



DITCHAM PARK SCHOOL

Where every child is known and valued

Curriculum Policy

Compiled by	Headmaster
Approved by	SLT
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At Ditcham Park School our mission is to nurture and encourage each child to learn and progress within a supportive environment so that our pupils develop into confident young people who go out into the world with the skills and desire to improve it.

Our ethos whereby 'Every child is known and valued' is founded on outstanding pastoral care, excellent teaching and an all-round approach to education.

Ditcham Park School's Aims

- 1. Identify and develop each child's interests and abilities**
- 2. Promote Academic Excellence**
- 3. Provide an environment where pupils are happy and where they can flourish**
- 4. Prepare pupils for the future**
- 5. Connect with the Community**

We are a school which teaches children aged 2 ½ to 16 with a range of ability levels.

Our taught curriculum is essentially planned and delivered through the 5 nationally recognised 'Key Stages' within this age range as identified below:

Early Years and Foundation Stage (EYFS) - Nursery (Ditcham Dragonflies) & Reception

Key Stage 1 – Year 1 and 2 (Pre Prep and Prep)

Key Stage 2 – Years 3 to 6 (Transition, Lower, Middle and Upper)

Key Stage 3 – Year 7 to 8 (Form 1 & 2)

Key Stage 4 – Year 9 to 11 (Form 3, 4 & 5)

Throughout the school there is an emphasis on delivering the curriculum in a creative and appropriate manner to interest, challenge and stimulate the children.

EYFS

In the Nursery and Reception class we follow a programme of learning in accordance with the aims and principles of the Early Years Foundation Stage as detailed in the 'Statutory Framework' document (2017).

Key Stages 1 & 2

The Teaching focus in the primary years is on the encouragement and development of happy, confident and independent learners. We use the Literacy and Numeracy frameworks as a base for teaching and learning using the National Curriculum to inform other subjects. We have, however, adapted the National Curriculum to suit our purposes. For Key Stage 1, whilst maintaining a focus on literacy and numeracy, a



cross curricular 'topic' based method is used to deliver the breadth of curriculum subjects.

At Key Stage 2 pupils have a timetable of up to 14 subjects each week some of which are taught by specialist teachers from the Senior School. Cross curricular teaching alongside a broad activities programme enables pupils to apply their knowledge and understanding within wider educational contexts.

Key Stage 3

Key Stage 3 marks the start of the Senior School. Teaching is delivered by specialist Senior Staff. Teaching broadly follows National Curriculum guidelines in most subject and particularly in English, Mathematics and Science. The aim of this stage in our pupils education is to develop a love and understanding of individual subjects and to lay the foundation for GCSE level. Over the two years pupils study 16 subjects. In the 3rd term of Year 8 (Form 2) pupils make their GCSE choices.

Key Stage 4

We advise our pupils to select a broad range of EBACC subjects for GCSE level to achieve a healthy balance of Science, Languages, Humanities and the Arts within the restrictions of the timetable. English, Languages (except some pupils with SEN), Mathematics and Science form the core curriculum at KS4 and these subjects are taken by all pupils at GCSE level. A total of 19 subjects are offered at GCSE level. Full details of all GCSE subject specifications and examination boards are in the 'GCSE Options' booklet which is issued to pupils and parents.

Science Technology Engineering & Maths (STEM)

The Rationale

Conscious that technology is changing the way we live and the way we work, Ditcham Park School's STEM programme is designed to realise one of the School's Aims to 'Prepare pupils for the Future' by providing our pupils with technological skills such as coding and an awareness that technology is transforming the workplace and providing new career opportunities.

The STEM Programme – See Appendix

At the core of our STEM program is the timetabled STEM curriculum lessons that take place both in the Junior (KS1&2) and Senior (KS3&4) school. In the Junior school these lessons are planned and delivered by the class teacher with expert support from their science and maths co-ordinators. In the Senior School, students receive compulsory STEM lessons once a week in Years 7, 8 and 9. These STEM lessons focus on the skills and habits of mind required to be successful in our new digital age. Students are challenged to be creative, problem solving, critical thinkers and designers in a series of workshops all taught by specialist teachers. Some of these STEM lessons have included learning how to code using Lego Mindstorm robots, building a



Siemens Greenpower Challenge Car and studying Science Fiction literature and film. This compulsory aspect of the curriculum is really important to help students become informed and aware of STEM careers before **making GCSE option choices**. We also offer comprehensive extra-curricular STEM workshops during the school day including participation in some of the most exciting national STEM competitions such as BP, Shell, First Lego League and the National Science and Engineering Competition.

STEM Speaker Programme

To complement our curriculum lessons we have introduced a STEM speaker programme to provide an opportunity for our pupils and their parents to meet and listen to inspirational figures with a STEM background. Speakers have included a Futureologist, David Smith who talked about future careers, a Director of Operations for Google UK, Craig Fenton, who talked about Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality and Dr Sam Aaron who invented Sonic Pi and uses his coding skills to compose music. Helen Sharman CMG OBE, the first Briton in space, visited Ditcham Park School as our guest of honour for our Founder's Day and Prize Giving. She delivered a fascinating talk about her training and experiences as an astronaut.

STEM Educational Visits

Students have been on inspiring day trips to visit the Ben Ainslie Racing (BAR) headquarters in Portsmouth and the Big Bang Fair in Birmingham, the largest STEM exhibition in the UK.

Co-Curriculum – see Appendix

The Juniors have a one hour clubs session during the school day, once a week. They are able to choose from a variety of activities, sporting, technological and creative, each term.

In addition to the compulsory physical activity provided through PE lessons and organised sport Seniors has an Activities Curriculum which takes place in a Mini Lesson after lunch each day as well as after school activities programme. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is very popular with pupils in Forms 4 & 5.

PSHE and Citizenship & Assemblies – See Appendix

At Ditcham Park School we believe that PSHE and Citizenship for both the Senior and Junior School should enable children to become healthier, more independent and more responsible members of society. PSHE covers all aspects of the school's planned delivery to promote pupil's personal, social and moral development - including health and well-being. The study of PSHE and Citizenship promotes the development of personal and social skills and the provision of opportunities to help develop and



stretch the skills of enquiry, communication, participation and responsible action. The study of PSHE and Citizenship, in conjunction with one another, enables pupils to have the knowledge and understanding to become informed citizens

An Assembly programme is linked to the PSHE curriculum. Outside speakers regularly address pupils in the Juniors and Seniors relating to charity issues, adventure, drugs and alcohol, screen time and important topical issues. Thus ensuring a well-rounded education for each pupil and preparing them for their next steps after Ditcham Park School.

Careers and Further Education

The school has a designated member of staff who is the Careers and Further education officer. He maintains a collection of current literature regarding careers and Sixth Forms and Colleges. All Form 5 students are encouraged to use ICT, particularly the 'Kudos' and 'Pathfinder' software to identify potential career avenues and assist with the selection of suitable A' level courses. Virtually all DPS students go on to take A' levels and/or BTECs at College or Sixth Form. A very well organised Careers and Further Education event is organised in September of Form 5 which provides an opportunity for students to meet representatives from nearly all the Sixth Forms and Colleges in the area to find out what courses they have to offer. Outside speakers talk to Form 5 students about careers.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

We recognise that some pupils in the school will have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) if they have a 'Statement' or might require additional learning support if they experience learning or organisational difficulties. Others may require curriculum extension and enrichment extension and enrichment tasks if they are particularly able as part of their normal teaching programme. One method of assessment the school uses to identify these needs are GL standardised assessment tests. These are taken in Years 5 & 7. Pupils in Juniors sit a range of Numeracy and Literacy Tests (GL assessments).

Gifted and Talented Provision

Ditcham Park School recognises that some pupils may have a particular 'gift' or 'talent' which sets them apart from their peers. 'Gifted' learners are identified as those who have abilities in academic subjects such as English, Maths and Languages, where as 'talented' learners have developed skills in areas such as Sport, Art, Drama or Music. These pupils are identified by the school or by staff within subject areas using the following methods:

- Scholarship awards
- Testing
- Teacher nomination
- Parent Information



Curriculum Policy

Form lists will indicate whether pupils have achieved a CATS score of 125 or more. This score of 125 is a national benchmark for gifted or talented pupils. All departments have a 'Gifted and Talented' section within their schemes of work which explain the provision for G&T pupils.

Our wide range of co-curricular activities provide additional opportunities for pupils to develop their particular gifts or talents.

Compiled by Graham Spawforth	Date: October 2018
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Appendix

STEM 2018/2019

Form 1 and 2 Curriculum Lessons

Aim: To introduce an exciting skills based curriculum that not only enhances students STEM habits of mind, but challenges them to take part in projects they would not usually participate in.

All lessons on a Thursday from 14.00 – 14.45 (note that some smaller groups in first term due to Shakespeare Festival rehearsals)

	Skills Area			
	Creative STEM	Programming	Critical Thinking	Design Process
Form 1	Garage Band	Lego Mindstorm	Code Breaking	BP Challenge
Teacher	Ed Williamson	Sarah Whittle	Yvonne Morris	Lana Couzens
Form 2	Shift Happens	Raspberry Pi	Bath Bombs	BP Challenge
Teacher	Cathy Verghese	Dave Harding	Kylie Harding	Laura Hoad

Whole School STEM Activities

Aim: To provide a wide range of activities to reflect the interests of our students. To stretch and challenge our students in STEM areas they most enjoy.

All lessons on a Monday from 14.00 – 14.45

Teacher	Activity	
L. Hoad	CREST Award Challenge including NSEC Entry	Design
D. Harding	Coding Club including FLL and Pi Club	Programming
G. Svorska	HTML and Web Design	Programming
A. Richards	GreenPower Car	Critical Thinking
N. MacDonald	Trash to Fash	Creative

STEM Enrichment

Aim: to inspire students to consider STEM subjects and industries beyond school. To provide students with experiences and opportunities to set them apart from others.

Out of School Trips:

Form 1: Bing Bang Show, Birmingham

Form 2: Land Rover BAR Tech Deck

Form 3: Go 4 SET

Form 4: Big Bang Near Me

All: Ditcham Star Gazing Event

Other Activities:

- Star Gazing Events
- Arkwright Scholarship
- McLaren Work Experience



NB; Some trips and competitions may arise during the course of the year that cannot be planned in advance. I will constantly review information online and read promotional material to assess any interesting upcoming events.

Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship Policy

Introduction

At Ditcham Park School we believe that PSHE and Citizenship for both the Senior and Junior School should enable children to become healthier, more independent and more responsible members of society. PSHE covers all aspects of the school's planned provision to promote pupil's personal, social and moral development - including health and well-being. The study of PSHE and Citizenship promotes the development of personal and social skills and the provision of opportunities to help develop and stretch the skills of enquiry, communication, participation and responsible action. The study of PSHE and Citizenship enables pupils to have the knowledge and understanding to become informed citizens.

The objectives of PSHE and Citizenship are to enable pupils to:

- Understand what makes good relationships and how to respect others.
- Develop self-confidence and self-esteem, and make informed choices; regarding personal and social issues.
- Know and understand a healthy lifestyle.
- Be aware of safety issues.
- Be responsible citizens and understand their rights and responsibilities.
- Be positive and active members of a democratic society.
- Understand and respect all ethnic groups and communities.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the global community.
- Learn and understand the criminal justice system.

Teaching and Learning Style

A range of teaching and learning styles are installed to meet the PSHE and citizenship requirements of the National Curriculum. The main responsibility of teaching and learning of PSHE is by the PSHE team during one 25 minute tutorial session per week this is often connected to the assembly theme and topic, which happens before the lesson. These sessions are based around discussions and short problem solving activities which can be seen on the Long Term plan. Tutors also have a vital role in supporting the pupils on a daily basis during registration periods. The pupils are then able to add information and ideas into their own texts books for the subject. There is also an overlap between the programme of study for Religious Education and PSHE, taking into account the 2014 Social, Moral and Cultural development of the pupils.

Other areas of teaching PSHE are delivered in assemblies and with the invitation of outside speakers, with special emphasis on sex education, cyber bullying, alcohol and drug related issues. Pupils are also encouraged to take part in a range of tasks that promote active citizenship for example fund-raising for a huge variety of charities, the



planning of special school events such Drama, Music, Arts Evenings as well as Duke of Edinburgh activities. Each class takes part and creates assemblies both religious and non-religious. Public speaking competitions, community work and working around the school e.g. Senior School Mentors and senior pupils with clear responsibilities often spend time helping in the junior school at Sports Day and any special events which take place.

Aims and Objectives for the Senior School

Year 7

PSHE and citizenship is taught mainly by a class teacher, who is not necessarily their tutor during the 25 minute weekly session. The topics covered in year one are: relationships and friendships, bullying, cyber bullying and identity, healthy living, body image and personal safety; revision and exam technique as well as rights and responsibilities. The sessions on bullying also include the teaching of the mentoring system at Ditcham Park School and making sure first years understand how to use the support system and what to do if they find themselves or a friend being bullied. We also have outside speakers on this topic, drugs and sex education throughout the year.

Year 8

The teaching and learning of PSHE and citizenship in year 2 is undertaken again by a class teacher during the weekly 25 minutes session. The topics covered in the tutorial sessions are: family related issues, rights and responsibilities and young offenders, living in a diverse community and respecting others, as well as choosing G.C.S.E Options. We also have outside speaker on such topics as, body image, cyber bullying, drugs and sex education throughout the year.

Year 9

The teaching and learning of PSHE and citizenship in year 3 is mainly taught by a class teacher in the 25 minute weekly tutorial sessions after assembly. The topics covered are: the consequences of underage sex, drugs and binge drinking, mental health and well-being, taking responsibilities for their actions. Racism in Britain and Gang and knife culture. Sex education is also covered in science during the spring term. PSHE is also taught in the RE curriculum for year 3. The topics covered are: Morality, Death, Medical ethics, prejudice and discrimination and genocide. We also have outside speaker on cyber bullying, drugs and sex education throughout the year.

Year 10

The teaching and learning of PSHE and citizenship in year 4 is mainly taught by a class teacher in the 25 minute weekly tutorial sessions, after assembly. The topics covered are: Active citizenship and Being British, the power and responsibility of the media, citizen's rights and responsibilities, British political parties, regional and local government and world conflict and refugees. We also have outside speaker on this topic, drugs and sex education throughout the year.



Year 11

In the subjects for CCFE programme, as in much of the PSHE and Citizenship programmes are subject to adjustments throughout the year. The programme is presented on a weekly basis by the Head of Careers and class teachers. This is comprised of expanding on CV writing, personal qualities, self-discipline, time management and further education college applications and interviews. Each pupil creates targets and self-reflection for the year ahead as well as responding to predicted grades. Mock examination preparation and revision are also key. As well as alcohol, drugs awareness and sex education which are delivered throughout the year, often by outside speakers. Human rights and finances, law and politics are also covered.

PSHE and Citizenship curriculum planning

The planning of PSHE and citizenship is the responsibility of the RE/ PSHE head of department. Each week the Head of Department sends out lessons to Forms 1-4. Head of CCFE works on the PSHE and Citizenship programme alongside of college applications and preparation for the year to come for Form 5. However, other members of staff also contribute to some aspects of PSHE in terms of the Pastoral side to the programme (Head of Pastoral for boys and girls in the Senior school specifically). An external programme is run alongside with years 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 for Sex Education and Drugs awareness; Science covers sex education in years one and three and relationship development is introduced in PSHE lessons. Senior Management are responsible for the sex education and drugs awareness policies for the school.

Good practice in all lessons means that many citizenship and PSHE topics are covered in the all lessons by teachers and practitioners at Ditcham Park School; therefore meaning that the ethos is maintained and both strengthened on a daily basis. The Head of PSHE during the sessions is on hand to assist each lesson and work around each group in a peripatetic fashion.

Assessment for learning

The teachers assess the children's work in PSHE and Citizenship by making informal judgements, as they observe them during lessons. The child's progress is discussed in the reports, at parent's evenings and if any specific problems arise.

We do not set any formal examinations in PSHE and Citizenship.

Resources

Resources, are kept with the PSHE coordinator many of which are now on-line. Also many teachers use online resources such as 'The Day' and Hodder and Stoughton's Dynamic learning package to enhance and develop discussion topics. As well as recommendations from outside speakers and organisations who deliver PSHE.

Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of the Head of PSHE/ RE to monitor the planning and coordination of work supporting teachers and Tutors in their teaching and delivering of PSHE.



Curriculum Policy

Co-Curriculum

Junior Weekly Activities

Day	During School	After School
Monday	Speech and Drama Prep Handbell Group Golf Choir	Hockey Tennis Active8 Trans and Lower Fixtures
Tuesday	Orchestra Netball/ Hockey/ Rounders lunchtime club Football/ Cricket/ Rugby lunchtime club	Active8 School of Nature
Wednesday	Speech and Drama Junior Brass KS2 Termly Rotation of clubs (7 available every term) Including: dodge ball, rounders, badminton, crochet, fingerprint art, bending and stretching, popstars club, decoupage, mindfulness colouring, computer club, lego challenge, marble run, origami, cartoon club, table tennis	Active8 Middles and Uppers Fixtures
Thursday	Orchestra Junior Strings Fencing	Active8 Judo MTB club
Friday	Speech and Drama Transition Handbell Group	Active8 School of Nature

Senior Enrichment Activities

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
SWH		PSHE 5 (5LC)	Colouring (All)	STEM 1 Lego Mindstorm	
YM		PSHE 1 (1HB)	Chess Competition (All)	STEM 1 - Code Breaking	
MNT		PSHE 2 (2CV)			House
CV	English Intervention		Film Club (2, 3, and 4)	STEM 2 - Creative STEM	
KSR	Drama - Improvisation (All)	PSHE 3 (3NM)		English Intervention	
MGP		PSHE 1 (1RH)	John Muir (All)		House
JBr	Pom Pom Making (All)	PSHE Corodinator			House
LHD	STEM - Crest Award		Photography (All)	STEM 2 - BP Challenge	
LCS	STEM - Shell Challenge			STEM 1 - BP Challenge	House
SBD	Craft Club (All)				
KHG				STEM 2 - Bath Bombs	House
AR	STEM - Green Power Car (3 and 4)		Sketch Like a Pro (2 and 3)	Form 5 CFE	
HBd	Form 4 and 5 Study - Languages	PSHE 3 (3KS)		Form 4 Study - Languages	
NMD	STEM - Trash to Fash	PSHE 4 (4SW)			House
LWN		PSHE 3 (3YM)			
GV		PSHE 4 (4DH)	Basketball (1 and 2)		House
SMA	Netball (1 and 2)	PSHE 4 (4GH)	Netball (3 and 4)		
MHN	Basketball (3 and 4)		Football (3 and 4)	Form 3 Activities	
HBN	Football (1 and 2)		Hockey (1 and 2)	Form 3 Activities	House
GH		PSHE 5 (5LH)		Form 5 CFE	House
JBx		PSHE 5 (5AR)	Board Games (All)		
SWY	Shakespeare Group		Drama Club (All)	Shakespeare Group	
DHG	STEM - CODING		Virtual Tours (All)	STEM 2- Raspberry Pi	
LON	English Intervention		BackStage Drama Club (All)		
EW	Music		Music	STEM 1 - Garage Band	Music
PM/NR	Form 4 and 5 Study - Art	PSHE 2 (2JB)		Form 4 Study - Art	
RHD	Football (1 and 2)		Cross Country (All)		House
Anne				Form 4 Study - D of E	
GDS	Form 4 and 5 General Study				
Number of Staff	19	14	16	17	11
Juniors	SDH - Assembly	Choir (EW)	Assembly (Small Hall)	Hymn (Small Hall)	House (Alternate Venues)