



The Curriculum at UVHS 2024 to 2025

UVHS

Curriculum Intent

Our curriculum is designed to foster curiosity and a desire for learning in all students regardless of their backgrounds, strengths and needs. It aims to develop resilience and creativity, and cultivate well-rounded, intelligent and socially aware students.

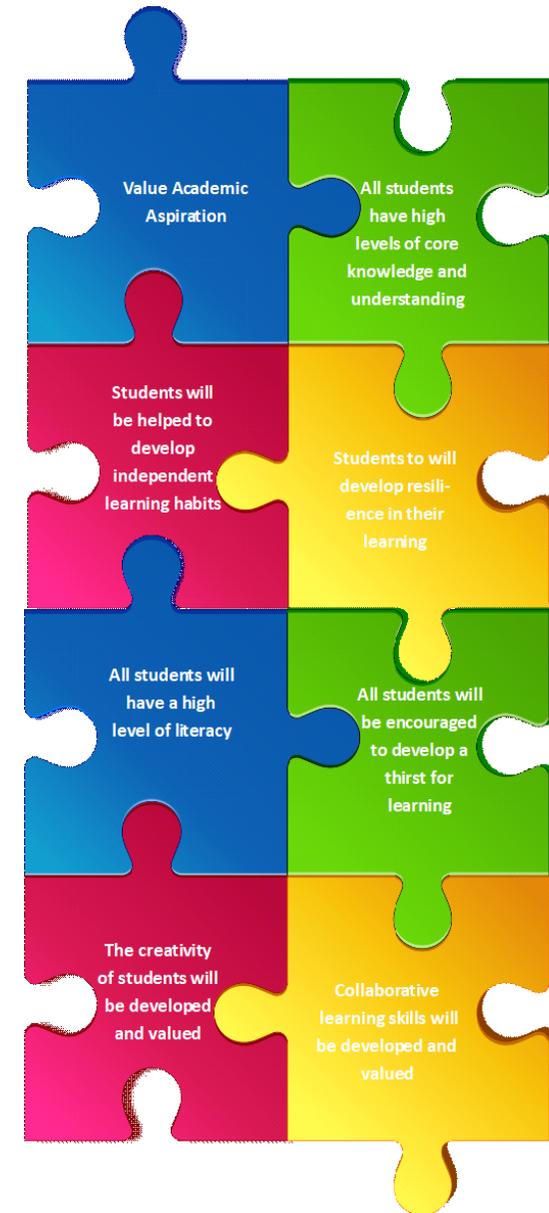
All students have access to a broad, balanced and rich curriculum which has an emphasis on the critical importance of knowledge acquisition. We want our students to remember and connect learning. The curriculum provides students with an introduction to the knowledge that they need to be educated citizens, and it helps to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

At UVHS, our curriculum aims to:

- Meet statutory rules and, consequently, meet the spirit of government philosophy
- To secure solid foundations for future learning at every stage of education or employment locally, nationally, and internationally.
- To give a broad and balanced experience for our children.
- Develop students' individuality and mould them into successful citizens with a responsibility for their actions.
- Be adaptive to ensure that all children access the curriculum and achieve well no matter their starting point.
- Attract students to the school at KS3 and KS5.
- Secure excellent results for all our young people.

The Curriculum provides opportunities to meet the aspirations and intentions of all students and prepares them for a wide range of destinations. It goes beyond the national requirements and is rooted in our own locality and context.

Research around memory and how children learn best has been used to inform our



curriculum planning. Knowledge and skills are sequenced so knowledge is taught in a sensible order allowing for regular revisiting and retrieval of knowledge as the complexity and depth build over time. Carefully considered and memorable learning activities help students to embed and use knowledge effectively as well as develop their understanding of key concepts. Lessons engage and challenge all students to apply their knowledge fluently.

Students are guided to become independent learners and are encouraged to work collaboratively. They are encouraged to take risks, think for themselves, to learn from their mistakes and take ownership of their learning.

Developing students' fluency, confidence and enjoyment in reading are integral to our aims of securing good foundations for future learning and securing excellent results for our young people which allow them to access the further education and employment they choose.

The curriculum is designed to meet the needs of students in different Year Groups.

At Key Stage 3, all students study English, maths, science, two languages, history, geography, BPE, PE, art, drama, music, design technology, food and computing. In Year 9, students can opt to increase the time they spend on the arts or languages while maintaining a broad and rich academic curriculum.

At Key Stage 4, students take a core offer which includes a compulsory Humanity or Language along with a free choice of up to three other GCSEs taken from 12 subjects.

At Key Stage 5, students choose three or occasionally four A Levels to start with. Subjects are chosen from 24 A Level courses offered.

Students are taught in mixed-ability groups in some subjects or in dynamic groups, determined by their aptitude, in some other subjects such as Mathematics.



Questioning is used skilfully to check understanding, deepen learning and encourage higher order thinking; students are routinely asked to hypothesise, evaluate and justify. Questioning is used very successfully to offer challenge and extension, develop the skills of critical analysis and promote independent thought.

High quality formative and summative assessment informs teachers and students of progress and the next steps in learning. Students are guided to consider strengths and areas for improvement. Students routinely respond to feedback and identify strengths and weaknesses in their own and in each other's work.



Curriculum for 2024 to 2025

Year 7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Subject	En	En	En	En	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Gg	Gg	Hi	Hi	RS	Es	Es	Es	SFL	Dr	Mu	DT	DT	IT	Ar	Ar	PE	PE
Commentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All subjects, with the exception of Maths (Who set from October Half Term and have one high prior attainment group on each side of the year) are taught in mixed ability forms. Technology is a carousel of the Food, Design and Technology) This curriculum is designed to be broad, yet give adequate time for EBAC subjects. Special literacy and numeracy withdrawal groups remove small groups of children from some subjects. SFL = Skills for Life 																													
Year 8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Subject	En	En	En	En	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Gg	Gg	Hi	Hi	RS	Es	Es	De	De	Mu	DT	DT	Dr	IT	Ar	Ar	PE	PE
Commentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All subjects, with the exception of Music, and Drama (which are taught in mixed ability forms), group by ability. Each have one high aptitude group and a number of mixed ability groups in each half year group. Technology is a carousel of the Food, Design and Technology This curriculum is designed to be broad, yet give adequate time for EBAC subjects. 																													

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Year 9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Subject	En	En	En	En	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Gg	Gg	Hi	Hi	RS	Es	DT	DT	PE	PE	Mu	CS or IMedia	Students Choose two subjects from: Art, French, German, Dance or Drama					
Commentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maths, English, Science and Humanities group by ability (Each have one high aptitude group and a number of mixed ability groups in each half year group). Music and BPE are taught in forms. Option groups are mixed ability. Students all study English, Maths, Science, Geography, History RS, Spanish which they have studied in Year 7 and 8, Computer Science or IMedia. There is an option whereby students choose two subjects from: Art, French, German, Drama, Dance. This curriculum is designed to be broad, yet give adequate time for EBAC subjects. Special literacy and numeracy withdrawal groups remove small groups of children from some subjects. 																													
Year 10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Subject	En	En	En	En	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Option A			Option B			Option C			Option D			PD	RS	PE	PE
Commentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students study Maths (in traditional ability sets), Science (In ability groups), English (In ability groups), with RS, PD and PE in forms. All students study four option subjects which must include one of History, Geography, French, German or Spanish. Other option choices include: Art, Business Studies, French, German, Spanish, Drama, Dance, IMedia, Computer Science, Music, Food, Design Technology, Separate Science, Sports Studies or Health and Social Care, Some students are removed form option lines for additional English and Maths support in Study + lessons. 																													
Year 11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Subject	En	En	En	En	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Option A			Option B			Option C			Option D			RS	RS	PE	PE
Commentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students study Maths (in traditional ability sets), Science (In ability groups), English (In ability groups), with RS and PE in forms. All students study four option subjects which must include either History or Geography. Other option choices include: Art, Business Studies, French, German, Spanish, Drama, Dance, IMedia, Computer Science, Music, Food, Design Technology, Separate Science, Sports Science or Health and Social Care, Some students are removed form option lines for additional English and Maths support in Study + lessons. 																													

Year 12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Option A						Option B						Option C						Option D						T	STUDY TIME					
	Yellow						Green						Grey						Orange						Light Grey						
Commentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In most cases students study three option subjects in Year 12; with the intention of this carrying on into Year 13. • In extreme cases students may study four subjects in Year 12. • Study Time allows students to access enrichment activities such as EPQ and Duke of Edinburgh Gold. There are also subject tutorials scheduled at this time. • Art, French, German, Spanish, Drama, English Language, English Literature, Geography, History, Religious Studies, Dance, Computer Science, Maths, Further Maths, Music, Product Design, Psychology, Sociology, Law, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Media Studies and Business. 																														

Year 13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
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