

The Norma Gibbes Supplementary School – Curriculum

The Norma Gibbes Supplementary School aims to advance pupil development in a nurturing setting. The provision works with much smaller pupil numbers and incorporates regular pastoral support.

The programme of study includes a variety of different subjects. Each learner's needs are identified and academic support is complemented with an intensive mentoring support programme. Individual targets are set and learners pursue an individual pathway to equip them with the confidence and commitment to make the right choices to be reintegrated back into the mainstream classroom.

Pupils attend on a full-time or part-time basis depending on their needs and individual pathways.

Programmes of Study at Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8, 9)

All learners who attend The Norma Gibbes Supplementary School in Years 7, 8, 9 study the following National Curriculum subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- History
- Geography
- Modern foreign languages
- Art, Design and Technology
- Music
- Physical education
- Citizenship
- Computing
- PSHE, including RSE and Careers Education
- Religious Education

Programmes of Study at Key Stage 4 (Years 10, 11)

All learners who attend the Norma Gibbes Supplementary School in Year 10 (and Year 11) study the following subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Computing
- Physical education
- Citizenship & Religious Education
- Option subjects (3 or 4), as selected by students for their GCSE studies
- PSHE, including RSE and Careers Education

The focus of all our KS3 and KS4 groups is reintegration back into the mainstream classroom.

Students receive timetables that include the subjects above, as well as 1:1 and small group reflective and conflict resolution support sessions to help them achieve their individual targets. These mentoring and support sessions focus on values of kindness, tolerance, inclusivity, safety, respect, responsibility and positive attitudes.

Each learner has a referral form which helps the staff at the centre understand the learner's profile, including any SEND details, safeguarding issues as well as details of the behaviour that has put the child at risk. Individual targets are set based on this information. Under normal circumstances, students will be referred through the Curriculum Access Support Team (CAST), although this may not always be the case and students may be referred at short term notice with the approval of the Headteacher / Deputy Head. Smaller class sizes allow for teachers and teaching support staff to know each of the learners individually, and tailor their teaching and pastoral support to suit their needs.

Teachers and support staff implement the subject curriculum maps in the subjects, as planned for the mainstream classroom. However, they have the flexibility to cover the most essential components in each topic to ensure learners have the knowledge and skills to progress and not suffer gaps in their learning when they reintegrate. The understanding of topics is assessed through low stakes assessment for learning tasks, feedback from teachers and access to the mock/ end of year exams. These students are also prioritised for interventions, like the National Tutoring Programme funded by the DfE.

Staff at The Norma Gibbes Supplementary School are not all teachers with degrees, although provision is regularly supplemented by visiting subject specialists from Kingsdale Foundation School. ECT status and PGCE are not mandatory to be able to support pupils successfully at the centre. Staff here have successful experience in behaviour management skills and in supporting neurodiverse students. They demonstrate compassion and determination so see pupils reach their potential and thrive. Some subjects are also delivered by visiting academic tutors and Teaching Assistants.