



CURRICULUM POLICY

July 2026

Stewards Academy

Part of the Passmores Co-operative Learning Community

Curriculum Policy

Overview of the Curriculum

Stewards offers a broad and balanced curriculum which aims to meet the needs of the students at all levels.

The curriculum is ambitious and meets the requirements of the National Curriculum.

We aim to provide our students with a well-rounded education that not only equips them with academic qualifications but also ensures that they possess the confidence and communication skills to progress to their next steps in life, be that further study, apprenticeships, or the world of work.

The curriculum at Stewards Academy embraces a wide range of learning opportunities for every student. It includes what is offered in formal timetabled lessons as well as the wealth of extra- curricular activities and experiences promoted or supported by the school.

Every student will have the opportunity to encounter a range of learning experiences, which.

- Meet the needs of all students and are of the highest possible quality
- Take account of unequal starting points and the individual learning journey of each student
- Provide diversity by catering for students' needs, aspirations, and ability are provided irrespective of age, gender, ethnic background, or disability.

Students will benefit from a curriculum that is well-planned and coordinated to provide breadth, balance, depth, and relevance, and which acknowledges the need for progress and continuity in order to build on the learning experiences of the individual. It will promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, and physical development of students at Stewards Academy.

Through a range of challenging and supportive learning experiences, the curriculum will aim to develop and extend students to enable them to achieve their potential in all areas of school life and to learn and develop those skills that promote independent learning.

Students will participate in a curriculum that will develop their personal qualities and skills, so that they can contribute effectively, positively, and confidently to life in and out of school and that will prepare them for an effective, purposeful, responsible, and enjoyable adult and working life.

All students will be prepared carefully and thoroughly for public examinations, statutory tests, and other accredited qualifications.

Effective teaching and learning will be the main focus of the Academy, and we will do our best to allocate leadership and resources to meet the demands of subject needs.

CURRICULAR AIMS

The curriculum at Stewards can be summarised in the following three strands: -

Intent

To develop inquiring, knowledgeable, responsible citizens, tailored personal development.

Implementation

The curriculum is delivered through a student-centred approach which fosters a cheerful outlook to learning.

Impact

Students are enabled to achieve the highest standards whilst focusing on the development of the whole person.

LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

This policy reflects the requirements for academies to provide a broad and balanced curriculum as per the Academies Act 2010.

It also reflects requirements for inclusion and equality as set out in the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 2014 and Equality Act 2010 and refers to curriculum-related expectations of governing boards set out in the Department for Education's Governance Handbook.

The curriculum will meet all statutory requirements as above and will also:

- Prepare students for post-16 education as well as activities that support mental health and well-being
- Provide breadth, depth and learning experiences that enable a range of learning opportunities for all abilities
- Challenge each student to strive for excellence
- Provide a mixture of direct instruction, collaborative and student led learning which ensures equality of access and opportunity for all students
- Develop relevant core knowledge and inter disciplinary knowledge that stimulates academic and physical progress and personal development
- Develop cultural capital across all subject areas
- Deepens worldviews and a love of learning through the provision of opportunities to develop
- Social, moral, cultural, and spiritual appreciation
- Emphasise the importance of literacy and numeracy across the curriculum

- Emphasise the importance of digital literacy and the use of technology across the curriculum so that students develop as responsible digital citizens
- Ensure that the Special Educational Needs' Code of Practice meets the requirements of all students irrespective of their academic abilities or needs
- Acknowledge that people come from a variety of cultural and religious backgrounds and promote tolerance through an inclusive and thoughtful curriculum
- Ensure that all students can benefit from a range of resources that the school can offer
- Develop a sense of responsibility for their own progress by reflecting on and evaluating their own approach to learning and how they respond to feedback and challenges
- Support our young people in developing and fostering a growth mindset, self-motivation and resilience
- Provides transparency that enable students to make informed choices at key points in their education
- Deepens world views and a love of learning through the provision of opportunities to develop
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The curriculum will be reviewed and evaluated annually by the local governing body to ensure it matches the interests, aptitudes, and special needs of all its students.

Curriculum Delivery

Stewards Academy has a two-week timetable, split into five 60-minute lessons.

In year 11, to support students further, staff in Core subjects (English, Maths, and Science) will select students for intervention. These sessions are designed to further enhance GCSE exam performance and are organised on a half-termly basis.

Subject specialists are employed to teach in all areas and are supported by Co-educators where required.

Curriculum Structure

Key Stage Three – The National Curriculum

At Stewards Academy, we offer a broad range of subjects in year 7-9 which meet the requirements of the National Curriculum. We consider the curriculum to be ambitious and offer subjects in Key Stage 3 which are in addition to the National Curriculum such as Drama. In some areas, to offer breadth, rotations take place each term so that all students get to experience a variety of subjects (Technology). Students make choices to study GCSE subjects following a comprehensive and supportive Option Process which includes assemblies, Options Evening, and a timely Parent/Carers evening to offer support. A full list of subjects on offer at Key Stage 3 is available in Appendix A.

Key Stage Four - GCSEs

At KS4, students follow a broad and balanced curriculum designed to provide both academic challenge and opportunities to pursue individual interests and aspirations. All students study the core subjects of English, Maths and Science, with the school offering the Combined Science GCSE pathway. In addition to these core subjects, students select 4 optional subjects from the range of courses outlined in **Appendix A**. To support students in making informed choices, the school provides taster days prior to the options process, allowing students to experience subjects first hand and gain a clear understanding of course content and expectations. This ensures that students are well placed to select the subjects that best match their strengths, interest and future ambitions.

A full list of subjects on offer at GCSE is available in **Appendix A**.

Pastoral Curriculum

As well as our academic curriculum, we are proud of our pastoral statement of intent, outlining our commitment to fostering excellence and well-being at Stewards Academy. Our vision is to create a nurturing and inclusive environment that inspires our students to achieve their full potential academically, socially, and emotionally. We passionately believe that a strong pastoral care system is essential for the holistic development of every individual within our school community.

Creating a Caring Community: We strive to create a caring and inclusive community where everyone feels valued, respected, and supported. We promote positive relationships based on trust, empathy, and open communication. Through strong partnerships with parents and carers, we work collaboratively to provide a safe and nurturing environment for our students to grow and thrive.

Personalised Support: We recognise that each student is unique, with their own strengths, challenges, and aspirations. Our resolute pastoral team is committed to providing personalised support to ensure the well-being and progress of every student. We offer a range of services, including academic guidance, mentoring, counselling, and targeted interventions, to address individual needs and enable students to overcome obstacles.

Promoting Mental Health and Emotional Well-being: We prioritise the mental health and emotional well-being of our students, acknowledging the significant impact they have on learning and overall success. We actively promote a positive mindset, resilience, and self-care strategies, equipping our students with the tools they need to navigate life's challenges. We foster a culture of openness, where students feel comfortable seeking support and guidance from trusted adults.

Building Character and Values: We understand the importance of developing well-rounded individuals who exhibit strong character and uphold core values. Through our pastoral care programme, we encourage students to embrace qualities such as respect, integrity, responsibility, and empathy. We provide opportunities for personal and social development, including leadership roles and extracurricular activities, which foster character growth and social awareness.

Safeguarding and Child Protection: The safety and welfare of our students is our utmost priority. We have robust safeguarding policies and procedures in place to ensure a secure learning environment. Our staff members receive regular training to recognise and respond effectively to any safeguarding concerns. We promote a culture of vigilance and accountability, encouraging students and staff to report any issues promptly.

Effective Transition and Progression: Smooth transitions are vital during the different stages of education. We collaborate closely with primary schools to ensure a seamless transition for students entering our secondary school. Additionally, we provide comprehensive guidance and support during key transition points, such as subject selection, career planning, and the move to further education or employment, empowering our students to make informed decisions about their futures.

Family Engagement: We believe that family engagement is crucial for the success of our students. We actively encourage parents and carers to be involved in their child's education, offering regular communication channels, parent/carer workshops, and opportunities to participate in school life. By working in partnership, we can provide consistent support to our students and reinforce their learning both at home and in school.

As a school community, we are dedicated to upholding these principles and continuously improving us. pastoral care provision. We believe that by nurturing the well-being of our students and creating a supportive and inclusive environment, we can inspire them to become confident, resilient, and compassionate individuals who are prepared for the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Our pastoral curriculum is underpinned by 9 key strands:

1. Healthy and respectful relationships
2. Behaviour curriculum
3. Stereotyping, prejudice, and equality
4. Body confidence and self-esteem
5. Positive well-being
6. Emotional literacy and resilience
7. British values
8. Character building and personal development
9. Having an appropriate online presence and leaving a positive social media footprint

Extra-curricular activities

Our curriculum offer also includes extra-curricular activities which compliment what goes on in the classroom. We have a vast array of clubs which students can attend, most of which take place after school and include sports, music, drama, and homework club to name a few.

A list of our extra-curricular offers is available in **Appendix B**.

We also have a comprehensive offer of trips and visits which generally take place during the school day but offsite, some of which are residential.

A list of our trips and visits is available in **Appendix C**.

This policy was reviewed and approved by the local governing body on **6th July 2026** and will be reviewed annually.

Appendix A

Year 7	
Subject	60 min sessions per Fortnight
English	8
Maths	8
Science	7
*MFL (French or Spanish)	2
Geography	3
History	3
RS	2
Computer Science (including Digital literacy)	3
Technology	3
Art	2
Drama	2
Music	2
PE	4
Ethics & Values	1

Year 8	
Subject	60 min sessions per Fortnight
English	8
Maths	8
Science	7
*MFL (French or Spanish)	2
Geography	3
History	3
RS	2
Computer Science (including Digital literacy)	3
Technology	3
Art	2
Drama	2
Music	2
PE	4
Ethics & Values	1

Year 9	
Subject	60 min sessions per Fortnight
English	8
Maths	8
Science	7
MFL	2
Geography	3
History	3
RS	2
Ethics & Values	1
Computer Science	2
Technology	4
Art	2
Music	2
Drama	2
PE	4

Year 10	
Subject	60 min sessions per fortnight
English	9
Maths	8
Science	9
PE	4
4 Options from: -	
Art	5
Business Studies	5
Child Development	5
Construction	5
Computer Science	5
Creative Media	5
Drama	5
Design & Technology	5
French	5
Geography	5
Hair & Beauty	5
History	5
Hospitality & Catering	5
Music	5
Photography	5
Psychology	5
Religious Studies	5
Retail Business	5
Sociology	5
Sports Studies	5
Spanish	5
Textiles	5
Triple Science	5

Year 11	
Subject	60 min sessions per fortnight
English	9
Maths	8
Science	9
PE	4
4 Options from: -	
Art	5
Business Studies	5
Child Development	5
Construction	5
Computer Science	5
Dance	5
Drama	5
Design & Technology	5
French	5
GCSE PE	5
Geography	5
Hair & Beauty	5
History	5
Hospitality & Catering	5
Music	5
Photography	5
Psychology	5
Religious Studies	5
Retail Business	5
Sociology	5
Sports Studies	5
Spanish	5
Textiles	5
Triple Science	5

Appendix B

An example of the extracurricular activities for the year 2026-2027

- Football
- Rugby
- Rocket Club
- Dance
- Music
- Choir
- Art
- Board Games
- Creative Writing
- Homework Club
- Productions
- Chess Club
- Dungeons and Dragons
- Netball

*These clubs are subject to change; extracurricular activities are currently being reviewed for September 2026.

Appendix C

An example of the trips and visits from 2025 – 2026, we are hopeful to arrange these again in 2026-2027.

20/09/2025 – 21/09/2025	Duke of Edinburgh
10/1/2025	Bouncers and Shakers at the Harlow Playhouse
10/9/2025	Harlow College 1-1 visit
10/16/2025	Hampton Court Palace
10/22/2025	Cadbury World
11/4/2025	Phantom of the Opera theatre trip
11/6/2025	Emmanuel College Cambridge University
11/11/2025	Rising Futures into the Wild trip
11/11/2025	Shakespeare Schools Festival
11/19/2025	Travel Training
11/26/2025	Travel Training
11/27/2025	St Claire Hospice visit (Part of Pre Plan B)
12/3/2025	Shoreditch Walking Tour
12/4/2025	Harlow College 1-1 visit
12/9/2025	Harlow College visit (Part of Pre Plan B)
12/10/2025	Science Lectures at Anglia Ruskin University
12/11/2025	Sleeping Beauty pantomime
12/11/2025	Rising Futures into the World of Work trip
12/15/2025	Anglia Ruskin University visit
12/16/2025	Bowling trip (Part of Pre Plan B)
1/8/2026	Higher Level Maths Achievement Programme
13/01/2026-16/01/2026	Barcelona Trip
1/21/2026	Cities Photography trip
1/30/2026	Hitler on Trial trip
2/3/2026	The Woman in Black Theatre trip
2/4/2026	Brilliant Club Graduation
08/02/2026-11/02/2026	Disneyland Paris
2/10/2026	EAL Harlow College visit
23/02/2026-26/02/2026	Paris Trip
3/7/2026	Mock Magistrates
3/11/2026	Frameless Museum Art trip
3/12/2026	Harry Potter Studios trip
12/03/2026, 13/03/2026,16/03/2026, 17/03/2026	Maths Harlow Study Centre trip (across 4 days)
3/17/2026	Higher Level Maths Achievement Programme
3/19/2026	Staple Tye visit
3/25/2026	Hertford Regional College visit
3/26/2026	Higher Level Maths Achievement Programme
4/17/2026	Bletchley Park

4/29/2026	GCSE PE Practical Exam
05/05/2026-08/05/2026	Battlefields trip
5/6/2026	Blood Brothers Theatre trip
5/18/2026	Princess Alexandra Hospital visit
5/20/2026	Battle of the Bands
6/4/2026	Chessington Rewards trip
6/9/2026	Kew Gardens Art and Photography trip
6/10/2026	War Horse Theatre Trip
6/16/2026	Higher Level Maths Achievement Programme
6/24/2026	LMTO Workshop
7/1/2026	War Horse Theatre Trip
7/3/2026	Year 11 Prom
05/07/2026-08/07/2026	East Mersea
7/10/2026	STEM Challenge

