Kingsdale Foundation School Curriculum Statement 2026-27

At Kingsdale we believe in offering an exceptionally rich, broad and balanced curriculum which is outstanding in its construction and provides wonderful choice and challenge for students of all abilities. We believe our outstanding programmes of study provide the rigour, flexibility and inspiration to enable our students to fulfil their aspirations, to discover their talents and to develop a passion for lifelong learning. We aim to enable and equip our students with the knowledge, skills and understanding to compete on a global stage by transforming themselves into high achieving, confident, articulate, responsible and ambitious young adults with an appreciation and respect for the arts, sciences and other cultures.

The links in this section are an introduction to what we offer our students at Kingsdale Foundation School. We would be pleased to provide more specific details on request.

Reflection and Enrichment

Daily acts of collective reflection are reinforced at the beginning of the morning session and more particularly in the afternoon. Collective reflection is further promoted through daily assemblies, themes of the week and the School Newsletter.

Collapsed Timetabled Curriculum Days, Saturday School, Summer School, clubs, visits, residential trips, Study Skills, Gifted & Talented and Scholarship programmes, House events and other activities further enrich our curriculum offer at Key Stages 3, 4 & 5. Our School Libraries are open every day until 5.30pm and on Saturdays to support and encourage the development of independent learning skills.

The School also offers an extensive range of extracurricular and extension activities that enhance student experiences inside and outside of the school including the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Further details are available from the school or via the relevant links on our website.

Curriculum at Key Stage 3

We operate a Key Stage 3 programme of study in year 7, 8 and 9 over 30 periods excluding tutor sessions.

On arrival at Kingsdale Foundation School, learners benefit from interaction with a wide variety of their peers as classes are organised on the principle of multiple bands consisting of their tutor and teaching groups, taking into account their gender and ethnicity balance. Tutor groups are streamed in groups consisting of those of roughly equal ability. All learners in Year 7 and 8 attend 5 periods of English 4 periods of Mathematics and Science in subject specific groupings, 1 period of Art, Drama, Music, Citizenship, Computing and Religious Studies, along with 2 periods of

Geography, History and Technology which they attend in their attend in mixed ability groups. 3 periods of a Language including Latin along with 2 periods of Physical Education taught in target groups of language choices and gender.

In Year 7 and 8 most learners take two languages from a choice of four; French, German, Spanish and Latin. The groups/streams are formed using the banding data; CATs and other data collated from assessments in the summer term of the year learners are admitted to the school including information from primary schools. We use Midyis as a further assessment and tracking tool. The curriculum is organised to allow mixed ability groups to progress at their optimum speed, with learning support being given appropriate to need.

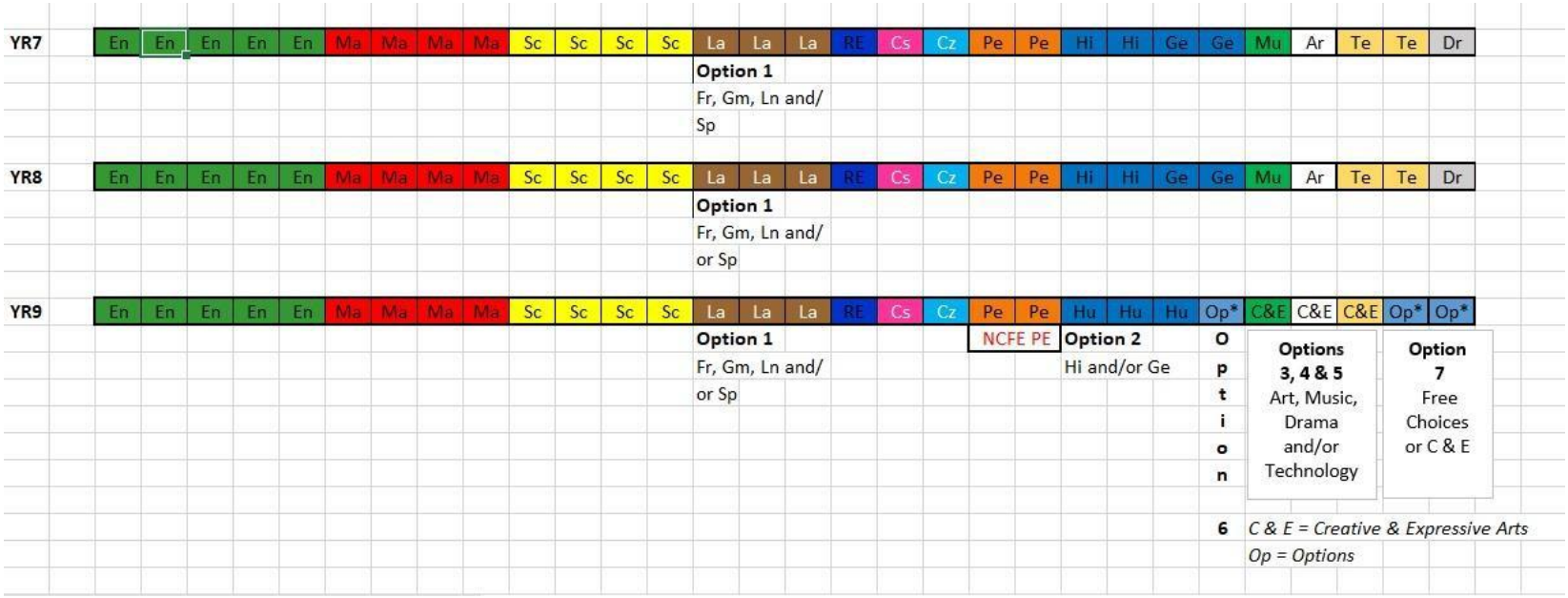
The composition of groups is kept under review and learners may be moved periodically to ensure that they remain in a group which matches their ability and stretches them sufficiently. At Key Stage 3 we aim for classes in core subjects to be as small as possible to facilitate faster acquisition of literacy, numeracy and science skills.

Teaching learners in different groupings promotes socialisation skills, mixing as they do with learners other than those of their tutor groups has been a feature of our previous curriculum offers and one which will be employed when opportunity arises again.

The Key Stage 3 curriculum runs for 3 years. In Year 9 most students will transition from one Key Stage 3 curriculum pathway to a marginally modified one and will have the opportunity to personalise their school experience more and begin what we call **'The Kingsdale Baccalaureate'** by selecting different subjects from four Option blocks organised at the end of Year 8. The Kingsdale Baccalaureate is the English Baccalaureate plus a creative, expressive or performing arts subject i.e. maintaining even more breadth and balance.

In Year 9, the core provision includes 3 periods of a Language choice, 3 periods of a Humanities choice and normally 3 periods of a creative, expressive or Performing Arts choice and a free option choice. The remaining core subjects are taught in target teaching groups as follows; English for 5 periods; Mathematics and Science for 4 periods; Physical Education for 2 periods; Religious Education, Citizenship and Computing for 1 period.

The average period length is 50 to 55 minutes (excluding 5 Tutor periods which are 20/25 minutes each.



Curriculum at Key Stage 4 – Programme of Study (Years 10 & 11)

We operate Key Stage 4 programme of study over 30 periods in Years 10 & 11 excluding tutor sessions. Student options are finalised during their Year 9 options evening.

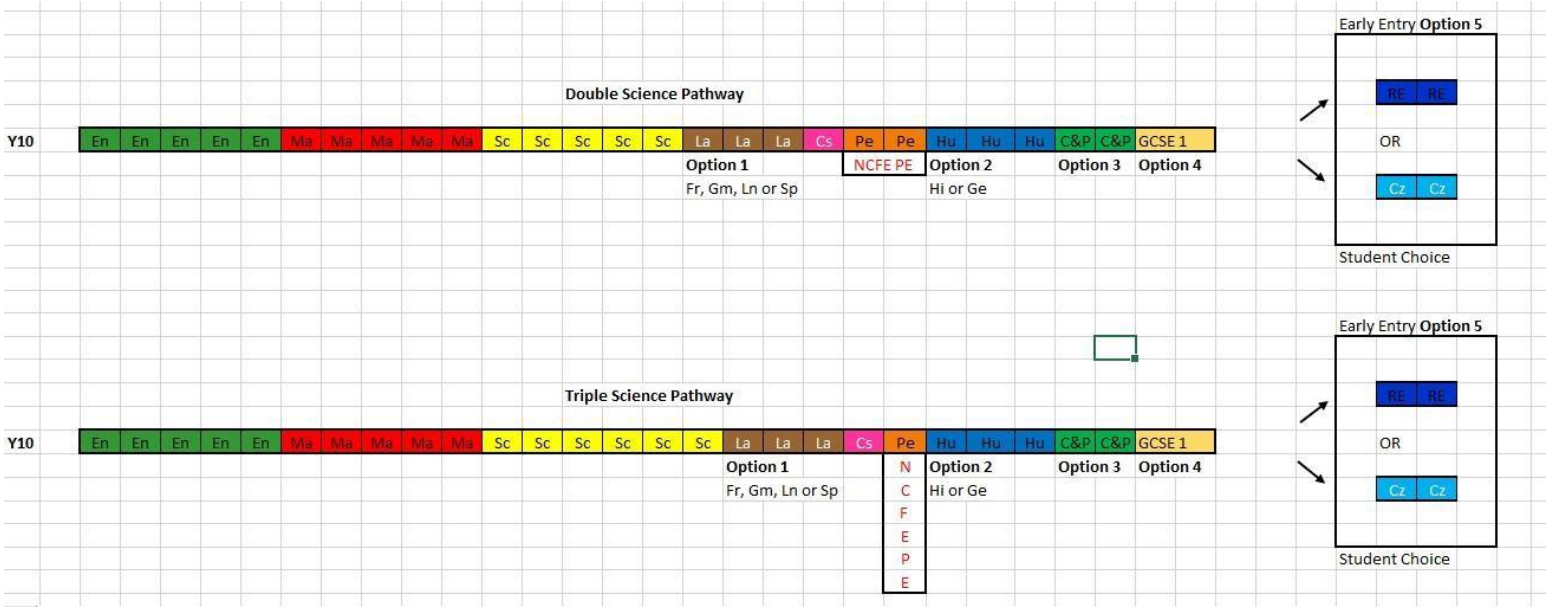
In Years 10 & 11 pupils have an additional period of Mathematics and Science making a total of 5 periods minimum. They also receive an additional period for those following the triple science pathway. The Performing Arts choice and the free optional choice are studied for 2 periods. Students take Triple Science or Double Science according to ability, aptitude and potential post-16 progression routes.

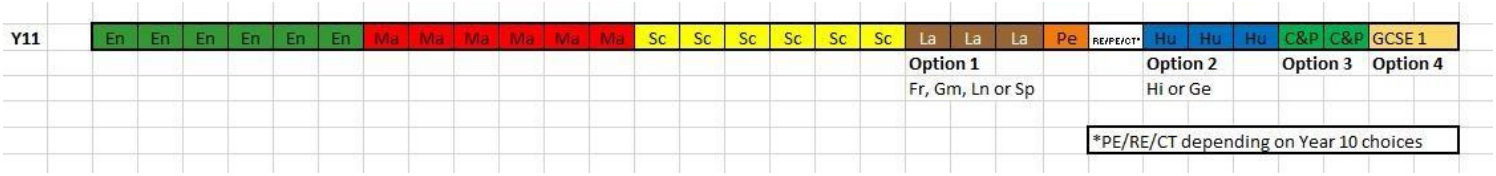
Almost all students in Years 10 &11 follow a pathway which incorporates the English Baccalaureate and the Creative, Expressive or Performing subjects. (The Kingsdale Baccalaureate). In Year 11 a small minority of students pursue a technical route. Students following a technical course will select from a range of work-related options.

Learners who require additional support receive this in a variety of ways organised through the Learning Support Faculty. Options include in-class Teaching/Learning Assistant support, withdrawal or referral to on or off-site provision such as our Special Education Needs & Disability Centre, Learning Support Centre, and Ethnic Minority Achievement Centre, Annexe, Mentors and Counsellors.

Disaffected learners 'who are not engaging with the Key Stage 4 curriculum, may be given the option of off-site placements with providers such as the Southwark/Lambeth College, NACRO, YESS, Treasure House. The courses are varied and usually vocational e.g. Motor Vehicle Engineering.

A typical programme of study for a student working at national expectations or above at the start of Year 10 is shown on the following page. However, not all options are represented. Alternative pathways include a variety of high calibre vocational courses/BTECs. Please refer to Option Booklets and the overview of the Curriculum Pathway at Key Stage 4 for further information.





Curriculum at Key Stage 5 - Pathways and Study Programmes

Our Key Stage 5 Study Programme operate over 27 periods excluding tutor sessions.

Students select from 3 main pathways. Pathway A (Baccalaureate) offers students with a minimum of six 9 - 6 grades at GCSE level the opportunity to study 3 to 4 subjects from Specialist blocks and 2 compulsory subjects to gain additional credits to support their entry into University. Pathway B (A Level) offers students the choice of 3 to 4 subjects from Specialist blocks and Pathway C offering students the opportunity to improve upon the core grades in Mathematics, English and Science as well as the opportunity of taking 1 level 3 course or additional GCSEs. T Levels, new technical qualifications which combines study with a substantial industry placement, are also available.

Our study programmes are designed to offer students a suitable level of challenge whilst facilitating progress and enabling them to proceed to higher level study in the future. Opportunities for individual information, advice and guidance are provided to all students on multiple occasions both prior to the commencement of courses and subsequently.

There is limited or no setting depending on the number of students taking the course. Students are allocated to subject groups according to their selection from the 5 main principal blocks. Each Level 3 course is scheduled for 5 periods a week. Approximately 30 courses and subjects are on offer.

Level 2 GCSE subjects are scheduled for 5 periods a week and single award Level 2 courses are timetabled for 3 periods per week. Please contact the school for further details.

All students will engage in an enrichment activity that is timetabled on Wednesday afternoons for 2 periods

In the Sixth Form Scholarships are available in Art, Mathematics, Music and Drama. Students wishing to be considered for a scholarship must complete a separate scholarship application and sit an assessment/audition.