



## **Ripon 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 (1st – 3rd 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;
- 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 21st 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 2018-19**

**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 Subjects**

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  
Physics  
Physical Education  
Psychology  
Religious Studies  
Spanish