



## **Curriculum Policy**

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(This policy applies to all pupils, including those in the EYFS)

Adopted	June 2017
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Owner	Deputy Head (Academic)

<b>DATE OF REVIEW</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>PAGE / PARA</b>	<b>SYNOPSIS OF AMENDMENT</b>
4/6/17	JPWD / AJ		Thorough review
19/2/18	JPWD		EAL and NEA Review
29/1/19	JPWD/AJ		General revision
25/11/19	JPWD/AJ		Literacy/Numeracy
8/11/20	JPWD		

This policy is split into three sections to reflect the curriculum at Mount Kelly Preparatory School (MKPS) and at Mount Kelly College (MK), and to cover policies that apply across the whole foundation, not least the academic vision in the Foundation Development Plan.

## **Foundation**

- Vision p5
- Policy on Literacy p6
- Policy on Numeracy p12
- Policy on EAL p15
- Policy on Digital Literacy p16
- Policy on Listening and Speaking skills p17
- Policy on Careers and HE Guidance p18
- Policy on SMSC and upholding British Values p20
- Policy on Scholarships p26

## **Prep**

- Rationale and structure of the Curriculum p30
- Policy on Homework p34
- Policy on Marking and Assessment p35
- Policy on Reporting and Tracking p36
- Policy on meeting the needs of the able and very able p38
- Policy on PSHEE p40
- Shackleton programme p40
- Academic management p40
- Policy on monitoring of teaching and learning p40

## **College**

- Rationale and structure of the Curriculum p43
- Policy on Homework p49
- Policy on Marking and Assessment p49
- Policy on Reporting and Tracking p51
- Policy on meeting the needs of the able and very able p52
- Policy on PSHEE p53
- Academic management p54
- Policy on monitoring of teaching and learning p55
- Policy on academic and other prizes p56
- Policy on Review of marks for internally assessed work p58

## Section A – Mount Kelly Foundation

### Vision and overview

Our academic vision and aim for the Foundation are set out in the first ‘pillar’ of the Strategic Plan. This vision and seven objectives are copied below.

**Vision:** To provide an environment where all pupils enjoy a breadth of academic and intellectual experiences, and are enabled to develop and deepen their own particular interests and enthusiasms. To achieve this through providing a curriculum and facilities that promote personalised and independent learning, guided by teachers who are expert in their field and skilled in bringing out the best in each child. Setting and encouraging rigorous standards to which all can aspire, and establishing a community of conversation and debate.

**Objective 1:** To create a shared academic vision for the Foundation (from 3-18), focused on continuous improvement of teaching and learning at all levels and abilities.

**Objective 2:** To focus on (a) independent, pupil-centred and individualised learning whilst embracing (b) digital technology whenever appropriate.

**Objective 3:** To ensure that the curriculum offered across the Foundation is (a) both supportive and (b) challenging, promoting high standards for pupils of all abilities as it (c) fosters confidence and enthusiasm across the range of subjects.

**Objective 4:** To ensure that in a culture of high expectations and commensurate support, each pupil is aware of his or her potential and that staff encourage all pupils to achieve to their highest in public examinations.

**Objective 5:** To ensure that a full programme of lectures and academic trips enhances and enriches the academic programme.

**Objective 6:** To ensure that pupils have access to and are placed, if they so desire, onto the best post-secondary educational programmes worldwide, and that further, they leave with the soundest possible advice and experience with regard to future careers and life choices.

**Objective 7:** To nurture academic links between the Foundation and the local and global community.

## **Policy on Literacy**

### **Literacy**

Literacy involves the ability to read and write; however, it is also the capacity to recognise, reproduce and manipulate the conventions of a range of texts and a variety of modes. Literacy and English are intertwined and it is an important aspect of our ability to communicate. There are also new forms of literacy (on-screen literacy and moving image media) to consider alongside the more traditional print literacy. Literacy is important because it enables pupils to gain access to the subjects studied in school, to read for information and pleasure, and to communicate effectively. Competent literacy skills enable pupils to read, understand and access examination materials, so that pupils are able to achieve their educational potential across the curriculum. All departments and all teachers have a crucial role to play in supporting pupils' literacy development. All teachers are teachers of literacy. As such, the staff of Mount Kelly are committed to developing literacy skills in all of our pupils, in the belief that it will support their learning and raise standards across the curriculum, because:

- Literacy and learning can have an impact on pupils' self-esteem, on motivation and behaviour. Literate pupils learn independently. Literacy is empowering.
- Pupils need vocabulary, expression and organisational control to cope with the cognitive demands of subjects;
- Reading helps us to learn from sources beyond our immediate experience and understand different viewpoints;
- Writing helps us to sustain and order thought;
- Language helps us to reflect on, revise and evaluate the things we do, and the things others have said, written or done;
- Responding to higher order questions encourages the development of thinking skills and enquiry.

### **Aims**

**Mount Kelly** is committed to raising the standards of literacy for all of its pupils, so that they develop the ability to use Literacy skills effectively in all areas of the curriculum and as a platform for the demands of further education, employment and adult life.

Literacy underpins the school curriculum by developing pupils' abilities to speak, listen and communicate, to think, explore and organise. This includes helping pupils to express themselves orally and in writing. Mount Kelly aspires to be a literate school; the literate school produces powerful communicators across the curriculum.

### **Powerful communication comprises:**

- The successful application of reading and writing skills;
- The ability to converse effectively in a range of contexts and for different purposes.

## **Objectives**

1. To open up personal pathways to success central to personal expression and active participation in society, economy and culture.
2. To develop competent literacy skills and also enable pupils to read, understand and access examination materials, so that pupils are able to achieve their educational potential across the curriculum.
3. To personalise learning in order to create a coherent learning system tailored to the individual student.
4. To approach literacy across the curriculum in relation to pupils' abilities to think and learn.

## **Delivery of Literacy**

*"Although it is right that key literacy skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening should be taught primarily in English lessons, there is a clear intention in recent Government statements of policy for these skills to be reinforced and applied with accuracy across other subjects."*

(Ofsted Inspecting communication, reading and writing (literacy) Year 3 to Year 11. Guidance and training for inspectors. Autumn 2011 page 35)

All schemes of work and most, although not all lessons, will include specific literacy objectives. These objectives will inform what is taught, how it is taught, what is learnt and how it is learnt. Literacy should also form part of lesson plenaries when it is appropriate to the focus of the lesson.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

- Senior Managers/Leaders: lead and give a high profile to literacy;
- English Department: provide pupils with knowledge, skills and understanding they need to read, write and speak and listen effectively;
- Teachers across the curriculum: contribute to pupils' development of language, since speaking, listening, writing and reading are, to varying degrees, integral to all lessons;
- All subjects identify both Liminal Concepts and Key Vocabulary across all age groups throughout the school
- Parents: encourage their children to use the range of strategies they have learnt to improve their levels of literacy;
- Pupils: take increasing responsibility for recognising their own literacy needs and making improvements;

## **The English Faculty**

In addition to all the whole-school aspects of this policy, the English teachers at Mount Kelly have a leading role in providing pupils with the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to read, write, speak and listen effectively. The English department is well placed to offer good advice and expertise.

### **The role of the English faculty includes:**

- Identifying literacy priorities, targets and objectives and other particular contributions they can make;
- Using data to identify curricular targets;
- Adapting the department development plan to achieve these.
- Supporting and coaching staff, when needed, in the use of programmes from the Assistant Head of Personalised Learning/Head of Personalised Learning.

### **Literacy development across the curriculum requires:**

- All teachers to understand that they are teachers of literacy;
- A whole-trust CPD programme that offers strategies that can be implemented to encourage student progress in different subject specialisms
- A shared understanding among teachers of the relationship between language and learning, and how the work undertaken in different subject areas can contribute to the development of literacy skills;
- Teachers to be aware of the language demands made upon pupils in their subject areas;
- The development of consistent approaches and appropriate resources within subjects to improve their pupils' use of language;
- The development of a similar literacy curriculum between KS2 and KS3, and, KS3 and KS4 to ensure progress over time. KS5 literacy skills to be considered in KS4 to allow for easy transition post-16;
- Sharing of good practice between colleagues throughout the trust to ensure consistency of approach and the support of colleagues where needed;
- Evaluation via the school monitoring process.

## **Literacy and Learning at Mount Kelly**

The framework for literacy and learning identifies three main areas for development.

### **Learning through talk /speaking and listening comprises:**

- Using talk to clarify and present ideas;
- Active listening to understand;
- Talking and thinking together.

Talk is our main means of communication in everyday life and is fundamental to the development of understanding.

We will teach pupils to use language precisely and coherently. They should be able to listen to others, and to respond and build on their ideas and views constructively. We will develop strategies to teach pupils how to participate orally in groups and in the whole class, including using talk to develop and clarify ideas; identifying the main points to arise from a discussion; listening for a specific purpose; discussion and evaluation. Staff training needs will be met through the sharing of best practice and useful strategies from Assistant Head, Teaching and Learning and other colleagues as directed.

**Reading and learning from text comprises:**

- Developing research and study skills;
- Reading for meaning;
- Understanding how texts work.

At Mount Kelly we want our pupils to enjoy reading, to be able to use their reading to help them to learn and to become more confident and competent in reading. We aim to give pupils a level of literacy that will enable them to cope with the increasing demands of subjects in terms of specific skills, knowledge and understanding. This applies particularly in the area of reading (including from the screen), as texts become more demanding. Within the Prep we have implemented the Accelerated Reader scheme which promotes and supports the development of a rich reading culture as well as providing useful tracking data for all staff relating to progress within reading and working vocabularies.

We continue to build on and share existing good practice. We will teach pupils strategies to help them to read with greater understanding; locate and use information; follow a process or argument; summarise; synthesise and adapt what they learn from their reading.

**Learning through writing comprises:**

- Using writing as a tool for thought;
- Structuring and organising writing;
- Developing clear and appropriate expression.

Many lessons include and depend on written communication. We want our pupils to develop increasing confidence and competence in writing so that they can write in a widening variety of forms for different purposes e.g. to interpret, evaluate, explain, analyse and explore. It is important that we provide for co-ordination across subjects to recognise and reinforce pupils' language skills, through:

- Making connections between pupils' reading and writing, so that pupils have clear models for their writing; this may be evidenced through previous good examples of written work

- Using the modelling process to make explicit to pupils how to write;
- Being clear about audience and purpose;
- Providing opportunities for a range of writing including extended writing.
- Using scaffolding and supportive techniques to talk through, visualise and plan writing before undertaking extended writing

### **Assessment and Monitoring**

Mount Kelly has a Marking Policy (Appendix A) which identifies the key aspects of literacy that each department addresses in its marking of pupils' work.

### **Learning environment**

Mount Kelly is committed to providing:

- Displays of reading material relevant to the topic or national curriculum subject; each classroom promotes subject-specific vocabulary which pupils are encouraged to use regularly; this is evidenced in the information sent to parents including Liminal Concepts and Key Vocabulary
- High quality reading material, which is up-to-date, relevant and balanced in its presentation of ethnicity, culture and gender;
- Access for pupils to the school libraries; access for pupils to a good quality range of texts during lessons;
- Dictionaries, glossaries and lists of appropriate subject vocabulary that are available during lessons, and which pupils are encouraged to use;
- Access to appropriate audio-visual equipment;
- A classroom environment which is conducive to good literacy practice.

### **Lesson plans**

Lessons within the school include reference to the skills or strategies to be used, taught or reinforced, including as appropriate and when required:

- Making clear the intended purposes of reading within our curriculum e.g. **describe, repeat, interpret or analyse** texts read;
- Teaching and giving opportunities to practise skimming for overall meaning, scanning for key points, words or phrases, or close reading;
- Teaching and giving opportunities to practise sifting and selecting information and taking notes from texts;
- Teaching and enabling pupils to infer and deduce meanings, recognising the writer's intentions;
- Teaching and giving opportunities to research and investigate using printed words, moving images and ICT texts;
- Teaching how to use quotations selectively to support points and link them to pupils' own comments.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

We will make use of available data to assess the standards of pupils' literacy.

Possible approaches to monitoring are:

- Sampling work – both pupils' work and departmental schemes;
- Observation – student tracking and literacy teaching;
- Meetings;
- Student interviews;
- Scrutiny of development plans;
- Encouraging departments to share good practice by exhibiting or exemplifying pupils' work and peer observation.

## Inclusion

Mount Kelly pupils are entitled to our highest expectations and support. Some will need additional support and others will need to be challenged and extended. Strategies that we can use include:

- Questioning;
- Adjusting the demands of the task;
- The use of additional support and structured writing;
- Use of group structures;
- Resources;
- Making focuses clear;
- Creating an atmosphere where pupils evaluate their own and others' work;
- Opportunities to reflect on work and make improvements.
- **Quality First Teaching** as defined by the Head and Assistant Head of Personalised Learning

## Appendix A

Marking Key

- Errors will be circled
- Sp = spelling error
- p = punctuation error
- e = poor expression or grammatical error
- // = new paragraph
- L = poor presentation/ layout/ no under-linings etc.
- [to be ratified by staff body]

## **Policy on Numeracy**

It is our aim to develop:

- a positive attitude towards mathematics and an awareness of the fascination of the subject
- competence and confidence in mathematical knowledge, concepts and skills
- an ability to solve problems, to reason, to think logically and to work systematically and accurately
- initiative and an ability to work both independently and in cooperation with others
- an ability to communicate mathematics
- an ability to use and apply mathematics across the curriculum and in real life
- an understanding of mathematics through a process of enquiry and investigation

The numeracy policy aims to:

- Develop and improve standards in numeracy across the school
- Ensure consistency of practice including methods, vocabulary, notation, etc
- Indicate areas for collaboration between subjects
- Assist the transfer of pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding between subjects.

### **A definition of numeracy:**

Numeracy is a proficiency which is developed mainly in mathematics but also in other subjects. It is more than an ability to do a basic arithmetic. It involves developing confidence and competence with numbers and measures. It requires understanding of the number system, a repertoire of mathematical techniques, and an inclination and ability to solve quantitative or spatial problems in a range of contexts. Numeracy also demands understanding of the ways in which data is gathered by counting and measuring, and presented in graphs, diagrams, charts and tables.

(Framework for Teaching Mathematics - years 7 to 9-Dfes)

### **Raising Standards**

Raising Standards in Numeracy across our school cannot be solely judged in increasing test percentages. There is a need to evaluate the pupils' ability to transfer mathematical skills into other subject areas, applying techniques to problem solving. Their confidence in attempting this is initially as important as achieving the correct solution. We need to be aware of the need to create time for liaison and sustain the cross curricular links forged between subject areas with a focus on numeracy.

## **Consistency of Practice**

### Teachers of mathematics should:

- be aware of the mathematical technique used in other subjects and provide assistance and advice to other departments, so that a correct and consistent approach is used in all subjects
- provide information when needed to other subject teachers and departments on appropriate expectations of students and difficulties likely to be experienced in various age and ability groups
- through liaison with other teachers, attempt to ensure that students have appropriate numeracy skills.

### Teachers of subjects other than mathematics should:

- ensure that they are familiar with correct mathematical language, notation, conventions and techniques, relating to their own subject, and encourage students to use these correctly.
- be aware of appropriate expectations of students and difficulties that might be experienced with numeracy skills. E.g. the replication of work by teachers and pupils.
- provide information for mathematics teachers on the stage at which specific numeracy skills will be required for particular groups.

## **Areas of Collaboration:**

### Mental Arithmetic Techniques:

All departments should give every encouragement to pupils using mental techniques but must also ensure that they are guided towards efficient methods and do not attempt convoluted mental techniques when a written or calculator method is required.

### Whole school Policy on the use of calculators

In deciding when pupils use a calculator in lessons, we should ensure that:

- pupils' first resort should be mental methods;
- pupils have sufficient understanding of the calculation to decide the most appropriate method: mental, pencil and paper or calculator;
- pupils understand the four arithmetical operations and recognise which to use to solve a particular problem;

- pupils have the technical skills required to use the basic functions of a calculator constructively and efficiently, the order in which to use keys, how to enter numbers as money, measures, fractions, etc;
- when using a calculator, pupils are aware of the processes required and are able to say whether their answer is reasonable;
- pupils can interpret the calculator display in context (e.g 5.3 is £5.30 in money calculations);
- we help pupils, where necessary, to use the correct order of operations – especially in multi-step calculations, such as  $(3.2-1.65 \times (15.6-5.77))$ .

### Vocabulary

The following are all important aspects of helping pupils with the technical vocabulary of Mathematics; using a variety of words that have the same meaning e.g. add, plus, sum. Encouraging pupils to be less dependent on simple words e.g exposing them to the word multiply as a replacement for times. Discussion about words that have different meanings in mathematics from everyday life e.g. take away, volume, product, etc. Highlighting word sources e.g. quad means 4, lateral means side so that pupils can use them to help remember meanings. This applies to both prefixes and suffixes to words.

### Transfer of Skills

It is vital that as the skills are taught, the applications are mentioned and as the applications are taught the skills are revisited. The Mathematics Faculty will deliver the Curriculum, knowledge, skills and understanding through the schemes of work, using direct interactive teaching. They will make references to the applications of Mathematics in other subject areas and give contexts to many topics. Other curriculum teams will build on this knowledge and help pupils to apply them in a variety of situations. Liaison between curriculum areas is vital to pupils being confident with this transfer of skills and the Maths team willingly offers support to achieve this.

### Development Plan

Development	Department/s involved	Deadline
Generic maths posters for other departments	Maths Dept to co-ordinate	September 2019
Specific Maths poster	Subject specific	September 2019
Maths dept lead for KS3 and KS4	Maths dept	October 2019
Dept briefings	Maths dept to liaise with individual depts to give advice of specific ?	June 2020

## **Policy on EAL [English as an Additional Language] for overseas pupils.**

The EAL Department aims to help pupils achieve their best in learning English, both for academic and social purposes.

Teachers work with overseas pupils to develop their listening, reading, speaking and writing in English, both for formal EAL qualifications and for their other subjects. The EAL team also offers other classroom teachers' advice on how to provide for these pupils, through formal Inset or informal conversations. This includes liaising with the Guidance team in recommending appropriate courses for overseas pupils and assisting with their UCAS Personal Statements.

### **Curriculum**

In the Prep, pupils requiring EAL support have one-to-one or small group tuition with an EAL specialist every week. This is either a single one-hour lesson or two 30-minute lessons.

In Year 9, overseas pupils receive four/eight lessons of EAL tuition per fortnight. This replaces the timetabled lessons in French and/or Spanish.

In Years 10 and 11, overseas pupils take EAL in place of one of their GCSE options and receive six lessons per fortnight. Pupils in EAL lessons study for the Cambridge ESOL examination (Cambridge English: First [FCE]). Overseas pupils already showing high levels of fluency in the initial tests may opt for another GCSE course. Some pupils will study for English as a Second language GCSE.

In Year 12 overseas pupils are timetabled for two lessons and in Year 13 a single lesson each week. Sixth Form classes are often very small to allow for the range of ability amongst the new pupils. The majority of these pupils will sit their IELTS [International English Language Testing System] examination, which is essentially required for acceptance at a British university.

### **Cambridge ESOL examinations:**

- Cambridge English: First; also known as the FCE; an upper-intermediate level qualification. [CEFR B2] The curriculum in Years 9 – 11 is focused on this qualification.
- Cambridge English: Advanced; also known as the CAE; a high achiever. [CEFR C1]
- Cambridge English: Proficiency; also known as the CPE; our most advanced qualification, proving an extremely high level in English. [CEFR C2]
- International English Language Testing System [IELTS], which is required by all British universities for entry both at Foundation and Undergraduate level, between Bands 5 – 9.

### **Pastoral**

Teachers of EAL have a broader pastoral role with overseas pupils, who often see them as a confidante and additional tutor. It is important that pupils coming from another country settle down happily within their new environment. When they are far from home it is essential that we do all we can to help them with any initial learning difficulties, culture shock and possible homesickness; just as for our other pupils, we aim to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of overseas pupils, and give them an appreciation of British Values.

## **Policy on promoting digital literacy and use of digital technology in class**

The Foundation strategy for use of digital technology is under review by a committee of the joint Foundation Heads of Faculty. The following covers the current rules at the Prep and College.

Pupils in Year 7 and above should bring laptop/device to classes.

Those pupils who use laptops as their usual way of working, in accordance with the EAA 'Access arrangements' rules for public examinations and on the advice of the head of Learning Support, may use a laptop in all lessons. In some circumstances this may not be appropriate, and a teacher may occasionally require a pupil not to use a laptop, for example for a test.

For other pupils at the College, use of a laptop is at the discretion of the teacher, but the assumption is that this will be permitted in most circumstances. However, since pupils may not use a laptop for public examinations unless they have formally recognised special educational needs, it may not be appropriate for pupils to become too dependent on word-processing all their work.

All preps are set, returned and marked through the Teams system. Teams are also the means for delivering online lessons where appropriate.

Wider Foundation rules on the use of mobile phones apply in all cases.

No pupils at the Prep are permitted to have mobile phone at school. Pupils at the College may have a mobile phone or other device on their person, but this should not be taken out or used during a lesson. However, it is recognised that phones can be used by pupils for their dictionary, calculator or translating functions. Pupils may also wish to photograph something, for example their homework task written on the whiteboard. Some teachers permit phones for use with 'Cahoot' or similar websites. The teacher's permission must be obtained on every occasion that a pupil wishes to use their phone.

## **Policy on developing listening and speaking skills**

Mount Kelly views the development of effective speaking and listening skills as an important part of the broader academic education for the C21st. As with literacy, numeracy and use of ICT, they are promoted chiefly through day-to-day teaching and learning in the classroom, and every teacher has a responsibility to give opportunities for pupils to improve these key 'soft' skills. In addition, the school provides a range of co-curricular opportunities for developing speaking and listening skills.

### **Academic classes**

Many courses provide opportunities for class presentations. This is a formal part of the English course, but is common in History, Business, Geography etc. MFL classes depend on the development of these skills, with the oral a key part of the GCSE and A level assessment. In Year 12, all pupils have the opportunity to take the EPQ, one part of which is the 10-minute formal presentation.

Within the monitoring of teaching and learning via Learning Walks there is a regular focus on teachers' development of speaking and listening skills in the classroom.

### **LAMDA**

For Years 3-11 LAMDA is an optional opportunity to develop a range of performance and public speaking skills. In the College it operates as with music lessons (ie pupils miss timetabled lessons) and is taught by a resident teacher. At the Prep the LAMDA lessons are generally before or after timetabled lessons. As part of the Beyond the Curriculum programme, all pupils in Year 12 are timetabled to have two lessons per fortnight in a Public Speaking course for the Michaelmas term.

Mount Kelly pupils may take the full range of LAMDA exams, graded up to 8, and have achieved considerable success in recent years. Entry for type and level of LAMDA is at the discretion of the teacher.

### **Academic Co-curricular opportunities**

The annual Poetry recital competition for Years 3-8 at the Prep is a major event and celebration.

Rotary Club public speaking competition, 'Youth Speaks'. This annual event takes place in January/February and involves teams at junior, intermediate and senior level. The 2015 senior team made it to the regional final.

Debating. Pupils in Years 9/10 have the opportunity to do debating on Monday afternoons.

Plum Society. This brings together the more enthusiastic and scholarly pupils in years 9/10 for various cross-curricular activities aimed at developing skills of interpretation and evaluation, lateral and creative thinking, and an openness to challenge and debate.

Politics and debating group. This is an invitation society for sixth formers. Apart from general conversation and discussion about a topic, some meetings are focused around a paper delivered by one of the members.

Chapel. Apart from the reading of the lesson, including at whole school services at St Eustachius, pupils at the College are asked to speak in chapel when their house takes responsibility for the address. Chapel sermons and other addresses are an opportunity for pupils to become accustomed to listening to a speaker outwith lessons.

## **Policy on Careers and Universities Guidance**

### **Aims**

Guidance at Mount Kelly is a progressive journey from Year 6-13. The programme is planned so that pupils receive the relevant careers information and education that is suitable to their age. The progression throughout the years encourages students to be proactive about their future and actively seek careers advice and guidance. The Guidance Department is dedicated to tailoring the provision to meet students' needs in order to help them on their future path. The programme thoroughly allows for impartial advice and guidance, making pupils the centre focus. The guidance programme is designed to help the pupils plan and take control of their future.

### **Objectives**

- To source and provide up-to-date information about occupations, fields of work, undergraduate courses and apprenticeship opportunities
- To help pupils understand and develop the necessary skills to equip them for whatever career path they choose.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to understand their competencies, aspirations and options through a variety of means, including personal discussion with the Guidance team.

### **Higher Education advice programme**

#### **UCAS**

In Year 12, pupils are given a timetabled lesson to introduce them to the opportunities in Higher Education, advise them on research for universities and courses, and assist them with completing their UCAS form. These lessons also cover alternatives to going to University along with preparation of CV's and letters of application for employment.

The COA Centigrade test is offered and pupils are then interviewed to discuss the test conclusions. At the start of the Summer term, parents and pupils are invited to a presentation on UCAS and a discussion with tutors. Pupils are permitted to take some time out of school late in the Summer term to attend university Open Days.

In Year 13, pupils are advised on the completion of their Personal Statement in the UCAS support lessons they continue having until October half term. References are written by Sixth form tutors.

The UCAS co-ordinator oversees the administration of the process, and the Deputy Head (Academic) gives a final check to all references and personal statements before they are released to UCAS.

#### **Oxbridge and Medicine/Veterinary applications**

In Year 12, potential Oxbridge applicants attend an introductory talk and in most years a trip to Oxford or Cambridge is arranged. The school maintains links with Exeter College, Oxford, which offers outreach support to schools in the South West.

Biology and Mathematics teachers provide timetabled lessons to prepare pupils for medical or maths/engineering tests. All Oxbridge and Medical/Vet School applicants are given additional guidance in Year 13 for entrance tests and interviews. The school works with other schools to give interview practice to each other's pupils.

## **Careers Advice Programme**

In addition to providing expert advice on apprenticeships and careers in the armed services, the Careers co-ordinator assists with work experience placements and oversees the links between the school and local businesses. Careers fairs are arranged or attended, and there are opportunities for pupils to meet representatives from the professions or industry attending occasional informal 'careers cafe' events at school.

### **Programme Summary: College**

#### **Year 13**

Will be given a UCAS briefing; attend University/College open days; have mock interviews; be introduced to Student finance; complete UCAS – Decisions, Confirmation and Clearing.

#### **Year 12**

Will complete a Leadership development programme; be introduced to Post -18 options; attend Why Higher Education? and UCAS talk/events; attend University/College open days; undertake Oxford and Cambridge preparation; attend the UCAS Exhibition; develop their Personal Statement; attend Futurewise courses and events, other taster/insight courses, and Gap Year Fair.

#### **Year 11**

Will attend an individual guidance interview to discuss post -16 options; have post 16 taster sessions and guidance talks; be introduced to the UCAS website; attend CV writing workshop (including a covering letter); visit local careers convention; follow-up work experience debrief and presentation; attend range of optional careers lunches and talks.

#### **Year 10**

Will be introduced to KUDOS and Careerscape software on the school network. These programs offer opportunities to investigate different career areas; complete an interactive questionnaire based on interests to generate initial career ideas; cover further Careers Education modules within the PSHE programme; plan and prepare for a work placement.

#### **Year 9**

Will be introduced to the Careers centre and staff; cover Careers Education modules within the PSHE programme; receive a GCSE options briefing including subject choice and careers research; undertake the 'Real Game' to understand job roles and career choices; attend Plymouth University Open day.

### **Programme Summary: Prep**

#### **Year 8**

Will complete the 'Real Game'. 'The real game' is web-based simulation software that allows pupils to experiment with different careers with different salaries, and different lifestyle choices to see what impact it has on their budget and work-life balance.

#### **Year 7**

Will undertake a programme to help them understand the world of work and enterprise. Looking at the skills of being an entrepreneur and how they can build on their enterprise skills. They will also learn about job roles and differing career lines and people at work.

#### **Year 6**

Will undertake a money and work-skills programme to introduce them to the idea of financial capability and well-being. Completing a money personality quiz, identifying sensible shopping habits; opening a bank account. The programme will be concluding by an interactive session with Barclay's to give pupils the opportunity to develop and manage an event.

## **Policy on Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education**

### **Introduction**

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education (SMSC) helps children develop personal qualities, which are valued in any civilised society; Mount Kelly promotes six core values.

### *Mount Kelly Values*

#### COMPASSION

##### **Empathy Tolerance Kindness**

We treat others with compassion; demonstrating empathy, tolerance and kindness in all that we do

#### COURAGE

##### **Determination Resilience Grit**

We act with courage; demonstrating determination, resilience and grit in the face of both opportunity and challenge and always striving to learn through life's journey

#### HUMILITY

##### **Modesty Gratitude Selflessness**

We behave with humility; we are modest in our success, grateful for our blessings and selfless in the way that we share them

#### RESPECT

##### **Courtesy Service Consideration**

We value and respect every person equally; always seeking to serve those around us and treating all with courtesy and consideration

#### COMMITMENT

##### **Dedication Loyalty Endurance**

We demonstrate commitment to our School and to those around us, making the most of opportunities available; we are dedicated, loyal and always endure through to the end

#### INTEGRITY

##### **Honesty Decency Morality**

We value integrity above all; we are honest with ourselves and others, conducting our lives with decency whilst striving for the highest moral standards

At Mount Kelly we seek to inculcate these qualities across the curriculum and throughout school life. However, we also adopt the view that at a deeper level, spiritual, moral, cultural and social values are 'caught rather than taught' and fundamental to the development of these values is the quality of day to day relationships and the broader environment and culture.

All Staff contribute simply by the way they interact with pupils during lessons, but certain subjects, such as Religious Studies and Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PHSEE), have a particular contribution to make. In addition there are a number of Staff - the School Nurse, Housemasters/Mistresses, the Chaplain, the visiting School Counsellor and others who work closely with individuals to assist them to prepare in diverse ways for the outside world. Each pupil also has a personal Tutor to oversee their academic, social and personal welfare, a relationship that is the bedrock of pastoral care at Mount Kelly.

The moral, spiritual, social and cultural development of each pupil is not something which can be achieved by curriculum organisation or prescription alone. It is an erratic, unpredictable and long-term goal, and the effects of even the most sensitive moral instruction may be different from those intended. Evaluation in terms of outcomes is difficult, but we feel that the character and quality of the young people we produce is testament to our success in realising these lofty ambitions. In short, as part of our delivery of matters relating to SMSC we aim to provide effective preparation of pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in British Society. To this end, every opportunity is also taken to actively promote Fundamental British Values in the school.

### **Definitions**

We use the following definitions of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural:

#### **Spiritual**

Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.

#### **Moral**

Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

#### **Social**

Use a range of social skills; participate in the local community; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.

#### **Cultural**

Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

## **How the curriculum contributes to SMSC:**

Whilst we still believe such values are 'caught, rather than taught', it is important to note that SMSC development can be demonstrated in a lesson through:

- The actual subject matter of the curriculum – the areas covered and through schemes of work;
- The nature of the learning that takes place – which might involve pupil-led discussion, presentations, debate and effective Q&A.
- The atmosphere / ethos of the lesson – often the hardest to evidence – climate of mutual respect, willingness to have open discussion whilst respecting others, pupil participation.

### **The Contribution of English**

English contributes to our pupils' SMSC development through:

- Developing confidence and expertise in language, which is an important aspect of individual and social identity.
- Enabling pupils to understand and engage with the feelings and values embodied in high quality poetry, fiction, drama, film and television.
- Developing pupils' awareness of moral and social issues in fiction, journalism, magazines, radio, television and film.
- Helping pupils to understand how language changes over time, the influences on spoken and written language and social attitudes to the use of language.

### **The Contribution of Mathematics**

Mathematics contributes to our pupils' SMSC development through:

- Spiritual development: through helping pupils obtain an insight into the infinite, and through explaining the underlying mathematical principles behind natural forms and patterns.
- Moral development: helping pupils recognise how logical reasoning can be used to consider the consequences of particular decisions and choices and helping them learn the value of mathematical truth.
- Social development: through helping pupils work together productively on complex mathematical tasks and helping them see that the result is often better than any of them could achieve separately.
- Cultural development: through helping pupils appreciate that mathematical thought contributes to the development of our culture and is becoming increasingly central to our highly technological future, and through recognising that mathematicians from many cultures have contributed to the development of modern day mathematics.

### **The Contribution of Science**

Science contributes to our pupils' SMSC development through:

- Encouraging pupils to reflect on the wonder of the natural world.
- Awareness of the ways that Science and Technology can affect society and the environment.
- Consideration of the moral dilemmas that can result in scientific developments.
- Showing respect for differing opinions, on creation for example.
- Co-operation in practical activity.
- Raising awareness that scientific developments are the product of many.

### **The Contribution of History**

History contributes to our pupils' SMSC development through:

- Looking at the creation and evolution of British society, including democracy and British values.
- Studies of past 'civilisations' and reflecting on their contribution to society today.
- Learning about continuity and changes in society and how values, beliefs and lifestyles have altered over time.
- Enabling pupils to reflect on issues such as slavery, the holocaust and Imperialism.
- Teaching pupils about persecution and the importance of tolerance.
- Showing an awareness of the moral implications of the actions of historical figures.

### **The Contribution of Geography**

Geography contributes to our pupils' SMSC development through:

- Opportunities for reflection on the creation of earth and its' origins, future and diversity.
- Reflection on the fair distribution of the earth's resources and issues surrounding climate change.
- Giving our pupils the chance to reflect on the social and cultural characteristics of society.

### **The Contribution of Modern Foreign Languages**

Modern Foreign Languages contributes to our pupils' SMSC development through:

- Gaining insights into the way of life, cultural traditions, moral and social developments of other people.
- Developing social skills through group activities and communication exercises.
- Improving listening skills through oral/aural work.

### **The Contribution of Philosophy, Religion and Ethics**

PRE makes a distinctive and substantial contribution to the delivery of SMSC:

- Learning about beliefs, values and the concept of spirituality.
- Reflecting on the significance of religious teaching in their own lives.
- Developing respect for the right of others to hold beliefs different from their own.
- Showing the influence of religion and philosophies on society.
- Fostering an appreciation and understanding of different cultures, religions and traditions.

### **The Contribution of Computing**

Computing contributes to our pupils' SMSC development through:

- Preparing the pupils for the challenges of living and learning in a technologically enriched, increasingly interconnected world, especially the potential 'pitfalls'.
- Making clear the guidelines about the ethical use of the internet.
- Acknowledging advances in technology and appreciation for human achievement.

### **The Contribution of Art**

Art contributes to our pupils' SMSC development through:

- Developing pupils' aesthetic appreciation.
- Evoking feelings of 'awe' and 'wonder' about the world.
- Giving pupils the chance to reflect on nature, their environment and surroundings.
- Studying artists with a spiritual or religious theme, considering issues raised by artists which concern ethical matters, such as War paintings.

### **The Contribution of Design and Technology**

Design and Technology makes a contribution to pupils' SMSC development through:

- Reflecting on products and inventions, the diversity of materials and ways in which design can improve the quality of our lives.
- Developing awareness of the moral dilemmas created by technological advances.
- Showing how different cultures have contributed to technology.
- Giving opportunities to work as a team, recognising others strengths, sharing equipment.

### **The Contribution of Music**

Music contributes to our pupils' SMSC development through:

- Teaching that encourages pupils to be open to the music of other cultures.
- Discussing and reflecting upon a range of personal experiences (own performance) and observed experiences (trips, concerts and peer performances).
- Leading pupils to appreciate aesthetic order, beauty and on occasion ambiguity, for example through listening activities, where possible beyond their common experience.
- Looking at the way music can change moods and behaviour.
- Offering a range of high quality off-timetable music enrichment activities, for example access to individual instrumental/vocal/theory lessons with specialist peripatetic teachers.

### **The Contribution of Physical Education, Games and Team sports**

Pupils' SMSC development is actively promoted by:

- Activities involving co-operation, teamwork, competition, rules, self-discipline and fair play.
- Exploring the sports and traditions of a variety of cultures.
- Individual activities that provide the opportunity for self-reflection, awareness and challenge.

### **The contribution of PSHEE/Citizenship**

Pupils' SMSC development is actively promoted in PSHEE and Citizenship by:

- Exploring questions about democracy, justice, inequality, how we are governed and organised.
- Learning to work together to create solutions that try to address challenges facing neighbourhoods and wider communities.
- Developing knowledge and skills to make a positive contribution to society as informed and responsible citizens.
- Appreciating diversity, understanding different viewpoints, collaboration for change

We deliver SMSC through a variety of ways beyond the curriculum:

- Tutor Periods
- School Assemblies and Chapel Services
- Links with the local church.
- Pupil Leadership.
- HE Guidance Provision.

- The College's Sports Leadership Programme.
- The Prep's Shackleton Programme
- Our extensive Extra-Curricular Programme.
- Learning Outside the Classroom Programme.
- Performing Arts (Music, Drama. PerfArts BTEC & LAMDA)
- Duke of Edinburgh
- School and House Councils

**Monitoring and implementation of the SMSC policy**

- An annual 'audit' of SMSC provision by department
- Provision for SMSC is monitored and reviewed by the SLT, teachers and pupils.
- Regular discussions are held at staff meetings.
- Staff share classroom work and practice.
- The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all staff.

## **Upholding British Values**

The Ofsted definition of Fundamental British Values lists them as:

- democracy
- the rule of Law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith

Government guidance includes the following statement:

*It is expected that pupils should understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law. The school's ethos and teaching, which schools should make parents aware of, should support the rule of English civil and criminal law and schools should not teach anything that undermines it. If schools teach about religious law, particular care should be taken to explore the relationship between state and religious law. Pupils should be made aware of the difference between the law of the land and religious law.*

The curriculum followed in Year 9 in History and Religious Studies, and in the PSHEE classes in Years 9 to 11, educate pupils in the historical, political and ethical roots of liberalism, democracy, toleration and the rule of law. The PSHEE curriculum educates pupils in the broad outlines of the political and legal system in the UK. Mock elections are held at the same time as national elections.

The sermons and addresses delivered in chapel services explore themes around: self-esteem and self-confidence; justice; respect for difference; the balance between the individual and community; freedom and equality; British values and internationalism.

The school marks the occasion of major national celebrations and commemorations, but with respect for and inclusion of the international pupils which form part of the Mount Kelly community.

The school council for pupil representatives puts the principles of representation and democracy into practice within the school, as do mock elections mirroring national elections. Debating club and the Rotary 'Youth Speaks' competition introduce pupils to the principles and procedures of formal debate and an understanding of the importance of expressing disagreement with respect and restraint.

# Scholarship Awards Policy

## Introduction

At Mount Kelly it is our policy to encourage and acknowledge excellence through the awarding of scholarships to applicants showing exceptional aptitude in their chosen area. The purpose of these awards is to facilitate admission to Mount Kelly for gifted individuals who, through their dedication and enthusiasm, will inspire those around them.

In addition to the scholarships and exhibitions, normally to a maximum value of 10% of the stated fees, there are a number of non-discretionary and means tested bursaries available.

- A candidate may enter for more than one scholarship
- Candidates for awards other than the academic award must meet the minimum entry requirements to Mount Kelly
- All candidates will be interviewed by at least one member of the senior academic staff

Information about Swimming scholarships, Choral scholarships and Sixth Form Sports scholarships, which broadly follow the same structure of all other scholarships at Mount Kelly, is available separately by contacting the Admissions Office

## Year 9 Awards

Year 9 Scholarships and awards are available for pupils seeking to enter the College in Year 9. Pupils who are in Year 8 at the Prep may apply for awards at this point.

Awards available:

	Year 9 (13+)	Closing date	Exam date
Academic	Scholarship Exhibition	08.01.21	01.02.21 - 04.02.21
Sport	Scholarship Exhibition	08.01.21	01.02.21 - 04.02.21
Music	Scholarship Exhibition	08.01.21	01.02.21 - 04.02.21
Art	Scholarship	08.01.21	01.02.21 - 04.02.21
Design Technology	Scholarship	08.01.21	01.02.21 - 04.02.21

Application forms are available from the Admissions Office and should be completed and returned by the closing date stated above.

Academic – pupils put forward for an academic scholarship will be invited to the College to sit examination papers in English, Mathematics, Science, and a ‘Humanities’ paper from which the candidate may choose questions in French, Geography, History and PRE according to their strengths and preferences.

Questions will be based on Common Entrance and the National Curriculum and are designed to be challenging but accessible for candidates in the hope that they enjoy the experience and are able to demonstrate their academic curiosity and interests.

Particular ability demonstrated in a single subject may attract an award (exhibition).

Sport – candidates will be assessed in two sports of their choice (see below) in addition to completing a physical test. Exceptional talent in only one sport may attract an award (exhibition) but all candidates will be required to

participate in two sports on the assessment day. Sports that may be offered for assessment are set out in the table below.

	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
Michaelmas Term	Rugby	Hockey
Lent Term	Hockey	Netball
Summer Term	Cricket	Athletics

Holders of any Sport awards are expected to participate fully in the sporting life of the School including pre-season training and tours.

Music – Candidates will usually offer a first and second study either of which may be singing. At the audition candidates will be required to perform two contrasting pieces on their first study, one piece on second study, scales and sight reading on first study only. Exceptional talent in one study may attract an award (Exhibition).

Music scholarships include free tuition on two instruments (Including singing). Holders of a Mount Kelly Music award are expected to sit for GCSE Music and to play a full part in the instrumental, vocal and concert life of the School.

Art – candidates will be required to complete a piece in the Art Department on the assessment day and bring with them a portfolio.

Holders of a Mount Kelly Art award are expected to sit for GCSE Art.

Design Technology – candidates will be required to execute a number of skills in the DT Department on the assessment day and bring with them one example of something they have made and a portfolio.

Holders of a Mount Kelly Design Technology award are expected to sit for GCSE Product Design.

## **Sixth Form**

Academic - Candidates will be invited to the College to sit examination papers in Arts and Science. The Arts paper (2 hours) will consist of two essays chosen from a broad range of questions/topics. The Science paper (2 hours) candidates will answer two sections chosen from four (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths). Candidates may sit one or both papers. High achievement in both papers will be rewarded with a Scholarship, excellence in one discipline will be rewarded with an Exhibition.

The Westall Academic Scholarship, up to the value of the full day fee, may be awarded annually. This award, for academic excellence, is open to anyone living within 30 miles of Mount Kelly and is not open to current pupils. The award is offered 'for those who would not otherwise be able to afford the fees to benefit from a Sixth Form education at Mount Kelly' and thus any offer of an award is subject to a means test.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The numbers and size of awards made in any category will depend on the size and quality of the field and the availability of funds. A number of means tested bursaries are available the assessment of which will include any scholarship awarded and any non-discretionary award for which the candidate might be eligible. For further details of these awards please check the Admissions pages of our website or the Essential Information Booklet available from the Admissions Department. Awards will be honorary for pupils who are children of members of the Foundation Staff.

Full means tested bursaries may be offered for initiatives such as the HMC Scholarship Programme and the SpringBoard Foundation Scholarship Programme and will be awarded at the discretion of the Governors and the Head Master.

Duration of Awards – We have high expectations of our scholars, details of which will be sent to successful candidates. These expectations are designed to ensure that pupils who excel continue to be stretched and inspired as they progress through the School. Awards given at Year 9 will be reviewed at the end of Year 11.

It should be noted, however, that a serious breach of the School Code of Conduct may result in suspension of the award.

Non-discretionary awards such as sibling discounts and the Armed Forces Awards are normally limited to a total of 25% off the stated fees. Any additional discount associated with a scholarship award may be means tested.

The value of scholarships, exhibitions and bursaries remains confidential between the parents and the School and we expect your discretion in this matter.

In all cases the Governors reserve the right to determine the number and value of awards.

#### References

In all cases a confidential reference is required from the candidate's Head Teacher, who should be informed of the application by the parents.

## **SENDI Policy**

The Foundation has developed a thorough policy to cover all the aspects of special educational needs that we encounter, and also to explain our approach to issues relating to inclusion and pupils with disabilities. This is provided as an appendix to this Curriculum Policy.

The issue of differentiation in teaching and learning has been identified as a key area of focus, and teachers have improvement in differentiated teaching as a principal target for their professional development, monitored through the Standards Tracker programme.

## Section B – Mount Kelly Preparatory School

Mount Kelly Preparatory school has a non-selective admissions policy with a curriculum which is tailored to meet the needs of all of the pupils. For organisational purposes and for ease of curriculum development the Prep has been divided into the following areas:

Pre-Prep [EYFS, Years 1 and 2]

Lower Prep [Years 3 and 4]

Middle Prep [Years 5 and 6]

Upper Prep [Years 7 and 8]

### Rationale and structure of the Curriculum

#### Aims and Objectives of the MKPS Curricula

- To engage, motivate, challenge and sustain the interest of every pupil in order to build confidence, resilience, autonomy and self-esteem. This includes pupils of both sexes and from all ethnic groups and social groups including the most able and those who are experiencing learning difficulties.
- To facilitate children's acquisition of knowledge, skills and qualities and to promote a positive attitude towards learning in order to help them to develop into independent, responsible, confident members of the school community and wider society.
- To help children understand their developing world, including how their environment and society have changed over time.
- To create and maintain an exciting and stimulating learning environment.
- To enable the pupils to fulfil these aims in terms of personal, social and health education. Reference should be made to the PSHCE policy.
- To ensure continuity and progression throughout the curriculum.

The curriculum is planned in three phases. Subject planning takes note of the National Curriculum requirements in Pre Prep, Lower and Middle Prep and, later the Common Entrance [13+] syllabus in the Upper Prep. As of September 2016 for Years 1 – 4 inclusive the introduction of the IPC [International Prep Curriculum] has had [and will continue to have] a profound impact upon both planning and delivery of the curriculum. However, experiences are offered above and beyond those. Guidance on curriculum planning is set out in a separate policy document on planning, marking, teaching and learning and this is currently under review in-line with recent INSET [Lent 2019] on The Mount Kelly Way of Teaching.

A broad curriculum introduces each pupil to a wide range of concepts, experiences, knowledge and skills, mindful of such pedagogical approaches as Bloom's Taxonomy to understand the development of children through different stages and ages. Through the curriculum, pupils are able to gain skills and understanding which are appropriate to a fast changing world so that they may develop greater autonomy, resilience and adaptability as learners; a key ethos for this development is that of the Growth Mind-set developed by Dr Carol Dweck and this is in evidence around the whole Prep site. The curriculum is made relevant through meaningful cross-curricular links.

The curriculum is enhanced through annual events and competitions. There are currently visiting teachers who supplement the curriculum in terms of Music, Dance, and sports.

The curriculum is balanced so that each faculty is allowed sufficient time for its contribution to be most effective mindful of the ages of the children at point of delivery. The school timetable demonstrates this balance and this is reviewed annually in collaboration with Heads of Faculty.

Relevant subjects contribute to a sound general education- preparing pupils for further opportunities and responsibilities. All learning objectives are appropriate to the age and ability of the pupils including EYFS.

Differentiation is an especial point of focus within the Prep so that what is taught and how it is taught is matched to individual pupils and develops their abilities and aptitudes within all subjects, regardless of their starting point. We recognise that all pupils, irrespective of gender, race or disability, including those for whom English is an additional language, have an entitlement to an appropriate curriculum and have the opportunity to learn and make progress.

The curriculum at MKPS includes the formal requirements of the National Curriculum where applicable as well as an increasing range of extra-curricular activities that the school organises in order to enrich the experience of each of the children. From September 2016 we have introduced from Years 1 – 4 inclusive the International Prep Curriculum [sic] which centralises most learning with a form tutor [Primary Qualified] to deliver English, Maths, Science, History, Geography and RS through a curriculum which by its nature opens up the classrooms to a global network of learning through direct contact with other school around the world studying the same topics/themes. Years three and four are primarily taught by their Form Tutor, specialist teaching taking place in Art, Music, DT, PE and sports.

In the Middle Prep, pupils follow the outlines of the Prep School Curriculum and take ISEB 11+ papers in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science at the end of this time [Year 6].

In the Upper Prep, pupils are currently prepared for Common Entrance and scholarships following the relevant syllabus – in the instance of MKC, the scholarship papers (English, Maths, Science, Humanities) are set by MKC teachers. The form and structure of final examinations and the syllabus leading up to them is currently under review [as it is across the Prep school sector].

All PSHEE is delivered by Form Tutors. The SMSC aspect of learning is thus enhanced through weekly tutorial sessions, a Thought for the Week [delivered in assembly the week before] and cross-curricular content across all areas mindful of the content of the PSHE programme of study. An SMSC grid, specific to subjects and year groups, shows the contributions in this area across the curriculum beyond merely PSHEE.

### Planning Meetings

Cross-curricular links are planned for all year groups at the termly curricular overview meetings.

Parents are informed about the curriculum each term through the curriculum map sheets, which are issued at the start of each term for each year group from year three to eight. Parental participation in the curriculum is welcomed in terms of expertise and resources.

### Lesson allocation for Mount Kelly Prep

Pre-Prep lessons include:

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
French	---	1	1	2
DT	---	---	---	2
Music	2	1	1	1
Games	---	4	4	4
P.E.	2	1	1	1

Drama	---	---	1	1
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## Curriculum Balance

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	
	EYFS		Pre-Prep		Lower Prep		Middle Prep		Upper Prep		TOTAL								
	Nursery Reception		Year 1 Year 2		Year 3 Year 4		Year 5 Year 6		Year 7 Year 8		TOTAL								
4	ENGLISH										45								
5	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
6	Prose										45								
7	MATHS										45								
8	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
9	Prose										45								
10	SCIENCE										29								
11	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
12	Prose										45								
13	FRENCH										28								
14	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
15	Prose										45								
16	HISTORY										23								
17	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
18	Prose										45								
19	GEOGRAPHY										23								
20	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
21	Prose										45								
22	RS										4								
23	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
24	Prose										45								
25	IPC										8								
26	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
27	Prose										45								
28	SPANISH/LATIN										4								
29	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
30	Prose										45								
31	ART										10								
32	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
33	Prose										45								
34	DT										10								
35	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
36	Prose										45								
37	GYMNASIUM										10								
38	Fence										45		TOTAL LESSONS PER WEEK						
39	Prose										45								
40	GAMES		4		4		7		7		8		8		8		8		
41	Fence		1		1		1		2		2		3		3		2		
42	Prose																		
43	MUSIC		2		2		2		2		2		1		1				
44	Fence		1		1		2		2		2		3		2				
45	Prose																		
46	SHACKLETON																		
47	Fence																		
48	Prose																		
49	TOTAL																		
50	Fence																		
51	Prose																		
52	SUMMERS																		
53	Fence																		
54	Prose																		
55	TOTAL						45		45		45		45		45		45		
56	Fence																		

PSHCEE is delivered during an assembly period on Tuesday mornings by Form Tutors to their tutor groups.

## The Foundation Stage

In the Foundation stage there is an interdisciplinary approach to planning as well as opportunities for child led activities. Reference should be made to the Early Years Foundation Stage policy.

**Pre-Prep** Pre-Prep children are taught their curriculum by a form teacher with specialist teaching for P.E, Games, Swimming, Music and French in Reception and Year 1 and the addition of DT for Year 2. The humanities are often linked around a topic and the focus of a topic determines the bias towards History or Geography.

Forest school sessions are organised for pupils in Nursery to Year Two. The numbers of sessions per term varies according to year group.

## Policy on prep

In Pre Prep ideas for home activities are included in the termly curriculum overviews and 'Maths to go' bags are used on a regular basis.

Prep will be set on a weekly basis in all listed subjects on the prep timetable [see below].

In the Upper Prep [Years 7 and 8]: Prep should last 25 minutes per subject.

In these years, Prep should encourage independent work and be completed as far as possible without assistance.

In the Middle Prep [Years 5 and 6]: Prep should last for 20 minutes per subject.

In these years, Prep should seek to develop greater autonomy of learning; pupils should be guided/assisted as necessary during the prep sessions to help them complete the work. All pupils will receive weekly spelling lists from the Nelson Thorne Spelling Scheme in addition to Prep.

In the Lower Prep [Years 3 and 4] all pupils will receive weekly spelling lists from the Nelson Thorne Spelling Scheme and times-tables work and occasionally French vocabulary. Prep [homework] will not be set on a regular basis but will be required from time-to-time as topic work progresses [independent decisions to carry out further project work at home, in areas of interest linked to classwork, would always be encouraged]; it is anticipated that all pupils will read, on a daily basis, for a minimum of ten minutes at home in addition to reading in class during the school week.

Year 8	1	2
Monday	English	History/Geography
Tuesday	Science	French
Wednesday	Reading	
Thursday	Maths	History/Geography
Friday	RS	Latin & Spanish Vocab/Reading

### Upper Prep

Year 7	1	2
Monday	Maths	History/Geography
Tuesday	English	Spanish/Latin/Class Civ
Wednesday	Reading	
Thursday	RS	Vocab/Reading
Friday	French	Science

Year 6	1	2
Monday	Maths	Science
Tuesday	English	History/Geography
Wednesday	Reading	

	Thursday	French	Latin
	Friday	RS	Vocab/ Reading
Middle Prep	Year 5	1	2
	Monday	RS	French
	Tuesday	English	Class Civ
	Wednesday	Reading	
	Thursday	Science	Vocab/Reading
	Friday	Maths	History/Geography
	Years 5 and 6 will have weekly spellings from the Nelson Spelling Scheme		

## Policy on Marking, Assessment and Feedback

Attention is drawn to the separate comprehensive marking policy for the whole Prep, which contains samples of good practice, and the separate subject policies.

Feedback through marking should show:

1. Attainment ie success
2. Progress
3. And should point the way to the next steps for learning.

Marking should be fair, easy to interpret, simple and consistent (capable of comparison across classes, sets and subject, and can also be moderated).

In essence, there are three major areas that need to be considered if one is marking a piece of work set against an assessment objective:

1. Has the pupil achieved the objective?
2. Has the pupil some experience of an objective but not demonstrated mastery ie they are working towards the objective?
3. Has the pupil not achieved the objective at the appropriate level?

## Policy on Reporting and Tracking

- Following on from the framework written 2016-17 by AR, DP and AJ, the schedule for reporting and assessing has been updated
- Reporting will include half-termly 'single line' target setting reports from Year 3 – 8 to inform pupils of current attainment and guidance for improvement.
- The end of Michaelmas and summer terms will continue to see full reports for all Prep pupils

- The Lent term will continue to see full reporting for all Year 8 Common Entrance candidates
- All reporting will be supplemented in the Michaelmas and Lent Terms by a round of parents evenings, published at the start of each term.
- Quality of written reports is improving but a lot of guidance is still required.
- Assessment, having been split for administrative purposes, will be consolidated into the beginning of the Michaelmas term, providing staff, pupils and parents with valuable information for target setting and guidance.
- New pupils, joining at different stages throughout the year, will take the Accelerated Reader assessment for literacy purposes, supplemented by and NVR [paper] assessment for numeracy. This will provide greater clarity/guidance for academic profile and, as appropriate, subject setting.

	MICHAELMAS Parents' consultations	
	Half Term	End of Term
Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target reports</li> <li>• Attainment and Effort</li> <li>• Tutor report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full reports</li> <li>• Attainment and Effort</li> <li>• Exam results</li> <li>• Boarding reports</li> <li>• Music reports</li> <li>• Tutor reports</li> </ul>
Proof Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All teachers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All tutors paired off</li> </ul>
Exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal assessments (whole prep)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exams for Year 8</li> <li>• Internal assessments for Years 3-7</li> </ul>
Tracking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 2 to Year 8 assessments</li> <li>• CAT4 Tests in October [Year 5/7]</li> <li>• ISEB online assessment Year 6</li> <li>• Year 2 to 4 Standardised Assessments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Star Tests</li> <li>• AR Target setting</li> </ul>

LENT	
Parents' consultations	
Half Term	End of Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target reports</li> <li>• Attainment and Effort</li> <li>• Tutor report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full reports for CE candidates</li> <li>• Games Reports</li> <li>• Music Reports</li> <li>• Tutor Reports</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upper prep tutors paired off</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yr 8 Mock CASE Exams</li> <li>• Internal assessments (whole prep)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yr 8 CASE exams</li> <li>• Yr 8 Mock CE exams</li> <li>• 11+ ISEB Exams</li> <li>• Internal assessments for Years 3-7</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Star Tests</li> <li>• AR Target Setting</li> </ul>

SUMMER	
Half Term	End of Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target reports</li> <li>• Attainment and Effort</li> <li>• Tutor report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full reports</li> <li>• Attainment and Effort</li> <li>• Exam results</li> <li>• Boarding reports</li> <li>• Music Reports</li> <li>• Tutor reports</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All tutors paired off</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal assessments (whole prep)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 8 CE exams</li> <li>• Year 3-7 internal exams</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Star Tests</li> <li>• AR Target Setting</li> </ul>

## Policy on meeting the needs of the able and very able

The Prep is a member of NACE, which provides an extensive range of programmes and support material for teachers to help meet the needs of the more able pupils. These pupils are identified through the tracking programme and standardised test results.

The needs of able and very able pupils are met chiefly through the schemes of work and lesson plans for each subject area. Setting in the Upper Prep allows for a scholarship set, which stretches the more able through preparation for CASE.

Other activities and groups that are particularly helpful for stretching the more able include: Philosophy, Chess, Debating, and Current Affairs clubs.

## **Policy on Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education**

### **Aims:**

- Develop confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities
- Preparing to play an active role as citizens
- Developing a healthy, safer lifestyle
- Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people
- Develop and foster an understanding of a 'Growth Mindset' approach to learning

### **Objectives:**

- 1) To promote self-awareness, self-esteem, self-confidence and self-discipline.
- 2) To enable all pupils to develop a sense of fairness, co-operation and concern for the welfare of others.
- 3) To equip pupils with the necessary skills to become responsible members of their family, their school, their local community and as a British citizen.
- 4) To provide the knowledge necessary for all pupils to begin to make informed decisions and so confidently communicate personal views and beliefs.
- 5) To encourage an understanding and awareness of environmental issues.
- 6) To encourage the development of moral faith in each pupil; respect for religious values and tolerance for others.

It is a mixture of approaches from written, discursive, lectures, practical examples, role play, drama review of other religions' approaches to certain parts of life, interviews, talks, presentations. Strategies should embrace visual, aural, kinaesthetic teaching methods and promote active learning, engaging all types of learners in order that they can access the curriculum e.g. teacher led learning, group activities, paired activities, use of ICT, q & a sessions [encouraging open questioning], research, target setting, talk presentations etc. In particular the approaches should all encourage the 'Guide on the side' rather than the 'Sage on the stage' approach to teaching and learning.

**Assessment** Formal and informal assessment are important parts of the department's teaching. Informal assessment takes many forms to include teacher assessment, pupil self-assessment, peer assessment etc. Formal assessment takes place in EFYS at the end of reception and forms part of the Knowledge and Understanding score. There is no formal assessment above this. A number of pieces and types of evidence from a range of contexts will be needed to make a judgement about overall performance.

The evidence will demonstrate a pupil's:

- knowledge and understanding about becoming an informed citizen
- skills of enquiry and communication
- skills of participation and responsible action.

**Methods.** Paired and group discussion about the issues raised in topics leading to class feedback with conclusions and peer review. Exchange of views in pairs on results.

## **EYFS**

PSHEE is taught discretely within the Knowledge and Understanding area of learning giving children opportunities to develop in the following Personal Social and Emotional Development Early Learning goals.

### **Disposition and Attitudes:**

- Seek and delight in new experiences.
- Have a positive approach to activities and events.
- Show confidence in linking up with others for support and guidance.
- Show increasing independence in selecting and carrying out activities.

### **Self-confidence and Self-esteem:**

- Show increasing confidence in new situations.
- Talk freely about their home and community.
- Take pleasure in gaining more complex skills.

**Making Relationships.** Demonstrate flexibility and adapt their behaviour to different events, social situations and changes in routine.

**Behaviour and Self-Control.** Show care and concern for others, living things and the environment.

**Self-care** Show willingness to tackle problems and enjoy self-chosen challenges. Demonstrate a sense of pride in own achievement. Take initiatives and manage developmentally appropriate tasks. **Sense of Community.** Make connections between different parts of their life experience, encourage links across age-groups and amongst the Mount Kelly, Tavistock and wider communities

## **Shackleton programme**

The Mount Kelly Shackleton Programme is designed to develop and celebrate leadership, practical skills and teamwork. Involving every Prep pupil, the once weekly sessions are tailored to different age groups with a universal focus on four main themes:

- To inspire, encourage and support a spirit of adventure
- To develop proficiency and skills in outdoor activities
- To encourage an ability to risk assess and remain safe

To introduce pupils to the intrinsic reward of helping others through community projects both at school and in the wider community.

## **Academic Management**

Academic matters are the responsibility of the Deputy Head (Academic) and the Head of Prep. The HoFs work closely with the management team and assist with the preparation and introduction of new courses and schemes of work by Subject Leads

The HoFs lead and support the team of teachers, subject leads, and other staff within the Faculty. They initiate and develop cooperation with the Head of Faculty at the College, encouraging close subject links between specific subject teachers, to ensure continuity of learning and consistency of approach. In addition, they should develop cross-curricular initiatives between the academic disciplines within the Faculty to enhance and enrich the educational experience of students.

A key role of the HoF, in collaboration with the Assistant Head of Personalised Learning, is to monitor progress of all pupils within the Faculty, ensure full and appropriate use of data and tracking in ensuring that all pupils achieve to and beyond their potential, and ensure appropriate and timely action is taken to address concerns. The HoF oversees the organisation of additional assistance for weaker pupils by the subject Leads within the Faculty and ensures that provision is made to stretch the more able in their subject.

## **Policy on monitoring teaching and learning**

There are regular termly meetings of HoFs both within the Prep and across the Whole-Foundation, the latter chaired by the Deputy Head (Academic).

There are regular work scrutinies carried out by the Assistant Head Teaching & Learning and other senior staff, and these are to be increasingly supplemented by HoF to assure quality and consistency within their department areas. Feedback from SLT is given to both Faculty Heads and to individual staff as appropriate.

Staff are encouraged to carry out peer observations whenever they can and to record a summary of the ensuing professional dialogue. Lesson observations and peer review are a part of the formal appraisal and professional development process.

## **Section C – Mount Kelly College**

Admission to the College at Year 9 or Year 10 is on the basis of references from their current school, satisfactory performance in Year 8 examinations, the College's scholarship examinations, or the College's tests of aptitude in English and Mathematics. The College is not highly selective in terms of proven intellectual ability, but it is important that pupils should have the potential to access the curriculum in a demanding academic and co-curricular environment. The Asst Head Personalised Learning has a formal role in assessing the suitability of the school for pupils with significant additional learning needs.

### **Learning**

Providing pupils with breadth and choice is an important objective at the College, within the practical limits to the number of subjects that can be offered in a medium sized school. The means for achieving this for each year-group are set out below.

For each subject it is important to have a sense of linear progress within a year, and from one year to the next, and this is set out in the subject schemes of work below. Apart from listing and sequencing the topics, and the skills acquired within these, the schemes give a narrative for the learner to understand and benchmark their own learning over time.

Independent learning can be interpreted in different ways. We seek to promote this in classroom activities, through prep tasks and in research investigations, although the latter are less common now that the reformed GCSEs and A levels have removed most coursework papers. The opportunity to undertake an HPQ and an EPQ is a valuable alternative to the old coursework tasks and are more truly 'independent' in that pupils choose their own topics and the nature of their project (dissertation, investigation, artefact, performance).

The combined curriculum seeks to develop core academic and life skills, not least literacy, numeracy and the effective use of ICT. Other traits that we promote include developing an analytical and even-handed approach to issues, acquiring problem-solving techniques, and balancing a philosophical openness to new concepts with an empirical scepticism.

We seek to push each pupil to learn at the fastest pace that he or she can manage. This can be facilitated through setting by ability in subjects such as Maths or the sciences. Class size is capped wherever possible. Wherever there are physical constraints that might impact on a child's learning we seek to minimise these and special arrangements can be made.

An integrated tracking system, with regular and frequent assessment of pupils according to objective and common criteria, allows the pupil, tutor, class teacher and the AMT to review progress throughout the pupil's academic career.

### **Teaching**

Performance management of the teaching staff is ensured firstly through the faculty, with mutual observation and team teaching as appropriate, and on-going monitoring by the head of faculty. Concerns raised by the HoF, or by pupils or parents, are dealt with by the Deputy Head (Academic).

Teaching and learning are both monitored through a system of Learning Walks and Work Scrutinies, and with periodic Visitations of a subject area by an expert from another school.

A new whole school CPD programme is being rolled out across the school on both sites and has, as a central strand, peer mentors who will observe and support a small group of staff [known as a parish] through the course of one development cycle. The Assistant Head Teaching and Learning oversees the process, reporting in turn to the Deputy Head (Academic), Principal Deputy and Head Master.

The development of a Curriculum Map, to include key vocabulary and liminal concepts for all subject areas across the whole school is helping to visualise the learning journey of a pupil from EYFS through to A Level. The schemes of work show the strategy and planning for each subject, taking account of exam board requirements, the latest research and current issues in each subject, and the needs of our pupils. Each subject area and faculty implements the College policies on assessment and marking as appropriate to the particular features of the subject.

## Rationale and structure of the curriculum for Year 9 classes

### Setting

Assuming a year-group of between 50 and 60 pupils, there will be three classes for each subject. In the 'Core' subjects (English, Maths and the Sciences) and the Modern Foreign Languages (MFL: French and Spanish) the setting is arranged formally, following closely the Common Entrance results and other testing. The other subjects are arranged in three classes more loosely divided by academic ability. History and Geography drive the setting here, but allowance is made for practical considerations for ICT, Music, PE and Drama.

Overseas pupils should be spread through the sets according to academic ability, but it is likely that a lack of fluency in English will keep them in the middle and lower sets.

### Subjects

The key subjects for the curriculum are, of course, Maths and English. These take a significant proportion of the lessons in the timetable. The place of the Humanities (Geography and History, French and Spanish) is assured with 4 lessons per fortnight. We encourage pupils to study History and/or Geography at GCSE but it is not a requirement and, therefore, it is appropriate to ensure that pupils have significant exposure to these subjects in the last year in which they are compulsory. Religious Studies has 3 lessons per fortnight. Conversely, it is an expectation that pupils will take one MFL at GCSE and so both are emphasised in the curriculum in Year 9 in order to improve fluency.

All other subjects are given 2 lessons per fortnight. These are: the three separate sciences; Art; DT; Drama; Computing; Music; PE. There is also a single lesson of PSHE.

### Breadth and Depth

The prime concern for Year 9 is to give breadth. Pupils are offered a variety of educational experiences, desirable in itself but also allowing pupils to make an informed choice of GCSE Options.

For the Core subjects, Year 9 is an opportunity to begin work on the new GCSE courses. Some of the Option subjects also cover material that is required for the GCSE course. The HPQ project is another means to promote cross-curricular work.

Subject	English	Maths	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	French	Spanish / Latin	Geography	History	RS	Art	DT	Computing	Drama	Music	PSHE	PE	PREP	Total lessons per fortnight
Year group																			
<b>9</b>	7	7	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	4	<b>56</b>
No of mins	385	385	110	110	110	220	220	220	220	165	110	110	110	110	110	55	110	220	<b>3080</b>

## Rationale and structure of the curriculum for Year 10/11 classes

The formal timetable for pupils distinguishes between the Core subjects and Options subjects.

### The Core

The approach taken is much the same as in other similar schools. There can be a case for taking exams in one or more of the core subjects in Year 10, notably Maths, but for the moment we believe that it is preferable for all pupils to take this in Year 11. In general, universities focus on the package of GCSEs taken together in Year 11 and do not give credit for grades earned in previous years. We keep all three sciences in the core; some take each as a separate GCSE, some take the 'dual award'.

All pupils take the same number of lessons in English, Maths and the three sciences. However, while most pupils will take both English Language and English Literature, some will not take the Literature papers. In Maths, the set for the least able will follow a 'foundation' level course. Similarly, weaker pupils will take the iGCSE English Language course.

### Modern Foreign Languages

We class MFL amongst the option subjects, but it is expected that most pupils will take one MFL GCSE. The usual exceptions are pupils needing to take lessons with Learning Support or overseas pupils needing EAL classes. The College offers French and Spanish as our modern foreign languages. This dovetails with the revised arrangements for languages at the Prep.

### The Options subjects

The timetable requires each pupil to choose four options. As indicated above, one of these will be an MFL (or Personalised Learning). In principle, pupils have a free choice for the other three, although this must necessarily be subject to staffing and timetabling constraints. There is encouragement to choose at least one of the 'humanities' (here defined as Geography, History, Religious Studies and Business Studies). Pupils are also encouraged to choose a creative/applied subject (from Art, Computing, Design Technology, Drama, Music and Physical Education/Sport). We also offer Latin.

### Other

As part of the co-curricular programme, pupils may take the HPQ project. It is also possible to attend classes in Statistics which can lead to a GCSE qualification.

### Year 10 Option Blocks: 2020/21

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
French	Art	Design Technology	Art
Spanish	Business Studies	EAL	Business Studies
Personalised Learning	Computing	Geography	Drama
Supervised Study	Geography	History	Latin
EAL	Sport BTEC	Physical Education	Music
			Religious Studies

### Examinations

Since universities have said that they 'measure' GCSE success according to the grades achieved in one season, and given the recent increase in content and difficulty for GCSEs, our policy is that all GCSEs are taken at the end of Year 11.

### Coursework and Controlled Assessment

The new GCSEs have largely abandoned all forms of coursework. Geography will continue to require some fieldtrips and there will be practical assessments in the applied subjects.

	English	Maths	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	PSHE	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D	TOTAL lessons per fortnight
Subject											
Year group											
<b>10</b>	9	9	4	4	4	2	6	6	6	6	56
No of mins	495	495	220	220	220	110	330	330	330	330	3080
<b>11</b>	9	9	4	4	4	2	6	6	6	6	56
No of mins	495	495	220	220	220	55	330	330	330	330	3080

## Rationale and structure of the curriculum for Year 12/13 classes

The majority of pupils will opt to take A level courses in the Sixth Form. However, we have established expertise in delivering the BTEC Extended Diploma in performance sport.

### Breadth

The 'Curriculum 2000' system tended to lead to pupils taking four subjects in Year 12, with most dropping to three at the start of – or during – Year 13. The Gove reforms to A level specifications have increased the content in the syllabus and made the assessment harder than previously. As a consequence, most Mount Kelly pupils will start with just three A level courses and keep these for the two years. Of course, this means that the initial choice must be an informed one and pupils in Year 11 are given advice by the Guidance department and then a formal interview by the Deputy Head (Academic). The first half of the Michaelmas term is arranged so that it is relatively easy for pupils to switch options. Pupils taking Maths and Further Maths should take two other courses.

The timetable is arranged such that each course has ten lessons per fortnight. In some instances this might be reduced to eight, for example where there is just one pupil taking a course. In addition to the expectation in every subject for pupils to complete prep and private study, some subjects will require pupils to attend off-timetable sessions. This is typical of Art, Photography and Design Technology.

### Linearity

Following the changes to A level introduced under the Gove reforms, Mount Kelly has opted to move directly to a linear system so all papers are taken at the end of Year 13.

Similarly, Further Maths is arranged such that it is appropriate for pupils to sit all the units for 'ordinary' Maths A level in Year 12.

### AS examinations

An advantage of linearity is that it opens the prospect of a summer without public exams in the summer of Year 12. This gives more time for teaching, and for a cultural/co-curricular programme at the end of the Summer term, and breaks the previously unremitting cycle of public exams. As a consequence, Mount Kelly pupils do not sit AS papers in Year 12.

### Extended Project Qualification

The EPQ is well regarded by universities as a preparation for the sort of research and independent learning that undergraduates must undertake. It is also an opportunity for pupils to bring breadth to their studies. In some instances, the project can supplement one or more of their A level courses. In others it allows them to pursue interests that are not catered for in formal A level courses, or to demonstrate to university admissions tutors the pupil's enthusiasm for an area of study.

At Mount Kelly the EPQ is offered to Year 12 pupils. It is particularly encouraged for pupils taking just three A levels, but it is not obligatory given that many pupils have heavy swimming or co-curricular commitments. Pupils taking four A levels may still opt to take an EPQ, and where possible Year 13 pupils will be permitted to join the course. EPQs will be submitted before the Easter vacation for marking by the tutor. After moderation, they are submitted to the (Edexcel) board and results are thus available for inclusion on UCAS forms.

The EPQ requires pupils to have 30 hours of formal preparation in study, research and presentation skills. The block of lessons in the second half of Lent term covers the presentation skills and guides EPQ pupils in writing up their report. However, the lessons in general study and research skills are of broader value and these are delivered to all Year 12 pupils in the first half of the Michaelmas term as part of the Beyond the Curriculum programme.

A small team of teachers takes responsibility for managing and tutoring the EPQ but it is intended that, over time, more teachers will become involved, typically through tutoring one or two pupils. The Academic Mentor delivers the skills lessons.

### The BTEC

The College's PE teachers have acquired considerable expertise in delivering the Level 3 BTEC in performance sport. In most instances it is offered as the Extended Diploma, equivalent to three A levels, and taught over 25 lessons per fortnight. To provide further breadth, BTEC pupils can also be taught a course in sport leadership. In 2020 the Extended Certificate in Sport, equivalent to one A level, was added, alongside BTECs in Applied Science and Performing Arts.

In some instances, BTEC pupils study additionally for an A level, typically a subject such as Psychology which complements their primary course. Conversely, in some instances it may be appropriate for a pupil taking two A levels to take a lower level of BTEC (equal to one or two A levels).

### Year 12 Option Blocks: 2020/21

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D	Block E
Biology	Chemistry	Biology*	Art	English Literature
History	French	Geography	Chemistry	Design Technology
Physical Education	Maths	Mathematics (for Further Mathematics)	Economics	Mathematics (for Further Mathematics)
Psychology	Photography	Maths	Psychology	Spanish
Sport BTEC single	Physics	Politics	Music	
	Economics	Performing Art BTEC	RS	

	Applied Science BTEC			
	Sports BTEC triple	Sports BTEC triple		Sports BTEC triple

NB Subjects marked with an asterix (\*) appear in more than one option block. Only one of these should be chosen.

### Beyond the Curriculum

Year 12 pupils take a compulsory course made up of four elements:

#### Public speaking and personal presentation

This is offered on the assumption that only those with the training and skills to present themselves effectively will be able to take advantage of the opportunities available to them. This is arranged through the medium of LAMDA classes, with the expectation of taking the Grade 5 exam in December.

#### Higher Level Learning Skills

This is offered on the assumption that only those who have been taught how to learn will be able to do so with the degree of independence and efficiency necessary for success in the modern world. This is arranged through the EPQ core research skills programme.

#### Guidance and UCAS support

This is offered on the assumption that only those who are properly guided and supported will make informed decisions about their futures, and only those who are properly advised will be able to realise their ambitions. The programme for this is outlined above.

#### General Studies

This is offered on the assumption that only those who are informed about the realities and the workings of the modern world are properly equipped to contribute to it. This is offered as a carousel of taught courses on citizenship and cultural and global awareness, and a series of lectures on Economic literacy and Personal Financial awareness, as well as speakers on careers and current affairs.

The delivery of the programme is structured as follows:

	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3	Lesson 4
<b>Michaelmas</b> First half	Study Skills	Study Skills	General Studies	Public Speaking
<b>Michaelmas</b> Second half	Library Study	Library Study	General Studies	Public Speaking
<b>Lent</b>	UCAS/Guidance	Library study	General Studies	Library study
<b>Summer</b>	UCAS/Guidance	Library study	General Studies	Library study

## Policy on Prep

Pupils should expect to be set some work to do outwith the classroom. The actual tasks will vary between subjects, but the following general principles apply.

Broadly speaking there are three different objectives:

1. To consolidate past class work or prepare for future class work
2. To test knowledge and understanding, and prepare for future examinations
3. To enhance understanding, give opportunities for independent learning, give greater breadth to knowledge of the subject.

### Years 9 -11

A prep/homework timetable will be produced for Years 9-11, giving each subject guaranteed preps per fortnight. This will tend to mean that a pupil will have two or three preps per night.

Teachers should only set classes prep to be completed on the timetabled evening.

Each prep should take approximately 30 minutes. Consequently, a pupil will have homework for either one hour or 90 minutes, depending on the timetable.

Preps tasks might include the following: a written exercise eg answering GCSE exam questions; reading from a book/textbook; preparing for a task in the next lesson; part of an on-going research project; continuing a piece of coursework.

In all circumstances, prep should be **differentiated** in order to stretch the most able, support those with specific needs and develop the understanding of all pupils. Prep should be submitted by/in the next lesson and then **marked** and returned in similar fashion.

Poor quality prep should not be accepted and should be returned for recompletion. Pupils should expect to face disciplinary sanctions if they do not complete a prep task.

### Years 12 – 13

There will not be a formal timetable for sixth form pupils. However, A level teachers should expect to set work to be completed outside the classroom amounting to 10 hours per subject per fortnight.

Pupils taking three A levels are in class for 30 lessons per fortnight, with a further 8/4 for Beyond the Curriculum in Year 12, leaving around 12-20 study lessons (hours) per fortnight on their timetable. A sixth former should expect to be studying in the evening and at weekends.

BTEC pupils are set tasks for completion of the separate units, for which there are formal deadlines.

## Policy on marking, assessment and feedback

Marking can be seen as a dialogue between teacher and pupil. Actual conversation is, of course, very valuable and this can be an excellent means to complete the assessment process, but the teacher's written commentary on a marked piece of work can be almost as effective. It may be appropriate to relate the work in question to previous tasks, acknowledging improvement and development, as well as looking ahead to tasks to come.

In part, the reading and marking of a pupil's written work is an indication that the work is valued by the teacher. Although stamps, abbreviations and simple 'ticks' all have their place, the pupil should see evidence that the teacher has read and assessed the work, and thus feel that the exercise has been worthwhile.

### Principles to follow:

**Timeliness.** Pupils should have marked work returned to them within one week. It is desirable for most written work to be marked and returned at the next lesson, but this may not be practicable.

**Mark-schemes.** Pupils should have a good idea of the mark-scheme before they attempt the task. In many cases this will be the exam board's standard mark-scheme. Comments in the margin/at the end should relate to the mark-scheme.

**Comments.** In addition to tick/cross and numerical scores, teachers should include comments in their assessment. These **may** be against each question/answer, and should also head or tail the work. Some comments may use a standard abbreviation format (see attached).

**Summative/formative.** It is usually appropriate to give a summative assessment, noting what has gone well and what has not, and also a formative assessment, suggesting ways to improve.

**Self-marking and peer marking.** There is value in allowing pupils to mark each other's work. This is particularly useful for helping pupils to understand the mark-scheme. In applying it to others' work he/she appreciates the importance of the mark-scheme for producing their own work.

**Corrections.** In most instances, the correct answer or the missing detail should be noted by the teacher against the pupil's incorrect answers, or a separate sheet of model answers provided. Alternatively, class time might be spent going through the work collectively, discussing 'right' answers, but this activity should not usually replace the teacher's marking.

**Praise.** It is worth restating the truism that pupils tend to respond to praise. The benefits are lost if the praise is formulaic or too fulsome, but it is right explicitly to recognise effort and attainment. Again, the praise is more meaningful when it is not superficial but related to particular aspects of the work, which are detailed in the comment.

**Targets.** Some targets emerge naturally from a piece of work – further revision of that topic, additional reading, reviewing class-notes, practising spellings etc. Assessment /marking of a particular piece of work may be an opportunity for suggesting more general targets or extension work.

**Literacy & numeracy.** Assessment should guide pupils to improve literacy. Teachers should, therefore, note spelling and grammar errors. It may be appropriate to focus on particular errors, especially if these are persistent. All teachers are responsible for promoting high standards of literacy and numeracy.

**Presentation.** In most subjects the requirement for neat and formal presentation of work will not be covered by the mark-scheme, but it is nonetheless important that teachers should comment on the presentation of work and criticise poor presentation.

## Policy on Reporting and Tracking

### Rationale

The concerns and ambitions that inform the creation of the College's tracking system are as follows:

1. Reporting by teachers should impact directly on pupils, and reports and tracking data should be used to help pupils to improve academic performance
2. The pattern for reporting and grading should be consistent across the Foundation and it must be possible to track pupil progress meaningfully across a child's career at Mount Kelly
3. Tracking data must relate to actual academic performance in exercises that are marked and graded according to objective and consistent criteria (using the IPC, ISEB, GCSE, A level, and BTEC mark schemes), and there should be sufficient data to allow an accurate picture to emerge
4. Parents should understand how their child is being monitored and guided in his/her academic work, and they should receive some regular reports to update them on progress
5. The tutor has a key role in enabling pupils to understand and respond to teacher reports, and in keeping parents informed and involved
6. There should be flexibility within the overall reporting and tracking framework to allow it to grow or adapt as new demands are placed on it.

### The Assessment & Tutoring system

The new system will typically have two formal assessments/tests in each term. When these are marked and graded, teachers will write a report for the pupil's tutor, giving the grade achieved in that assessment and making some comments and suggestions for improvement. The tutor will meet with the pupil to discuss this 'Grade Card' and together they will come up with some targets. The tutor will then write a summary of this conversation, and this summary will subsequently be made available to parents as a 'Grade Report'. A *parent portal* on the website will be created to facilitate this.

In this instance then, the Grade Card is addressed directly to the pupil and his/her tutor. We believe that the tutor is the best person to help the tutee to understand the message from the teachers and to formulate targets and a strategy for improvement. However, the Grade Report will keep parents informed about the key issues and provide a starting point for conversations with their child's tutor.

### Tracking: MidYIS and ALIS

The grades achieved in each assessment are recorded centrally, allowing the academic management team to track progress against the pupil's expected path. For each pupil we have data for the MidYIS (for Years 9-11) and ALIS (sixth form) scores. These data provide a 'chances graph' ie the most likely grades to be expected for a pupil, and thus we have an objective and consistent measure against which actual performance can be compared.

### The Reporting system

A full package of academic and pastoral reports is sent to parents at the end of the Michaelmas term and Lent (Year 11 and 13) and Summer (Year 9, 10 and 12) terms. These report on progress more generally, including classwork and homework, in addition to the formal assessments. There are also Parents' Consultations.

### Principles

1. Pupils should feel themselves to be the direct recipient of a formal comment and direction for improvement from their teachers at several points through the year

2. Teachers have a clear direction as to use of assessments and tests, a defined framework for writing reports that are targeted at pupils or parents, all set out in a manageable timeline
3. Tutors have an enhanced role as academic mentors to their tutees and are viewed by parents as the first point of contact on academic matters
4. Parents know that their child's academic performance is monitored closely, receiving more tutor Grade Reports and two major end-of-term reports each year
5. The AMT has data that allow them to follow the progress of every pupil, to trigger intervention where concerns arise, and to manage learning and teaching more effectively

## **Policy on meeting the needs of the able and very able**

### **Scholarships**

As set out in the Foundation section, scholarships are available for the most able entrants to Year 9.

### **Challenging the able and very able in the classroom**

Each subject area includes in its scheme of work how it provides opportunities to stretch and challenge the more able. This is audited by the Asst Head Teaching & Learning.

### **Challenging the able and very able in the academic co-curricular programme**

There are opportunities for the academically most able to develop their talents beyond the classroom. Conversation is a key tool for this.

A programme of 'Intensives' offers extension activities to Years 7/8, both in the 'Stop the Curriculum' days and short courses in non-curriculum subjects. This programme was being introduced in 2020/21.

For Years 9/10 the Plum Society brings together the more enthusiastic pupils for various cross-curricular activities aimed at developing skills of interpretation and evaluation, lateral and creative thinking, and an openness to challenge and debate.

For sixth-formers, the Politics and Discussion Society is a more formal opportunity to debate topics of academic or general interest. It aims to broaden the pupils' knowledge and interests as well as challenging them to look more deeply into a particular issue.

### **Oxbridge**

Year 12 pupils who might consider an application to Oxbridge are identified early and they are invited to a talk, either by MK Guidance or by a visitor from Oxford/Cambridge admissions, in Lent or Summer term.

A trip to Oxford is arranged for potential applicants in most years. In Michaelmas term of Year 13 applicants are given advice with their UCAS form and further preparation. Interview practice is arranged in collaboration with other schools (including West Buckland School and Tavistock College).

## **Policy on Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education**

PSHE education is a planned, developmental programme of learning through which children and young people acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to manage their lives now and in the future. As part of a whole-school approach, PSHE education develops the qualities and attributes pupils need to thrive as individuals, family members and members of society.

The Mount Kelly PSHE education programme makes a significant contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development, their behaviour and safety and the school's statutory responsibility to promote pupils'

wellbeing. In addition, the learning provided through a comprehensive PSHE education provision is regarded as essential to safeguarding our pupils.

PSHE education equips pupils with the knowledge, understanding, skills and strategies required to live healthy, safe, productive, capable, responsible and balanced lives. It encourages them to be enterprising and supports them in making effective transitions, positive learning and career choices and in achieving economic wellbeing. A critical component of PSHE education is providing opportunities for children and young people to reflect on and clarify their own values and attitudes and explore the complex and sometimes conflicting range of values and attitudes they encounter now and in the future.

PSHE education contributes to personal development by helping pupils to build their confidence, resilience and self-esteem, and to identify and manage risk, make informed choices and understand what influences their decisions. It enables them to recognise, accept and shape their identities, to understand and accommodate difference and change, to manage emotions and to communicate constructively in a variety of settings. Developing an understanding of themselves, empathy and the ability to work with others will help pupils to form and maintain good relationships, develop the essential skills for future employability and better enjoy and manage their lives.

### **Aims**

The overarching aim for PSHE education is to provide pupils with:

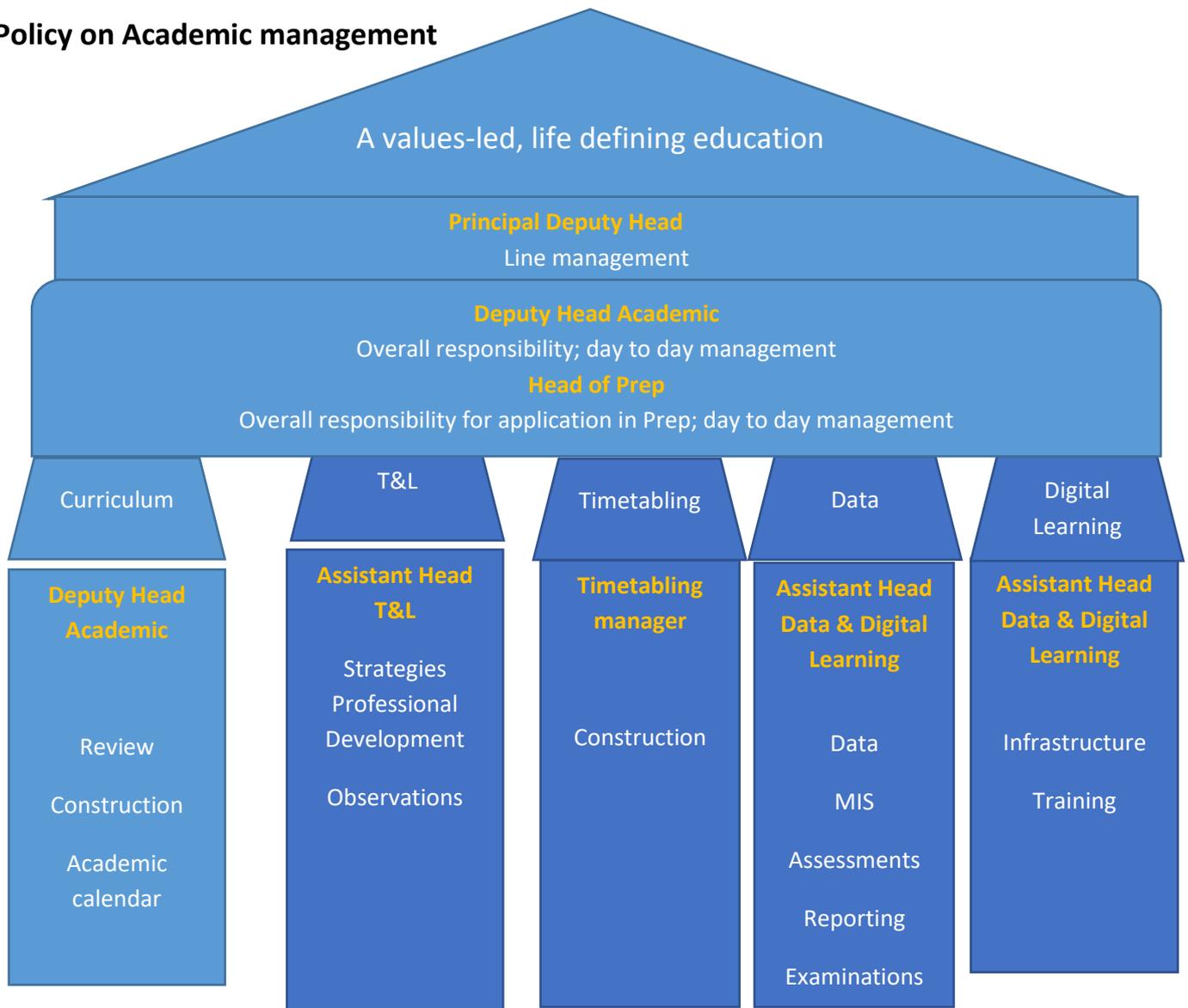
- accurate and relevant knowledge
- opportunities to turn that knowledge into personal understanding
- opportunities to explore, clarify and if necessary challenge, their own and others' values, attitudes, beliefs, rights and responsibilities
- the skills, language and strategies they need in order to live healthy, safe, fulfilling, responsible and balanced lives.

### **Subject Content**

The three overlapping and linked 'Core Themes' (Health and wellbeing, Relationships, Living in the Wider World), expressed as areas of core knowledge, understanding, language, skills and strategies, and taught in accordance with pupils' readiness, are appropriate across all Key Stages and build upon Early Years Foundation Stage Learning. It is important to recognise that many decisions about both health and lifestyle are made in a social context or are influenced by the attitudes, values and beliefs of significant others.

PSHE education will respect and take account of pupils' prior learning and experiences. Programmes reflect the universal needs shared by all children and young people as well as the specific needs of the pupils in the school. PSHE education is taught through a spiral programme, revisiting themes, whilst increasing the challenge, broadening the scope, and deepening pupils' thinking.

# Policy on Academic management



## **Faculties**

Whilst it is important for each subject to have a designated 'lead' who is a teacher of that subject and able to manage the delivery on a daily basis, for management of the academic side of the school it has been decided to appoint seven Heads of Faculty (HoF). The arrangement of the faculties is not uniform, some are essentially single-subject, but others cover several subjects. The precise combination is not intended to be fixed, but there is a logic and some synergy in the current arrangement. The lead for EAL reports directly to the DHA.

Humanities (Business & Economics, Geography, History, Religious Studies)

Languages (French, Spanish, Latin, German)

Mathematics

Physical Education, BTEC Sport (and BTEC co-ordinator)

Sciences (Biology, Chemistry & Physics), Psychology, Computing

Art, Photography, Design Technology

English, Drama, Music

The HoFs meet with the AMT as the Academic Board, typically two times each term for College business. They also meet with the HoFs from the Prep to discuss Foundation issues. The agenda is set by the Deputy Head (Academic), who chairs the meeting, and the minutes are taken by the Director of Personalised Learning. Subject leads may be invited to attend.

Standing items on the agenda for College Academic Board meetings include:

- (i) Health & Safety matters
- (ii) Academic matters relating to Swimmers

HoFs and the AMT also meet housemasters and housemistresses twice per year for the Academic-Pastoral board, which is concerned principally with discussing pupils of concern. The meetings of the joint board are chaired by the Principal Deputy Head.

## **Policy on monitoring teaching and learning**

It is intended that monitoring of teaching should occur frequently and in a variety of forms such that it becomes a natural and accepted part of the educational and professional culture. Monitoring and observation should occur at peer-to-peer level as well as in a top-down process. The Asst Head Teaching & Learning determines the scope and focus of the monitoring programme each term.

### **Learning Walks**

This term covers the presence of the SLT/AMT in classes and subject areas. There are different formats:

(a) Journey of the Learner. A member of the AMT attends the lessons of a particular pupil over the course of the day. It is concerned with understanding the experience of the pupil, and gauging his/her response to the lesson. Points of focus might include: opportunities for group work; opportunities for use of ICT; how the pupil smiles; how often pupils respond positively to the teacher.

(b) Subject focus. Members of the AMT each attend two or more lessons by teachers of a given subject.

(c) Environment. Members of the AMT explore the physical environment for teaching. Points of focus might include: use of displays, posters etc to support learning; display of pupil work; presence and display of books and equipment; arrangement of desks.

(d) Broad brush. Members of the AMT/SLT drop into several lessons, for brief periods, to get a broad impression of activity, especially in period 1 or late afternoon.

After each Learning Walk, there is a brief report on the overall experience, with conclusions and proposals as appropriate. In addition, a comment is sent to each teacher who has been observed. Over time it is intended that the reports should be collected and analysed to provide an insight into good practice for sharing.

### **Work Scrutinies**

This term covers the collecting in of pupil notes and assessments for review by AMT and HoFs. Each scrutiny tends to focus on a particular year-group and it is usual for a small sample to be seen.

(a) Representative. The sample of pupils includes high achievers, pupils having LS or EAL lessons, etc.

(b) Targeted. The pupils have a similar profile, allowing scrutiny of eg stretching the able, support for EAL pupils, etc.

(c) Subject. A particular faculty or subject area can be looked at, with a greater number of pupils in the sample, and allowing comparisons between teachers and sets.

(d) Swaps. It can be helpful for HoFs to look at a sample of work from a different subject area.

After each Work Scrutiny, there is a brief report on the conclusions drawn. A comment is sent to the HoF or subject lead as appropriate. Over time it is intended that the reports should be collected and analysed to provide an insight into good practice for sharing.

### **Visits**

Individual subject areas should periodically ask an experienced teacher from another school to visit and take a look at all aspects of teaching. This will involve some lesson observation, work scrutiny and conversations with teachers and the subject lead or HoF. There should be oral feedback to the teachers and also a more formal report for the AMT.

It is intended that, over a cycle of four years, every subject area should have a visit.

In most instances the AMT will decide when a visit should be arranged, typically according to the agreed cycle though the AMT may require a visit out of sequence. The HoF should usually choose the visitor from another school, but the AMT may choose in some cases. The visitor should not be known personally by the HoF/subject lead so that some sense of objectivity is ensured. The visitor will be paid expenses and some remuneration.

### **Mutual observation and peer mentoring**

We believe that a great deal of professional development can be achieved through sharing good practice directly at a peer-to-peer level. A formalised system of peer mentoring is part of the Appraisal system, based on discussions between teachers and a colleague-mentor.

### **Teaching & Learning Groups (TLGs)**

Each TLG will be led by a mentor, an experienced teacher given formal training for the role. The mentor will act as co-ordinator for the group and it is proposed that TLGS will be the forum for discussion of learning & teaching issues, eg at Inset.

### **Departmental observations**

HoFs are expected to observe members of their departments on a regular and frequent basis. It is expected that a HoF will give feedback to the teacher observed, and this should be on a formal document, kept in the faculty file.

Faculties or subject areas with several teachers also promote mutual observation by teachers in the department.

### **Observations at other institutions**

Some members of common room have contacts in other schools that will enable them to request the opportunity to visit and observe lessons there. These are encouraged, and we facilitate this whenever possible.

## **Policy on Prizes**

### **Academic Subject prizes**

Prizes are awarded by the Head Master on the recommendation of the Academic Management Team. Nominations are made in the first instance by the subject leads.

Year 9: Each subject is to make THREE nominations for pupils demonstrating attainment and a positive attitude to learning. Nominations are reviewed by AMT. Up to eight prizes are awarded.

Years 10-11: Each subject is to nominate ONE candidate for the academic prize. English Literature and English Language have separate prizes in Year 11.

Year 12-13: Each subject is to nominate ONE candidate for the academic prize. Mathematics and Further Mathematics have separate prizes. The prize may not be awarded if there are no appropriate candidates.

### **Foundation Award prizes**

Prizes are awarded by the Head Master on the recommendation of the SLT. Nominations are made by appropriate members of Common Room. One candidate should be nominated for each prize.

## **Remote and Blended Learning Policy**

The school will adopt a blended learning approach for individuals or small groups of pupils if:

1. a pupil is unwell and is expected to miss lessons for more than one week
2. a pupil or group of pupils is required to quarantine for more than one week
3. a pupil is unable to return to school due to eg travel restrictions and will be absent for two weeks or more

In other instances of absence, teachers will set prep and additional work via teams

### **Features of blended learning:**

1. On a daily basis, teachers will – where possible - use Teams to record lessons for absent pupils.
2. Class teachers will periodically contact the pupil via Teams to review the work for which the pupil has been absent
3. Tutors will oversee the whole schedule of lessons, preps and review meetings to ensure that the pupil is engaged and keeping up
4. Teachers will pay particular attention to engaging with absent pupils if any IGCSE coursework, A level NEAs or BTEC assignments must be set/completed/assessed while the pupil is absent

### **Formal Aims:**

1. To ensure that pupils are not disadvantaged by lengthy absence and are able to keep up with their classmates, or do not fall so far behind that they cannot reasonably be expected to catch up

2. To ensure that blended learning delivery meets the guidelines set by the awarding organisations, specifically as required by Pearson/BTEC
3. To ensure that assessment methodology is valid and reliable. It must satisfy awarding organisations such as Pearson and also Ofqual in the event of 'centre assessed grades' being required. Any methodology for assessing work must not disadvantage any group or individual pupils

**In order to do this Mount Kelly will:**

- Ensure that teaching staff are timetabled to support blended learning when pupils are working remotely, even if the pupils are working independently on coursework, NEAs or BTEC assignments
- Ensure there is a process through the subject leads to manage all feedback on coursework, NEAs and assignments, questions are constructively answered, and feedback is provided in a timely manner
- Ensure that pupils with SEN are supported through regular contact with the Personalised Learning team
- Ensure the setting of all assignments, including ordinary preps as well as coursework, is undertaken in the face-to-face sessions, that everything is published on Teams, and that deadlines are clear
- Ensure that when learners submit work measures are taken to ensure the work is authentic and has been completed by the pupil. All sixth form pupils are given training about plagiarism, as are younger pupils completing coursework for IGCSE
- Maintain and store securely all assessment and internal verification records in accordance with the requirements of Ofqual, individual exam boards and the BTEC Pearson Centre Agreement

## **Policy on Non-Examined Assessments (NEA)**

**This policy incorporates the JCQ advice 'Reviews of marking - centre assessed marks (GCSE controlled assessments, GCE coursework, GCE and GCSE non-examination assessments and Project qualifications)'**

Mount Kelly is committed to ensuring that whenever its teachers mark candidates' work this is done fairly, consistently and in accordance with the awarding body's specification and subject-specific associated documents.

Candidates' work will be marked by teachers who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skill, and who have been trained in this activity. Mount Kelly is committed to ensuring that work produced by candidates is authenticated in line with the requirements of the awarding body.

Where a number of subject teachers are involved in marking candidates' work, internal moderation and standardisation will ensure consistency of marking. Where a single teacher has marked candidates' work, wherever possible a second teacher will review and moderate the marks.

After marking and internal moderation, Mount Kelly will then follow national guidelines for notifying pupils of marks and enabling a review. The steps taken will be as overleaf:

1. Mount Kelly will ensure that candidates are informed of their centre assessed marks so that they may request a review of the marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body.
2. Mount Kelly will inform candidates that they may request copies of materials to assist them in considering whether to request a review of the centre's marking of the assessment.
3. Mount Kelly will, having received a request for copies of materials, promptly make them available to the candidate.
4. Mount Kelly will provide candidates with sufficient time in order to allow them to review copies of materials and reach a decision. This will usually be 7 days.
5. Mount Kelly will provide a clear deadline for candidates to submit a request for a review of the centre's marking. Requests will not be accepted after this deadline. Requests **must** be made in writing.
6. Mount Kelly will allow sufficient time for the review to be carried out, to make any necessary changes to marks and to inform the candidate of the outcome, all before the awarding body's deadline.
7. Mount Kelly will ensure that the review of marking is carried out by an assessor who has appropriate competence, has had no previous involvement in the assessment of that candidate and has no personal interest in the review. Where appropriate this may be a subject specialist from another school.
8. Mount Kelly will instruct the reviewer to ensure that the candidate's mark is consistent with the standard set by this centre. They will report to the Deputy Head (Academic).
9. Mount Kelly will inform the candidate in writing of the outcome of the review of the marking.
10. The outcome of the review of the marking will be made known to the Head Master. A written record of the review will be kept and made available to the awarding body upon request.

The moderation process carried out by the awarding bodies may result in a mark change, either upwards or downwards, even after an internal review. The internal review process is in place to ensure consistency of marking within the centre, whereas moderation by the awarding body ensures that centre marking is in line with national standards. The mark submitted to the awarding body is subject to change and should therefore be considered provisional.

## **BTEC Policy**

### **1. Rationale**

The purpose of this document is to ensure that all BTEC programmes are appropriately implemented and meet the guidelines set by the examination board and JCQ assessment policies. This document is to be used in conjunction with the Foundation's Curriculum Policy, specifically the examinations and assessment policy, and a range of guidance available at the Edexcel website.

### **2. Policy Aims**

This document contains several separate policies, all shared by Pearson, which collectively aim to ensure that the Foundation has in place administrative systems, policies and procedures to ensure that there is effective management of the delivery and assessment of qualifications, ensuring that:

- qualification approvals are accurate and timely and reflective of a centre delivery
- the centre continues to meet all Qualification Approval criteria for each qualification

- adequate records are maintained to meet Pearson requirements and made available to Pearson representatives, as required.

### **3. BTEC - Registration & Certification Policy**

Aims:

- To register individual learners to the correct programme within agreed timescales.
- To claim valid learner certificates within agreed timescales.
- To construct a secure, accurate and accessible audit trail to ensure that individual learner registration and certification claims can be tracked to the certificate which is issued for each learner.

In order to do this, the Foundation will:

- register each learner within the awarding body requirements;
- register each learner on the appropriate programme code, before any assessment activity is completed
- provide a mechanism for programme teams to check the accuracy of learner registrations;
- make each learner aware of their registration status;
- inform the awarding body of withdrawals, transfers or changes to learner details;
- ensure that certificate claims are timely and based solely on internally verified assessment records;
- audit certificate claims made to the awarding body;
- audit the certificates received from the awarding body to ensure accuracy and completeness;
- keep all records safely and securely for three years post certification.

Responsibilities:

- Exams Officer: responsible for timely, accurate and valid registration, transfer, withdrawal and certificate claims for learners
- Programme Leader: responsible for ensuring learner details held by Pearson are accurate and that an audit trail of learner assessment and achievement is accessible
- Quality Nominee: responsible for coordinating and monitoring the learner details held with Pearson
- Senior Management: responsible for overseeing the registration, transfer, withdrawal and certificate claims for learners to ensure that awarding body deadlines are met.

### **4. BTEC - Assessment Policy**

Aims:

- To ensure that assessment methodology is valid, reliable and does not disadvantage or advantage any group of learners or individuals.
- To ensure that the assessment procedure is open, fair and free from bias and to national standards.
- To ensure that there is accurate and detailed recording of assessment decisions.

In order to do this, the Foundation will:

- ensure that learners are provided with assignments that are fit for purpose, to enable them to produce appropriate evidence for assessment;
- produce a clear and accurate assessment plan at the start of the programme/academic year;
- provide clear, published dates for handout of assignments and deadlines for assessment;
- assess learner's evidence using only the published assessment and grading criteria;
- ensure that assessment decisions are impartial, valid and reliable;
- not limit or 'cap' learner achievement if work is submitted late;

- develop assessment procedures that will minimise the opportunity for malpractice;
- maintain accurate and detailed records of assessment decisions;
- maintain a robust and rigorous internal verification procedure;
- provide samples for standards verification / external examination as required by the awarding organisation;
- monitor standards verification / external examination reports and undertake any remedial action required;
- share good assessment practice between all BTEC programme teams;
- ensure that BTEC assessment methodology and the role of the assessor are understood by all BTEC staff;
- provide resources to ensure that assessment can be performed accurately and appropriately.

#### Responsibilities:

- Programme Leader: responsible for managing programme delivery and assessment of the learners, to ensure coverage of all units and grading criteria.
- Assessor: provides feedback to learners; assures the authenticity of learner work; records and tracks achievement.
- Internal Verifier: records findings, gives assessor feedback, and oversees remedial action.
- Lead Internal Verifier (BTEC Entry Level-Level 3): by registering with Pearson, has access to standardisation materials which may be used with assessors to ensure that national standards are understood. The Lead Internal Verifier must agree and sign off assessment and internal verification plans.

#### Procedures:

- Learner induction informs learners about all aspects of assessment and progress monitoring. Reference is made to national standards, assessment deadlines, the need for authentic work, and learner appeals.
- Assignment design has a practical vocational focus and references the unit grading criteria. A variety of assessment methods is encouraged. A schedule of assignments and assessment dates is planned for and monitored during delivery of the programme.
- At the start of the programme the assessment plan is agreed and signed off by the Lead Internal Verifier.
- Resubmissions must be made as per the BTEC Centre Guide to Internal Assessment.

### **5. BTEC - Internal Verification (IV) Policy**

#### Aims:

- To ensure there is an accredited lead internal verifier in each principal subject area
- To ensure that internal verification is valid, reliable and covers all assessors and programme activity.
- To ensure that the internal verification procedure is open, fair and free from bias.
- To ensure that there is accurate and detailed recording of internal verification decisions.

#### In order to do this, the Foundation will ensure that:

- a lead internal verifier for each principal subject area is accredited by Edexcel via the successful completion of an online standardisation exercise;
- each lead internal verifier oversees effective internal verification systems within each principal subject area;
- staff are briefed and trained in the requirements for current internal verification procedures;
- effective internal verification roles are defined, maintained and supported;
- internal verification is promoted as a developmental process between staff;
- standardised internal verification documentation is provided and used;
- all centre assessment instruments are verified as fit for purpose;
- an annual internal verification schedule, linked to assessment plans, is in place;

- an appropriately structured sample of assessment from all programmes, sites and teams is internally verified, to ensure centre programmes conform to national standards and standards verification requirements;
- secure records of all internal verification activity are maintained;
- the outcome of internal verification is used to enhance future assessment practice.

#### Responsibilities:

- Quality Nominee: ensures that centre internal verification and standardisation processes operate, acts as the centre coordinator and main point of contact for BTEC programmes. The Quality Nominee ensures Pearson quality assurance reports are monitored and any remedial action is carried out.
- Lead Internal Verifier (BTEC Entry Level – Level 3):
  - Is usually the programme leader in the principal subject area and monitors and coordinates the internal verification process for each principal subject area.
  - Registers details and accesses standardisation exercises to use with the assessment team.
  - Completes and submits the standardisation exercise during a live window to gain accredited status, is registered through OSCA and confirms registration annually.
- Internal Verifier: verifies assessor decisions and validates assignments. The Internal Verifier records findings, gives assessor feedback, and oversees remedial action.

#### Procedures:

- All Assessors, Lead Internal Verifiers and Internal Verifiers are regularly briefed on BTEC processes.
- Verification schedules are agreed annually to cover all Assessors, units and assignments.
  - Schedules are drawn up at the beginning of the programme and monitored through the year.
- Internal Verification of assignments is carried out before use to ensure that assignments are fit for purpose, and that any recommendations are acted upon. Documented records of effective internal verification are kept.
- The Internal Verifier verifies a sufficient sample of Assessor grading decisions to ensure accuracy. Assessors do not internally verify their own work. Assessor feedback and support is given.
- Internal Verification records are correctly maintained and kept securely for 3 years after certification.
- Standards Verification/External Examination: monitoring and review procedures for standards verification and external examination outcomes is in place and deal with unsuccessful standards verification and external examination samples.

## 6. BTEC - Plagiarism and Assessment Malpractice Policy

### Aim:

- To identify and minimise the risk of malpractice by staff or learners.
- To respond to any incident of alleged malpractice promptly and objectively.
- To standardise and record any investigation of malpractice to ensure openness and fairness.
- To impose appropriate penalties and/or sanctions on learners or staff where incidents (or attempted incidents) of malpractice are proven.
- To protect the integrity of this centre and BTEC qualifications.

### In order to do this, the Foundation will:

- seek to avoid potential malpractice by using the induction period and the student handbook to inform learners of the centre's policy on malpractice and the penalties for attempted and actual incidents of malpractice;
- show learners the appropriate formats to record cited texts and other materials or information sources;
- ask learners to declare that their work is their own;
- ask learners to provide evidence that they have interpreted and synthesised appropriate information and acknowledged any sources used;

- conduct an investigation in a form commensurate with the nature of the malpractice allegation. Such an investigation will be supported by the Head of Centre / Head Master and all personnel linked to the allegation. It will proceed according to the examinations appeal policy;
- make the individual fully aware at the earliest opportunity of the nature of the alleged malpractice and of the possible consequences should malpractice be proven;
- give the individual the opportunity to respond to the allegations made; **parents?**
- inform the individual of the avenues for appealing against any judgement made;
- document all stages of any investigation.

#### Responsibilities:

- Centre: seeks proactive ways to promote a positive culture that encourages learners to take individual responsibility for their learning and respect the work of others.
- Assessor: responsible for designing assessment opportunities which limit the opportunity for malpractice and for checking the validity of the learner's work.
- Internal Verifier/Lead Internal Verifier: responsible for malpractice checks when internally verifying work.
- Quality Nominee: required to inform Pearson of any acts of malpractice.
- Heads of Centre or their nominees: responsible for any investigation into allegations of malpractice.

#### Procedures:

- Addressing learner malpractice:
  - All staff promote positive and honest study practices.
  - Learners are required to declare that work is their own; staff check the validity of learner's work.
  - Learner induction and handbook is used to inform about malpractice and outcomes
  - Teachers ensure that learners use appropriate citations and referencing for research sources.
  - Assessment procedures in place to help reduce and identify malpractice.
- Addressing staff malpractice:
  - Staff BTEC induction and updating includes BTEC requirements.
  - Robust Internal Verification and audited record keeping.
  - Audit of learner records, assessment tracking records and certification claims.
- Dealing with malpractice:
  - The individual is informed of the issues and of the possible consequences as well as of the process and appeals rights.
  - The individual is provided with the opportunity to respond.
  - Any investigation is carried in a fair and equitable manner.
  - The awarding body is informed of any malpractice or attempted acts of malpractice, which have compromised assessment; the advice of the awarding body for any further action is sought.
  - Any penalties are appropriate to the nature of the malpractice under review.
  - Should gross misconduct is identified, it will be dealt with in accordance with learner and staff disciplinary procedures.

### **7. BTEC - Appeals Policy**

#### Aims:

- To enable the learner to enquire, question or appeal against an assessment decision.
- To attempt to reach agreement between the learner and the assessor at the earliest opportunity.
- To standardise and record any appeal to ensure openness and fairness.

- To facilitate a learner's ultimate right of appeal to the awarding body, where appropriate.
- To protect the interests of all learners and the integrity of the qualification.

In order to do this, the Foundation will:

- inform the learner at induction, of the Examination Appeals Policy and procedure;
- record, track and validate any appeal;
- forward the appeal to the awarding body when a learner considers that a decision continues to disadvantage her/him after the internal appeals process has been exhausted;
- will take appropriate action to protect the interests of other learners and the integrity of the qualification, when the outcome of an appeal questions the validity of other results;
- keep appeals records for inspection by the awarding body for a minimum of 18 months
- have a staged appeals procedure;
- monitor appeals to inform quality improvement.

Responsibilities:

- Learner: responsible for initiating the appeals procedure, in the required format, within a defined time frame, when s/he has reason to question an assessment decision.
- Assessor: responsible for providing clear achievement feedback to learners. If assessment decisions are questioned, the Assessor is responsible for processing the learner's appeal within the agreed time.
- Internal Verifier/Lead Internal Verifier/Senior Management: responsible for judging whether assessment decisions are valid, fair and unbiased.
- Head of Centre: responsible for submitting an appeal in writing, to Pearson if the learner remains dissatisfied with the outcome of the centre's internal appeals procedures.

Procedures:

- The learner induction informs the learner of the appeals procedure.
- The learner appeals procedures are staged procedures to determine whether the assessor:
  - Used procedures that are consistent with the awarding body's requirements.
  - Applied the procedures properly and fairly when arriving at judgements.
  - Made a correct judgement about the learner's work.
- Appeals procedure stages:
  - Stage 1 – Informal: Learner consults with Assessor within a defined period of time following the assessment decision, to discuss an assessment decision. If unresolved, then the issues are documented before moving to stage 2.
  - Stage 2 – Review: Review of assessment decisions by Manager and/or Internal Verifier/Lead Internal Verifier. Learner notified of findings and agrees or disagrees, in writing, with outcome. If unresolved, move to stage 3.
  - Stage 3 – Appeal hearing: Deputy Head Academic hears the appeal: last stage by the centre. If unresolved, move to stage 4.
  - Stage 4 – External appeal: The grounds for appeal and any supporting documentation must be submitted by the centre to Pearson within 14 days of the completion of Stage 4: a fee is levied.

Recording appeals: each stage will be recorded, dated and show either agreement or disagreement with decisions. Documents will be kept for a minimum of 18 months.

- Monitoring of appeals: undertaken by Deputy Head Academic to inform development and quality improvement.

Vocational qualifications at the Academy are with Pearson. The exam board's specific policy for appeals for all Pearson Vocational qualifications can be viewed at:

## 8. Roles and responsibilities

The Head Master is responsible for monitoring the implementation of this policy.

The Deputy Head Academic is responsible for the integrity of the administration and completion process of all vocational qualifications at the Foundation.

The Examination Officer is responsible for:

- The timely, accurate and valid registration, transfer, withdrawal and certificate claims for students. All learners must be registered by 1<sup>st</sup> November for programmes starting in September or within one month of enrolment (for other start times). This must be completed before the first assessment activity is completed.
- Ensuring learner details held by the awarding body are accurate.
- Providing a mechanism for subject areas to check the accuracy of the student registration.
- Informing the awarding body where the Foundation is able to apply for reasonable adjustments or special consideration for individual students.
- Arranging for the effective administration of all externally assessed units, in accordance with JCQ and examination board guidelines and policies; evaluating BTEC administration.
- Reporting results to the awarding body.
- Keeping all records safely and securely for three years post certificate.

The BTEC Quality Nominee is responsible for:

- overseeing the registration, transfer, withdrawal and certificate claims for learners to ensure that awarding body deadlines are met.
- Ensuring that all staff are aware of the systems put in place to ensure consistency and reliability of courses, assessments and accreditation.
- Ensuring that Subject Leaders have followed procedures by 'Internally verifying' assignments.
- Sampling assignments to ensure evidence of colleagues responding to IV feedback.
- Ensuring adherence of BTEC programme to exam board's guidance.
- Sampling & monitoring individual subjects' documentation.
- Evaluating BTEC structures and processes and identifying development priorities.
- Arranging to attend appropriate training.

The Lead IV is responsible for:

- managing assessment and internal verification of units and qualifications.
- working with teachers and Internal Verifiers to agree an assessment and verification plan for all cohorts from the start of the programme.
- ensuring that the assessment and verification plan is fit for purpose and meets regulatory requirements before it is signed off.
- approving a single resubmission to allow a learner to meet the assessment criteria targeted, providing:
  - the learner submitted the work on time (or had an agreed extension)
  - the teacher feels that the learner will be able to provide improved evidence without further guidance
  - the learner confirmed the work was their own (by signing and dating the declaration) and
  - the assessor has authenticated the evidence.

The Programme Manager is responsible for:

- Ensuring that an audit trail of learner assessment and achievement is accessible.
- Coordinating and monitoring the learner details held with Edexcel.
- Liaising with the Examination Manager about:
  - the completion of all externally assessed units.
  - the registration & certification of learners at appropriate level.
- Leading and coordinating the writing of assignments
- Issuing Assignment to students after IV adjustments
- Internally verifying assignments.
- Responding to IV feedback.
- Completing OSCA Accreditation (to become a lead IV) in subject area.
- Ensuring adherence of BTEC programme to exam board's guidance.

The BTEC subject teacher is responsible for:

- Supporting Subject Leader by writing assignments as required.
- Internally verifying assignments.
- Responding to IV feedback.
- Issuing Assignment to students after IV adjustments.
- Completing OSCA Accreditation in subject area.
- Ensuring adherence of BTEC programme to exam board's guidance.

All students are responsible for:

- Ensuring 100% attendance and punctuality to all lessons.
- Completing assignments with original work and following the guidance given by their subject teacher to the best of their ability and within given timeframes. Failure to do so will carry sanctions in accordance with the behaviour policy.

## Appendix 1: Centre approval criteria

The declaration made by the Head of Centre when making a centre approval contains the following criteria:

- my organisation will co-operate fully with Edexcel;
- my organisation will not undertake any activity or advertising that could bring the name of Edexcel into disrepute;
- I have authorised the person named above to act as contact for this application;
- no material in this application has been plagiarised. I confirm that any material in this application that is the intellectual property of another person or organisation is used with the express permission of that person or organisation;
- my centre will operate any required external tests in full accordance with Edexcel and OFQUAL/ACCAC/CCEA procedures;
- I understand that qualification approval is subject to review, and if quality is not maintained approval may be withdrawn;
- I understand that approval of a qualification by Edexcel does not imply or guarantee that it will be supported by public funding bodies;
- I confirm that we will regularly monitor, review and evaluate our operations;
- I confirm that information supplied to the Awarding Body for the purposes of registration and certification will be complete and accurate;
- I confirm that we will implement the agreed equal opportunities access and fair assessment policies and procedures;
- I confirm that the assessment procedure will be open, fair and free from bias;
- I confirm that queries about qualification specifications, assessment guidance or related awarding body information will be resolved and recorded;
- I confirm that we will make available to Edexcel any materials records, information or documents associated with the delivery of the qualification(s) and allow Edexcel officials access to such materials, premises and learners, for the purpose of auditing and external verification;
- my centre will not extend its boundaries overseas;
- learners will be informed of their registration status;
- my organisation has not had approval declined or withdrawn by another awarding body;
- the roles, responsibilities, authorities and accountabilities of the assessment and verification team across all sites are clearly defined, allocated and understood;
- I confirm that the Awarding Body will be notified of any changes, which may affect the centre's ability to meet the approved centre criteria;
- my organisation will keep a complete copy of this approval application for the lifetime of the qualification;
- my organisation will retain a copy of the learners' assessment and internal verification records for a period of three years following certification of the learner.

For further details: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/Support/policies-for-centreslearners-and-employees/Approval-centre-agreement.pdf>

## **Appendix 2: Qualification approval criteria**

The confirmation made by the Head of Centre's nominee when making a qualification approval contains the following criteria:

- there are procedures in place for the systematic monitoring, review and evaluation of this qualification;
- the centre's policy on equality of opportunity is operational;
- routes of progression are identified and made clear to all learners;
- there are appropriate teaching and learning opportunities planned;
- there will be opportunities for learners to be involved in and be given responsibility for their own learning;
- all learning opportunities will have relevance to employment within the sector;
- the assessment procedure will be open, fair and free from bias;
- assessment methodology will be valid and reliable and will not advantage or disadvantage any group of learners or individuals;
- policies and procedures for the internal verification of assessment are in place;
- the physical resources for each qualification, as described within the specification are available and sufficient for all learners;
- although centres will be given approval to offer all units within the relevant specification, the Foundation must confirm that it will only deliver units where there is appropriately qualified staff and sufficient resources to support the delivery;
- staff delivering each qualification are sufficient in number and have the appropriate and current vocational experience and relevant qualifications;
- a system is in place to ensure on-going staff development and updating in relation to the vocational areas covered by this application.

For further details: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/Support/policies-for-centreslearners-and-employees/Approval-centre-agreement.pdf>

### Appendix 3 Meeting deadlines

All student work is regularly monitored to ensure that students maintain appropriate pace, remain focused and do not fall behind with their work. When concerns arise these are initially discussed with the student concerned. Should the concerns continue, the relevant Head of Department and Tutor are informed. Students are spoken to and where appropriate placed on overtime /detention; parental meetings may also occur.

#### a) Missed deadlines

- Missed BTEC deadlines should be treated as missed homework deadlines and carry the same sanctions according to Key Stage, i.e. ISAMs log, catch up session and resubmission allowed. Head of Department and Tutor are also informed.
- Repeatedly missing deadlines – Head of Department meets with student and parents and implements an action/support plan to ensure that time is managed effectively and no further deadlines are missed.
- Should the student continue to miss deadlines, further disciplinary action is considered.
- The Lead IV is kept informed at all stages.

#### b) Re-submissions

- Students have **one** chance and 10 days to improve a failed assignment and re-submit.
- Re-submissions must be signed off on the Assessment Record Sheet by the Lead IV in the subject area.
- A re-submission attempt can only be authorised if BTEC criteria have been met originally.

#### c) Deadline extensions

- If a student has an authorised illness absence, the assessor and Lead IV may authorise a deadline extension.
- Extensions are decided by the Lead IV and new deadlines are clearly recorded on the student's copy of the assignment and the assessor's tracking sheet.

#### d) Retakes

- If the student has not achieved the Pass criteria in a given assignment, a new assignment needs to be issued which allows the student to achieve the pass criteria only.

## **Appendix 4 Conducting tests**

Tests are an assessment of the learner's knowledge and understanding. The test papers and test items are Pearson copyright and should not be reproduced or published without prior written consent from us. Any reproduction of test questions in revision documentation or student notes will be viewed as an infringement of copyright and will be viewed as malpractice to which sanctions including the revocation of centre approval may apply.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

The Exams Officer and an Invigilator administer the tests. Neither is the trainer who delivered the training to the learners undertaking the test.

### **Test Manager (Centre Manager or the nominated person)**

This person holds responsibility for test security and must ensure that the testing procedure is followed. Their responsibilities are:

- downloading and printing tests from the secure website
- ensuring that any re-sit learners have been given a different test paper
- creating a seating plan
- completing test logs and ensuring the storage of test records
- photocopying/scanning of the test answer sheets prior to returning the originals
- ensuring safe storage and dispatch of test papers
- preparing the invigilator to undertake their role in line with the testing procedure (this may also include confirming the identity of learners and checking eligibility for exemption from a test or training).

### **Invigilator**

The Invigilator has the following responsibilities:

- ensuring the test room meets the requirements specified in the procedure
- ensuring no reference material which might be helpful to candidates is displayed in the test room
- distributing and collecting test papers and answer sheets to the learners on the test day
- recording evidence of learners' identities
- recording any changes to the seating plan
- ensuring the test is conducted under examination conditions
- ensuring learners do not commit malpractice (e.g. cheat), copy or in any other way gain an unfair advantage when taking the test
- reporting any issues of learner malpractice or misbehaviour during the test to the centre manager
- they do not need any knowledge of the syllabus or be a qualified trainer.

## **Appendix 5 Definition of Malpractice by Centre Staff**

This list is not exhaustive and other instances of malpractice may be considered by this centre at its discretion:

- Improper assistance to candidates.
- Inventing or changing marks for internally assessed work (coursework or portfolio evidence) where there is insufficient evidence of the candidates' achievement to justify the marks given or assessment decisions made.
- Failure to keep candidate coursework/portfolios of evidence secure.
- Fraudulent claims for certificates.
- Inappropriate retention of certificates.
- Assisting learners in the production of work for assessment, where the support has the potential to influence the outcomes of assessment, for example where the assistance involves centre staff producing work for the learner.
- Producing falsified witness statements, for example for evidence the learner has not generated.
- Allowing evidence, which is known by the staff member not to be the learner's own, to be included in a learner's assignment/task/portfolio/coursework.
- Facilitating and allowing impersonation.
- Misusing the conditions for special learner requirements, for example where learners are permitted support, such as an amanuensis, this is permissible up to the point where the support has the potential to influence the outcome of the assessment.
- Falsifying records/certificates, for example by alteration, substitution, or by fraud.
- Fraudulent certificate claims, that is claiming for a certificate prior to the learner completing all the requirements of assessment.