



COGNITA

Curriculum Policy

SPAIN

September 2025

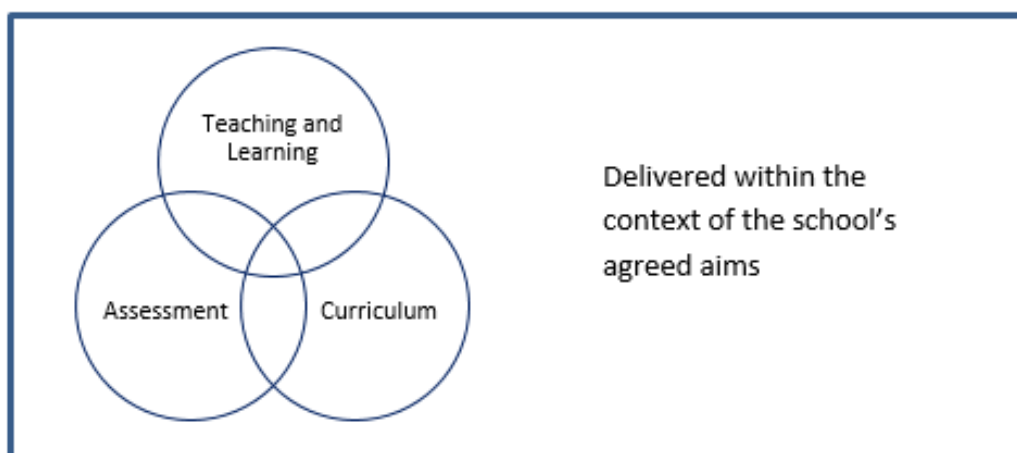
1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to ensure that our curriculum supports our school ethos and fulfils our school aims.

Hastings is a school where we aim to ensure that students...

- be CARING towards each other, themselves and feel valued by their teachers.
- be CURIOUS and passionate about the pursuit of knowledge and understanding and the development of skills and values.
- develop the attributes through the Hastings Learner Habits that give them every chance to fulfil their potential and to be SUCCESSFUL at school, university and in life.
- become GLOBALLY MINDED, multi-lingual young people who are culturally and emotionally intelligent, and help create a more just and sustainable world.

- 1.2 This policy applies to all pupils, including those in the Early Years.
- 1.3 We see the curriculum as, 'The total learning experience for our pupils, which includes not only the taught lessons but also the routines, behaviours, events, activities and other opportunities that our pupils experience on a daily, weekly and yearly basis in order to ensure that all of them make the best progress possible and attain high standards'.
- 1.4 A well-structured and coherent curriculum is a fundamental element of the tripartite of education that underpins all successful schools and includes Teaching, Learning and Assessment as in the following model:



- 1.5 We aim to provide a curriculum to develop pupils who love learning. We understand that the curriculum, both within taught lessons and beyond them, and in everything we say and do, should create an environment where academic risk-taking, questioning and debating, challenging thinking and the freedom to learn from mistakes are all encouraged.

- 1.6 Our curriculum offers all pupils the opportunity to experience linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical, aesthetic and creative aspects of education. We intend that our curriculum should imbue in our pupils:
- A passion for life-long learning;
 - A capacity for independent and critical thinking;
 - Self-awareness, self-regulation and resilience;
 - Self-confidence without arrogance; and
 - Genuine interests that extend beyond the confines of the classroom.
- 1.7 British values, which are; democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs, are actively promoted in every aspect of school life.
- 1.8 Our curriculum is compliant with the following regulatory requirements as outlined in the BSO Standards:

The written policy, plans and schemes of work: –

- (i) take into account the ages, aptitudes and needs of all pupils, including those pupils with an EHC plan; and*
- (ii) do not undermine the fundamental values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.*

For the purposes of paragraph, the matters are:

- (a) full-time supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age, which gives pupils experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education;*
- (b) that pupils acquire speaking, listening, literacy and numeracy skills;*
- (c) personal, social, health and economic education which:*
 - (i) reflects the school's aim and ethos; and*
 - (ii) encourages respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010*
- (d) for pupil receiving secondary education, access to accurate, up-to-date careers guidance that:*
 - (i) is presented in an impartial manner*
 - (ii) enables them to make informed choices about a broad range of career options and*
 - (iii) helps to encourage them to fulfil their potential*
 - *where the school has pupils under the age of 5, a programme of activities which is appropriate to their educational needs in relation to personal, social, emotional and physical development and communication and language skills;*
 - *that all pupils have the opportunity to learn and make progress and*
 - *effective preparation of pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in society.*

2 Taught Curriculum

- 2.1 At Hastings School we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. This sets the learning and development requirements for children from birth to five years old. During their time in Early Years the children work towards the Early Learning Goals for each of the 7 Areas of Learning. At the beginning of each year, teachers complete a baseline assessment and children's progress is recorded on Tapestry and also on SIMS. At the end of Reception, the children are assessed on whether they are meeting, exceeding or working towards the Early Learning Goals. This therefore makes comparisons with our pupils compared to pupils' attainment in the UK.

In the Primary and Secondary years, our taught curriculum broadly follows and, at times, goes beyond the English National Curriculum. It is formally assessed at the end of KS4 by IGCSEs and at the end of KS5 by A levels. The details of which exam boards are used at IGCSE and A level by our different subjects can be found in the information booklets provided to students and parents. Our pupils also take GL assessments at the end of years 1-9 in English and Mathematics as well as other standardised tests throughout their primary and secondary years. These are also used to make comparisons with pupils' attainment in the UK and internationally.

We are an IB World School and offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme alongside A levels, meaning students have a choice of which pre-university qualification to take.

- 2.2 Pupils entering the school in years 3, 5, 7, 10 and 12 take the CAT4 baseline test in September or October in their year of entry. Pupils entering at different points (mid year or in Y8 or 9) will take the tests as soon as possible to have comparable data with their peers. Outcomes of all tests are shared with teachers as part of informed discussions about a pupil's potential. They are used to make sure that students are tracked and curriculum interventions are effective in supporting students.
- 2.3 Time awarded to each subject in each year varies according to the age of the students
- 2.4 Details of the taught curriculum are shared with parents via Tapestry in Early Years, in Termly Curriculum letters in Primary and KS3. In KS4 and KS5 parents are informed of the taught curriculum throughout the option process.
- 2.5 Taken together, the taught curriculum will ensure that by the time they have completed their time with us, all pupils are able to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding to enable them to move onto the next stage of their education at the highest level.
- 2.6 Our curriculum includes those compulsory elements of the Spanish curriculum as required by the Spanish Ministry of Education and local education authorities.

3 Special Educational Needs and Disability - SEND

- 3.1 Our curriculum is inclusive. For those pupils with special educational needs or specific learning difficulties, the school has a well-established Learning Support department, led by the Head of Learning Support or SENCO.
- 3.2 Further details of this provision can be found in our Inclusion Policy.

4 SMSC

- 4.1 Our policy follows the advice given by the DfE in the non-statutory guidance of November 2014 and meets the requirements of the Independent School Standards/BSO Standards. Aspects of SMSC are infused within the day-to-day operation of our school; incorporated through the curriculum, both in content included in subject schemes of work and through other planned learning opportunities in the school. They are captured in our written aims and expressed in the ethos and behaviours of everyone. Our approach to SMSC ensures that principles are actively promoted which:
 - Enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
 - Enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
 - Encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality in which the school is situated and to society more widely;

- Enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services;
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- Encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to protected characteristics; and
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied.

4.2 Discriminatory or extremist opinions or behaviours are challenged as a matter of routine.

4.3 In addition, our approach to SMSC ensures that all pupils will gain an:

- Understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process;
- Appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their well-being and safety;
- Understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others, such as the courts, maintain independence;
- Understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law;
- Acceptance that people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour; and
- Understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

5 PSHEE

5.1 Hastings School follows the UK PSHE programme which covers 3 main areas, 1. Health and Well-being, 2. Relationships and 3. Living in the Wider World. Within this context we respond to the legal requirement in maintained schools to teach Sex and Relationships Education, and to non-statutory guidelines to cover other aspects of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEE).

5.2 In Primary, we follow a scheme of work for PSHEE from the PSHE association in the UK. It includes specific lessons as well as themes taught through the topics and an assembly programme. There is also a yearly programme of talks from outside speakers.

5.3 In Secondary our PSHEE course is delivered to all pupils through discrete PSHEE lessons taught by our teachers and PSHEE moments are planned for tutor time. Elements of the programme may be supported through the bringing in of additional expertise, such as outside speakers, or the use of teachers with a particular interest or knowledge in a specific area. In addition to these discrete sessions, PSHEE is also dealt with across the curriculum (e.g. Social issues through the teaching of English Literature; Health through Biology and PE; Citizenship through History and Geography). There are also centrally organised sessions and weekly whole school assemblies which supplement the delivery in house, dealing with issues such as bullying, alcohol, sexual relationships and drugs, as well as supporting careers and economic education.

6 Co-curricular

- 6.1 A wide range of enrichment activities supplements the timetabled curriculum. Our pupils are encouraged to take part in an extensive range of art, drama, music, sport and other activities and clubs.
- 6.2 Pupils are taken to places of interest on a regular basis. Visits, including residential opportunities, are organised annually, which help to develop independence, teamwork and responsibility in a different environment to that in school.

7 Other Opportunities

- 7.1 Our school aims to provide an education for life. Other aspects of our curriculum which enable our pupils to gain the skills, knowledge and experience to be successful adults include:
- Careers and Higher Education;
 - Leadership Training;
 - Pupil Councils;
 - Community Service;
 - Duke of Edinburgh;
 - Expeditions and trips;
 - Fundraising Activities;
 - Various Societies and Activities; and
 - Sport.

8 Responsibility

- 8.1 The Leadership Team have responsibility for the overview and yearly evaluation of this policy. However, all staff are responsible for ensuring this policy is implemented and acted on.
- 8.2 When evaluating the use and impact of this policy, our school leaders will evaluate the extent to which there is evidence of a curriculum which:
- Fulfils the aims of the school;
 - Embeds aspiration, attributes and the expectation to achieve high standards and high rates of progress; and
 - Provides engagement and excitement for learning.

Curriculum Policy

Ownership and consultation	
Document sponsor (role)	Group Director of Education
Document author (name)	Karen Nicholson, ADE
Consultation – May 2017	Consultation with the following schools: Long Close School, Charterhouse Square School, Quinton House School, El Limonar Murcia, Cumnor Boys' School, Downsend Leatherhead Pre-Prep School, Oakleigh House School and El Limonar Villamartin. Education Team representative: John Coleman, ADE.
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Related documentation	
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