certificate)
AQA	French
AQA	Geography
AQA	German
OCR	Greek (at lunchtimes only)
OCR	History



AQA	Information Technology
OCR	Latin
AQA	Mathematics
AQA	Music
AQA	Physical Education (Double Award)
AQA	Physics (AQA Certificate)
AQA	Religious Studies
AQA	Science: Science and Additional Science (AQA Certificate)
AQA	Spanish

Girls in Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11) follow a common core curriculum and then choose from a range of subject options. Girls take 9 subjects at GCSE (or 10 subjects if they choose to study Greek outside the normal timetable).

All girls take GCSE in English, English Literature and Mathematics. All study at least one Modern Language, French, German or Spanish and some girls choose to take two languages at this level. Girls continue to be set for Mathematics according to ability and are also set according to ability for French, German and Spanish when there is more than one group. All other subjects in Year 10/11 are taught in mixed ability groups according to option choice.

Girls may choose to study Science and Additional Science (gaining two GCSEs in Science) and hence may choose three other option subjects. Alternatively they may choose to study Physics, Chemistry and Biology for an award of three GCSEs. They may then choose two other option subjects. Girls wishing to continue with Science at AS level may do so regardless of their GCSE Science route.

Non GCSE subjects taken by all girls are Religious Education (1 period in Year 10 only), Games (4 periods per cycle each year), and Personal, Social and Health Education - a course including careers and study skills (2 periods per cycle in each year); and Information Technology (2 periods per cycle in each year).

Sixth Form Curriculum 2010-2011

The following AS and A2 Level subjects are offered to girls in the Sixth Form.

All subjects have 12 periods per cycle.

Awarding Body	Subject Title	Taught
AQA	Art and Design	WGHS
AQA	Biology	WGHS
AQA	Business Studies	Joint
AQA	Chemistry	WGHS
AQA	Classical Civilisation	Joint
AQA	Design Technology: Food	WGHS
EDEXCEL	Design Technology: Product Design	WGHS



AQA	Design Technology: Textiles	WGHS
AQA	Drama and Theatre Studies	Joint
OCR	Economics	Joint
AQA	English Language	Joint
AQA	English Literature	WGHS
AQA	French	WGHS
EDEXCEL	Further Mathematics	WGHS
AQA	Geography	WGHS
AQA	German	Joint
OCR	Government and Politics	QEGS
EDEXCEL	History	WGHS
AQA	Information Technology	Joint
OCR	Latin	Joint
EDEXCEL	Mathematics	WGHS
OCR	Music	Joint
OCR	Physical Education	Joint
AQA	Physics	WGHS
AQA	Psychology	WGHS
EDEXCEL	Religious Studies	Joint
AQA	Spanish	Joint

All girls in Year 12 study 4 subjects to AS Level and continue with 3 subjects in Year 13 to the full A2 Level qualification. The only exception to this are girls who study Further Mathematics. In addition, girls in Year 12 have Guidance and Information Support sessions with the Head of Sixth Form, for one period per cycle.

All girls in Year 13 study AS and A2 General Studies.

The Extended Project will be available to a further pilot group in Year 12 in 2011-2012. It is hoped that this will be widely available to all girls in Year 12 in future years.

Class Sizes

We aim to have **normal** teaching group sizes of:-

Years 7, 8, 9	20-24
Years 10-11	15-24
Year 12	10-15
Year 13	10-12

Some subjects, such as Maths and French, may have larger sets in the high ability range to allow for smaller groups in the lower ability range.