



Re-founded 1555

# Ripon Grammar School

*Engineering Specialism within a Grammar School*

## Curriculum Statement

Ripon Grammar School (RGS) provides an outstanding education for its students, striving always for excellence in every aspect of teaching, learning and wider curricular opportunities. By actively promoting a culture of challenge and ambition, in a supportive environment, every student is encouraged to aim high and achieve their very best.

Ofsted (February 2012) judged the RGS curriculum to be outstanding, meeting students' needs exceptionally well. Whilst wholeheartedly welcoming the Inspectors' judgement the School is not complacent and is committed to improving the curriculum offering still further.

RGS takes a very wide view of the curriculum; it is not just that which is organised within normal school time but also the many learning activities and enrichment opportunities which the School makes available to its students beyond the classroom, beyond the school day and beyond the school campus. Where practical, and where opportunities arise, links and collaboration with other local, national and international schools and post-16 providers are arranged to increase the curricular opportunities even further.

### The RGS Curriculum

- is therefore planned and purposeful and its quality and delivery monitored, evaluated and reviewed regularly by staff and governors;
- develops according to the age of the students, allowing smooth progression and continuity through the stages of secondary education. It provides a broad and balanced learning programme at Key Stage 3 (1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Form) whilst allowing increasing specialisation within a wide range of subject choice, including minority academic subjects, as students move on to GCSE and A-level<sup>1</sup>.
- enables all students, including those with special educational needs, to be challenged appropriately, to progress and to achieve highly;
- is based on seven areas of learning and experience: the aesthetic, creative and practical; the human & social; the linguistic; the mathematical; the physical; the scientific & technological, including the use of ICT, and the spiritual, moral, ethical and personal;
- provides opportunities for students to gain qualifications and achieve at the highest levels in public examinations and other awards;
- supports the personal and social development of all students providing guidance on a range of key personal issues whilst developing students' generic skills of analysis, teamwork, problem solving and of independent learning;

<sup>1</sup> The full list of timetabled subjects, including GCSE and A-level options, is shown at Appendix 1

- provides opportunities for students to take on positions of responsibility and to be of service to the School and to the wider community. It recognises the important and enriching contribution made to the whole School by the RGS boarding community through its international nature, its community life, activities, responsibilities and experiences within the boarding houses;
- enables students to understand the origins and practices of their own rich local history, and those of the wider community, promoting understanding and awareness of global issues in the 21<sup>st</sup> century modern world, its people and their needs, their different cultures and the importance of tolerance and acceptance of others;
- promotes the love of learning at all stages, developing the skills and attitudes necessary for students to become effective life-long learners, well-prepared for life beyond school, for entry to higher education, for careers and the world of work and for their place as responsible citizens in a modern democratic society.

RGS uses its resources as carefully and effectively as possible to achieve these objectives.

All members of the RGS community have ownership of this Curriculum Statement which is reviewed when deemed necessary by the Governors' Curriculum Committee.

## Appendix - List of subjects 2017-18

### Key Stage 3 Years 7 - 9

Art  
 Biology  
 Chemistry  
 Computing/ICT  
 DT (including Food and Nutrition)  
 English  
 French  
 Geography  
 German (Year 9 only)  
 History  
 Mathematics  
 Music  
 PE/Games  
 Physics  
 PSHCE  
 RE  
 Science (Year 7 only)  
 Spanish (Year 9 only)

### Key Stage 4 Years 10 -11

#### Compulsory GCSE

English Language  
 English Literature  
 Mathematics  
 Biology/Chemistry/Physics OR Science  
 (2 GCSEs)  
 MFL (French/German/Spanish)

#### Optional GCSE

Art and Design  
 Astronomy  
 Classical civilisation  
 Design Technology  
 Food and Nutrition  
 French  
 Geography  
 German  
 History  
 Latin (extra curricular only)  
 Music  
 Religious Studies  
 Spanish

#### Non-GCSE

Computing/ICT  
 PE/Games  
 RE

### Key Stage 5 Years 12-13

#### Subjects offered at AS and A Level

Art and Design: Fine Art  
 Biology  
 Business  
 Chemistry  
 Classical Civilisation  
 Design Technology: Product Design  
 Economics  
 English Literature  
 Further Mathematics  
 Geography  
 German  
 History  
 Mathematics  
 Music  
 Music Technology  
 Physics  
 Physical Education  
 Psychology  
 Religious Studies  
 Spanish