

# HALL SCHOOL WIMBLEDON

## CURRICULUM POLICY

THIS POLICY IS REVIEWED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS

This Policy has been reviewed and approved by: Director of Operations

Review date: 20 January 2019

Policy actioned from: January 2019– August 2019

Next review date: August 2019

Please note: 'School' refers to Hall School Wimbledon; 'parents' refers to parents, guardians and carers.

Please note: This is a whole school policy, which also applies to the Early Years Foundation Stage.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the 'PSHEE Policy' and Schemes of Work, and the school document: 'Promoting Fundamental British values'.

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## Curriculum Policy

The curriculum plans provide for experiences which cover linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education in accordance with section 8 of the Education Act 1996.

**Linguistic:** This area is concerned with developing pupils' communication skills and increasing their command of language through listening, speaking, reading and writing. All pupils study English as a First or Second Language as appropriate to their situation. Pupils may have access to French (at Junior and Senior schools), and German (Senior School) in their journey through the school. In addition, they may study their own mother tongue. Communication skills, both verbal and written, are an inherent competency developed in all courses.

**Mathematical:** This area helps pupils to make calculations, to understand and appreciate relationships and patterns in number and space, and to develop their capacity to think logically and express themselves. Their knowledge and understanding of mathematics are being developed in a variety of ways, including practical activity, exploration and discussion in mathematics, science, the Humanities and through application of mathematical skills in other areas such as PE and the Arts.

**Scientific:** This area is concerned with increasing pupils' knowledge and understanding of nature, materials and forces and with developing the skills associated with science as a process of enquiry: for example, observing, forming hypotheses, conducting experiments and recording their findings. To this end, all pupils may study all three main science disciplines, or Combined Science, through their time at the Senior school and a combined approach to science in the Junior school.

**Technical:** This area seeks to develop, planning and communicating ideas; working with tools, equipment, materials and components to produce good quality products; and evaluating processes and products. This is achieved by the provision of Computing and Design Technology (Year 7), many of these skills are essential competencies also taught and experienced through Art and Media.

**Human and social:** This area is concerned with people and their environment, and how human action, now and in the past, has influenced events and conditions. These key skills and experiences are provided for in History, Geography, Religious Studies and various sections of the Science curriculum. PSHEE and assemblies add to the opportunities for pupils to experience this aspect of learning.

**Physical:** This area aims to develop the pupils' physical control and co-ordination, as well as their tactical skills and imaginative responses, and to help them to

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evaluate and improve their performance. Pupils should also acquire knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of fitness and health. All pupils have time in the week for formal PE lessons. Aspects of health and fitness also form part of the science curriculum. Lessons in mindfulness and yoga (Junior School) add to this area of experience.

**Aesthetic and creative:** This area is concerned with the processes of making, composing and inventing. There are aesthetic and creative aspects in all subjects, but some make a particularly strong contribution, including Art, Design Technology, Computing, Media Studies, Music, Drama and the study of literature, because they call for personal, imaginative, and often practical, responses. Pupils have access to all these areas of endeavour both within the main curriculum and as extra-curricular activities.

Through all these activities and experiences all pupils, irrespective of their SEND needs, whether they have an EHC plan or are using English as an additional language, will acquire speaking, listening, literacy and numeracy skills in all phases of their education at HSW.

PSHEE and Careers guidance are an integral part of the pupils' learning experiences. These are delivered both as named timetable subjects but also through form tutor time, assemblies and visiting speakers. The PSHEE programme (see separate policy) reflects the school's aim and ethos, encourages respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010. Careers education is for pupils receiving secondary education which is accurate, up-to-date and is presented in an impartial manner, and enables them to make informed choices about a broad range of career options, GCSE and Sixth Form choices, and helps to encourage them to fulfil their potential.

At HSW we incorporate the Fundamental British Values within our curriculum: they form part of our expectations of conduct and behaviour and the principles of democracy are exhibited in the election of the School Councillors, as well as the selection of the school's Head Girl and Boy. As a school, we also place these in the context of other democratic societies, whilst acknowledging the diversity of political, cultural and religious situations that make up our pupils' global experience. Indeed, the diversity of our pupils is seen as one of our greatest strengths.

### **Our Principles and Values**

For the school curriculum to provide opportunities for all pupils to learn, achieve and flourish it should:

- provide an unpressurised but challenging and engaging learning environment, based around a child's readiness to learn;

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- be broad and enriching in its coverage and scope;
- provide opportunities to experience the enjoyment and stimulation of learning and to make progress;
- enable learners to see learning as an enjoyable lifelong process;
- enable them to make constructive choices throughout their lives in order to achieve economically and personally as responsible global citizens.

### **To achieve this:**

1. The curriculum is about the development of the whole person. Opportunities for learners to develop values and attitudes are as important as the development of skills and factual knowledge, so that learners can:
  - show and know success in a variety of ways;
  - develop and maintain positive self-esteem;
  - follow healthy and safe lifestyles;
  - show courtesy, consideration and good humour to others;
  - be constructive, critical members of a global society;
  - articulate their own opinions and needs.
2. All learners are given equality of opportunity in learning by providing a curriculum that meets the needs of every learner in a relevant, flexible and responsive way, so that learners can:
  - take an active part in their own learning in school and want to be lifelong learners;
  - be engaged in making decisions about their own learning;
  - be responsible, honest, caring and confident;
  - use technology effectively, efficiently and ethically as a tool for finding, thinking, making and doing.
3. The school curriculum builds on learners' strengths, interests and experiences both inside and outside school, including those developed by

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their first educators – their parents - and equips them with the skills to become confident, enthusiastic and effective learners, so that they can:

- be engaged in making decisions about their own learning in school;
  - communicate effectively;
  - take risks, responsibly and creatively;
  - enjoy and achieve;
  - be responsible, honest, caring and confident.
4. Skills and processes are embedded in a wide range of practical, theoretical and creative curriculum opportunities. This will engage learners in problem solving, enquiry and creative thinking, enabling them to become adaptable, responsive and innovative, so that they can:
- communicate effectively;
  - work independently and collaboratively.
5. The curriculum presents learners with new challenges and opportunities. Through experiencing the curriculum in a range of contexts, learners learn to take risks and rise to challenges, so that they can:
- be flexible, resourceful and able to adapt to new situations in a rapidly changing world;
  - show initiative, resilience and confidence;
  - take risks, responsibly and creatively.

Key aspects of learning included in the curriculum incorporate – motivation, empathy, social skills, communication, enquiry, problem solving, creative thinking, information processing, reasoning, evaluation, self-awareness and managing feelings.

In any learning experience, learners draw on a range of skills, attitudes and knowledge to develop new understandings and build concepts. These cross-curricular learning skills focus on cognitive and affective aspects of learning and are integral to becoming a lifelong and effective learner.

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6. The curriculum focuses on knowledge creation as well as knowledge acquisition. By making connections between different bodies of knowledge, learners create new learning for themselves, so that they can:
  - be willing and able to learn new skills;
  - think analytically and develop reasoning and enquiry skills.
  
7. The curriculum reflects the learners' place in their local community. It gives them opportunities to learn about the place, people and values in which they are growing up. It enables them to develop their sense of belonging, appreciate the diversity of their community and feel empowered to make a difference for the better, so that they can:
  - contribute to the local community both in school and outside;
  - value themselves, their families and others around them;
  - value the diversity in our society and others', and the environment in which we live;
  - participate in decision making and contribute to the community;
  - show courtesy, consideration and good humour to others.
  
8. The curriculum reflects the learners' place in the global community. It allows them to develop their sense of identity beyond their personal experience, to develop a sense of belonging and empowerment to make a difference for the better in the wider world, so that they can:
  - be flexible, resourceful and able to adapt to new situations in a rapidly changing world;
  - enjoy and flourish when at key transition points in their lives;
  - understand the connectedness of their community within the national and global communities;
  - use global resources wisely and contribute to environmental sustainability;
  - recognise their role and responsibilities as members of a global society by understanding their own values and attitudes;
  - recognise the commonness of humanity, transcending national boundaries.

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## **Our aim is that our learners will...**

### **Values**

- value and respect themselves, family and others around them and further afield;
- value diversity in our local and global societies;
- value the environment in which we live;
- show courtesy, consideration and good humour to others;
- recognise roles and responsibilities as members of a global society through understanding their own values and attitudes;
- be responsible, honest, and caring;
- develop and maintain high self-esteem.

### **Enjoyment**

- enjoy and achieve;
- follow a healthy and safe lifestyle;
- be innovative and enterprising;
- cope effectively with change and adversity.

### **Thinking skills**

- develop thinking, reasoning and enquiring skills;
- engage in sustained, shared thinking with other learners;
- develop analytical skills;
- think creatively, imaginatively and critically.

### **Decision making**

- be confident to make decisions about their own learning;
- make choices in their day-to-day learning;
- make decisions which make a positive contribution to the school or local community;

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- problem solve;
- be flexible, resourceful and adapt to new situations in a rapidly changing world.

### **Learning opportunities**

- be willing to learn new skills;
- incorporate technology efficiently, for thinking, making and doing;
- be willing to take risks;
- work independently and as a team member;
- show initiative and resilience.

### **Curriculum Delivery**

#### **Learning and Teaching**

- Individualised learning and teaching;
- Flexible and responsive teaching styles;
- Maintaining a stimulating learning environment;
- Promoting an independent, lifelong learning;
- Preparing pupils for their place in society while being aware of the demands made of them, through examinations;
- Assessment of pupil progress to inform teaching, set appropriate targets and track progress.

#### **Planning**

The learning and teaching of the curriculum is supported through planning.

Planning:

- provides continuity and progression for all;
- promotes an enjoyment of learning and commitment to learning and achieving;
- provides rich and varied learning experiences;
- encourages best possible progress and highest attainment for all pupils;



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- enables pupils to make connections across different areas of learning;
- helps pupils to think creatively and solve problems;
- develops pupils' capacity to learn and work independently and collaboratively;
- enables pupils to respond positively to opportunities, challenges and responsibilities;
- enables pupils to acquire and develop a broad range of knowledge, skills and understanding.

### Curriculum Structure

**The School Day** (this will vary from school to school)

#### **Reception and Pre-Prep (Years 1 & 2) Timetable:**

Arrive at school: 8.30 am

Registration: 8.50am

Morning session: 9.00 am – 12.00 noon

Snack: 10.30 am

Break: 10.45 – 11.15 am

Lunch and afternoon play: 12.00 – 1.00 pm (Please see website for lunch menu)

Afternoon break: 2.30 – 2.50 pm

Afternoon session: 1.00 – 3.00 pm

#### **Prep (Years 3 – 6) Timetable:**

Arrive at school: 8.25 am

Choir, Orchestra, Dance, Exercise: 8.30 am – 8.55am (depending on the day)

Morning session: 9.00 am – 1.00 pm

Break Time: 11.15 – 11.45 am

Lunch: 1.00 – 1.45pm (Please see website for lunch menu)

Afternoon break: 1.45 – 2.00 pm

Afternoon session: 2.00 – 4.00 pm

### Clubs/ Extra-curricular Activities

Pre-Prep after school clubs run Monday – Thursday 3.00 – 4.00 pm

Prep after school clubs run Monday – Wednesday 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Details of Daily Clubs can be found on the website or asking at the school office.

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### Senior (Years 7 – 11) Timetable:

Arrive at school: 8.25 am

Circuits, PSHEE, Choir: 8.30 am – 8.55am (depending on the day)

Morning session: 9.00 am – 12.30/ 1.20 pm (Years 7 & 8/ Years 9 – 11)

Break Time: 10.30/ 11.20 – 10.50/ 11.40 am

Lunch: 12.20/ 1.20 – 1.20/ 2.10pm (Please see website for lunch menu)

Afternoon break: 3.00/3.50 – 3.10/ 4.00 pm

Afternoon session: 1.20/ 2.10 – 4.00/5.00 pm (5.00 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays)

### Clubs/ Extra-curricular Activities

Enrichment clubs run Tuesday – 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Details of Daily Clubs can be found on the website or asking at the school office

### Early Years Curriculum Policy

This policy refers to all our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and covers all those children who will reach their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday by August 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Early Years curriculum is designed to develop basic and essential skills, knowledge, understanding and attitudes that will be built on as a child progresses through the school. Within a positive, nurturing environment, children are able to enjoy their learning and link it to previous experiences. At the core of our practice is the desire to help children develop a love of learning through motivating and purposeful play-based activities. We also aim to empower children to generate their own questions and use their knowledge and skills to find answers.

Reception follows the National EYFS Framework, which sets the learning and development standards that all children should meet, up to the age of five.

The Early Years Framework specifies four guiding principles that should shape practice in Early Years settings:

- every child is a **unique child**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured;
- children learn to be strong and independent through **positive relationships**;
- children learn and develop well in **enabling environments**, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers; and
- children **develop** and **learn** in different ways and its different rates. The framework covers the education and care of all children in the Early Years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

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Currently, the EYFS curriculum is divided into the three prime areas of learning and development and then four specific areas, which build on these. The prime areas are:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal Social and Emotional Development

The four specific areas are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world (which includes history, geography, science, information and communication technology and elements of religious education), and
- Expressive arts and design (which include art, design and technology, dance and music).

The areas overlap considerably, and topics are used to help the children to make sense of their learning and to allow them to create links between new ideas and what they already know. Each area of learning is implemented through planned, purposeful play and a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity. We aim for all children to achieve or exceed the 'Early Learning Goals', which are set out below, by the end of the Reception year.

Reception children enjoy lessons with subject specialists in P.E., Music, Dance and French, giving each child a rich and stimulating curriculum.

The Reception classroom has a dedicated and secure outdoor space used daily for supervised activities, involving pond exploration, riding bicycles and imaginative play in the Wendy House. The children are regularly taken in supervised groups around the secure grounds to learn about their natural surroundings. All year, they have the opportunity to work on the school's mini farm. The farm aims to nurture their personal, social and emotional health; it enhances problem-solving and teamwork skills; and it instils in the children an appreciation of the natural world and knowledge of food production, healthy eating and environmental care. The children are fortunate to have the beautiful wooded ground of Wimbledon Common on their doorstep. This environment is used regularly, through activities such as performing '*Little Red Riding Hood*' and '*Goldilocks and the Three Bears*.'

Each child in the EYFS is assigned a key person. In Reception, this is the child's class teacher. There is a high adult-to-child ratio (currently 1:7) with a teacher and teaching assistant in lessons with each class throughout the day. Throughout the day children must usually be within sight, and always within sight or hearing, of staff. A risk assessment is written for all external trips on which children go, and an appropriate adult-to-child ratio is agreed. However, for all off-site visits, our adult-to-child ratio is a minimum of 1:6. A member of staff who has a current paediatric first aid certificate will also accompany every EYFS outing.

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Children who may need specialist help and assistance are supported by the Head of Early Years, who assists the EYFS staff with on-going assessments, and the Special Educational Needs coordinator. Our policy is to put in early intervention and to assess needs on an on-going basis. From these discussions, strategies are put in place to support children, which are then reviewed on a regular basis to see if they are being effective. Key strategies are shared with parents who are always informed if any outside assessments or specialist input are required.

Children's progress is assessed using a range of strategies, including observation of their independent learning. Progress is reported to parents formally each term through meetings and/ or reports. However, we are always very happy to share a child's development records with their parents at any point in the year and indeed the children very much enjoy sharing their work with their parents. Meanwhile, if parents would like to see any of their child's work or records, they are welcome to ask their child's class teacher.

Each child has a 'Learning Journey' folder. This is a portfolio of photographs, observations, assessment checklists and samples of work, which provides a unique account of the child playing and exploring at home and in school. This learning record is used to inform assessments and support staff to plan the next steps in the child's learning and development. The children's progress in each of the 7 areas of learning and development is tracked in this folder and is shared with them each half term.

Early Years Education is concerned with the intellectual, social, emotional, aesthetic and physical development of the child.

Care and education are inseparable. The involvement of parents and the recognition of their key role in children's development are especially important in the education of very young children. The experience of school complements the experience of home.

The curriculum consists of all of those planned and spontaneous learning experiences, which children will have during their time at HSW. We follow the guidance recommended by the Department for Education, statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (revised 2017), which helps us to plan activities designated to lay secure foundations for each child's future learning.

At HSW we believe that the seven areas of learning and development depend on each other to support a rounded approach to child development. We aim to deliver all the areas through planned purposeful play, with a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities.

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### Prep Curriculum (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6, Key Stage 2)

In Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils study a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum, that draws on the best elements of the National Curriculum and the National Literacy Strategy. We aim to infuse an enthusiasm for knowledge, which will support and enhance the pupils' learning and curiosity as they progress through the school. Science lessons are taught in a well-equipped, designated learning space. Great emphasis is placed on practical learning and problem solving, encouraging children to be inquisitive and to think for themselves.

We continue to create a culture of praise and encouragement, rewarding good behaviour, kindness and consideration for others. The children learn about responsibility and can represent their class in a variety of ways, such as on The School Council. Weekly assemblies are held to celebrate success.

Of the 35 lessons timetabled each week, 30 lessons are of 45 minutes' duration and 5 are of 30 minutes' duration. In Year 3 the class teacher is responsible for the delivery of the core subjects. For the rest of the curriculum pupils are taught by subject specialists. In Years 4, 5 and 6 pupils are taught for all subjects by specialist teachers. The children may be set for Maths in Years 4, 5 and 6.

We aim to inspire an appetite for reading and continue to develop the skills needed to become confident, independent readers. All pupils are encouraged to make full use of the school's library and its extensive range of fiction, non-fiction and reference texts. There is the expectation that pupils read each night at home.

Homework in Years 3 to 6 is delivered through the *Flint* and *Pyrite* Homework System. Pupils join the school homework system in Year 3. In Years 3 to 6 the system is based on the principle that children should accumulate knowledge and skills through revision and practice 'little and often'. Children are issued with a single daily document called a *Flint*. This document contains small manageable tasks or learning exercises for each curriculum subject. Pupils in Years 3 to 6 take home a *Flint* each evening (Monday to Thursday) for completion by the following morning. Each *Flint* should take no longer than 45 minutes to complete. Every Friday morning, material from the week's *Flints* is tested in a short assessment known as the *Flint Wall*.

More formal assessments are introduced in Year 3 and continue in Years 4, 5 and 6. The progress of pupils is monitored and reported to parents through termly Flint Wall Schedules, termly Maths AwEs (Assessment with Exemplar) and Science AwEs, yearly Reports, as well as Parent/Teacher Evenings.

Where pupils have English as an Additional Language (EAL) every effort is made to encourage the development of learning (written and spoken English) within timetabled lessons or as an additional support lesson.

Academic studies throughout Years 3, 4 5 and Year 6 continue to be complemented by an assorted programme of sporting and cultural activities which give a breadth

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of experience to pupils, offering them opportunities to develop new skills. Pupils are provided with many opportunities to develop self-confidence through a varied programme of Performing Arts. The highlight for each class is the year group Drama Production, in which every child has a speaking role. Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils are entered for LAMDA Verse and Prose Examinations which provide pupils with valuable skills needed beyond the classroom. Pupils are introduced to a variety of musical instruments, including tuned and un-tuned percussion and keyboards, and they may join the Junior Choir and Orchestra. In Year 4 every child learns the recorder at no additional cost for the full school year. Individual tuition of a variety of musical instruments is offered.

Our spacious Art Studio is a bright creative space in which the pupils are introduced to an array of media and techniques. The Art work produced by pupils in the Prep years is of a very high standard, with individuality and creativity being nurtured.

Philosophy is taught to Years 4, 5 and 6. 'Philosophy for children' is a process of critical thinking for pupils, which builds self-esteem and enhances speaking, listening and thinking skills. Philosophy helps to develop a 'community of enquiry' where children create and enquire into their own questions, and 'learn how to learn' in the process. It engages them in the search for meaning, enriches and extends their understanding. It strengthens reasoning skills and helps to develop the qualities that make for good judgement in everyday life

On the last lesson of a Friday the whole of the Prep school is timetabled together for an Enrichment lesson. The programme allows pupils from different year groups to rotate through a line-up of activities and learn together. Current options include: yoga, team building, eco-club, chess, creativity and a music club.

Teamwork and individual excellence continue to be developed on the sports field. Rugby, football, hockey, cricket, tennis, basketball, netball and rounders are played. Pupils also develop their skills in dance and athletics. From Year 4 onwards, boys and girls have a comprehensive fixture list in all major team sports which, together with Inter-House matches each term, ensures that all pupils can play for a team. A Sports Day is held in the summer term, which gives every child an opportunity to compete for his or her own House.

In Years 4, 5 and 6, pupils attend residential trips. Through attendance on these trips, the children not only have a lot of fun but also develop qualities which cannot be defined by academic success.

After Year 6, pupils may transfer into Year 7 at the Senior School. By the end of their time at the Junior School, we endeavour to ensure the children have acquired a real enthusiasm for learning, having also become confident, self-reliant young people possessing high personal self-esteem and strong ethical and community principles. The advantage of the close relationship between the Senior and the Junior School ensures pupils are offered a level of progression and continuity that is second to none.

## **Seniors**

Years 7 – 9 study a broad range of subjects. Languages are a strong element of the curriculum with pupils studying two (in addition to their mother tongue in relevant cases) – French and German.

Pupils with a native foreign language sit the relevant I/GCSE in that language when they are considered ready to do so. This is usually in Year 10 but can be sooner for stronger candidates. The Languages Department ensures the preparation of the pupils for the exams.

Mathematics is taught in ability groups from Year 7, and there is the opportunity to move between groups.

Science is set into ability groups from the start of KS4. Pupils have the opportunity to study science as a combined course for I/GCSE, a coordinated course for a double I/GCSE or for the most able and keener scientists all three as separate subjects.

The school is also keen to support pupils joining part way through the I/GCSE years who have been following a different syllabus and, where possible, tailors their learning to successfully complete their studies and to sit the relevant exams.

## **Years 10 and 11 study GCSEs and/ or IGCSEs.**

All pupils must attend lessons in Physical Education throughout the 5 years of Senior School.

All pupils study Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education during their Senior school (please see the separate PSHEE policy).

In all sections of the School – Early Years, Infants, Juniors and Seniors - parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from any lessons in Science, PSHEE or other subjects that cover any aspect of Sex Education or Religious Education. Details of both these aspects of teaching are communicated to parents in the termly outlines and should a parent wish to exercise these rights they should inform the Head in writing. Where a lesson or sequence of lessons contains sex education content the parents are informed by e-mail that this will be happening and with a brief outline of the work to be covered. At this time, they are also reminded of their rights and asked to contact the class teacher, HoD (Head of Department), or Head if they have any concerns.

### **Curriculum Enrichment**

Trips (both day and residential), guest speakers and a range of other providers are used extensively to support and enrich the learning experiences of pupils in all phases of the school. They are seen as invaluable in the pupils' development. At all Key Stages a range of extra-curricular clubs and activities are offered to pupils.

### **English as an Additional Language**

In today's international environment, some of our children may come to school with little or no English. HSW is committed to helping pupils for whom English is not a first language, in order that they can make the most of their time at the school, both inside and outside the classroom. Our English as an Additional Language (EAL) programme allows pupils to acquire the skills they need to communicate effectively in English.

EAL lessons are provided for pupils from different language backgrounds who have limited or no experience of using English as a means for learning. The aim of these lessons is to allow pupils to develop their reading, writing, listening, speaking and study skills to levels, which enable them to communicate more confidently, participate fully in class and succeed within the mainstream curriculum. Support is also given for homework and class assessments across the different subject areas (specifically for History, Science, Geography, and most language-based subjects), along with assistance in preparation for tests and exams.

Pupils are grouped according to their age and language ability and normally have one EAL lesson per week; often in small groups, or one-to-one, if appropriate. Care is taken to ensure that they do not miss out on core subjects. Where assessments carried out by the EAL team suggest that more than one lesson per week would be of benefit to the pupil's development, the school will contact the parents to advise them of this and discuss the current additional fees associated with these extra lessons.

### **Special Educational Needs**

Children with SEND are supported in a number of ways.

Our Teaching Assistants are employed to either support a child or to small groups of children with special needs within a classroom (mainly at Pre-Prep level, but also occasionally at Prep level).



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We also employ specialist teachers to support children's learning, in a 1:1 session, during the school day. These 1:1 sessions are paid for by the parents or by the Local Education Authority if the child has a statement of special needs.

Our classroom teachers differentiate their lessons to ensure that they are inclusive and accessible for every child in the class, regardless of their needs. Provision maps are reviewed on a termly basis.

The school's SENDCO also offers support to some children. Their progress is recorded. Any feedback recorded by the SENDCO is sent on to teachers, so that they are aware of the work being carried out, and areas of further weakness or achievements. Parents provide their child's Toe by Toe or Word Wasp manual to the school.

Pupils in Senior School sit the 'Cat 4' test in KS3 or 4. The results of these are considered by the SENDCO and the Head of Seniors to determine if any pupil may have additional support needs or exam access arrangements needs that have thus far been unidentified. Where there is a possible need, further diagnostic tests may be advised, so that parents may seek an external Educational Psychologist. If these confirm the identification of need parents are contacted and appropriate actions, including external exam access assessments, are conducted in agreement with the parents and the pupil.

All information relating to cognitive profiles, EAL and SEND are highlighted in the Senior School's Pupil Data file.

### **Gifted and Talented (or more able)**

All children have personal qualities, special talents and capabilities, which parents and teachers seek to identify, nurture and develop. An individual's gift or talent may be displayed within the regular curriculum, in a particular area of study, or it may cover a broader aspect of ability, such as leadership or creativity.

Every class teacher will have identified those pupils who are considered to be more able than their peers, using school assessments (especially from Year 2 onwards, and end-of-year assessments) and classroom observations, background knowledge and any other relevant reports. Rather than using this information to label these pupils, we use it to ensure effective and suitable provision of work, to ensure appropriate pace, rigour and challenge. We consider it important that pupils are reassessed regularly so that individuals are not inappropriately pigeonholed into a single group for their entire school career.

We consider it important to differentiate the work that is provided for children, in order to meet the needs of, and to challenge pupils in lessons, whatever their level

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of ability. The organisation of lessons allows for class teaching that meets individual needs and provides for differentiated group and independent work. Within lessons, able pupils are given direct teaching and opportunities to work with their peers. Lessons involving particularly able pupils are based on the principle of inclusive whole class and group teaching.

The school aims to ensure that there are enrichment opportunities that can stretch the more able or the gifted in the school, but at the same time we consider that the provision of activities which are exclusive rather than inclusive to be contrary to the aims and ethos of the school. Thus, although we may direct or encourage certain individuals to engage in specific enrichment activities, we do not exclude others who, whatever their level of ability, express an interest in extending their skills, knowledge or talents in any field of endeavour.

### **Assessment and Recording**

The effectiveness of the Policy is assessed overall by the Heads of School and Heads of Departments, but all staff have a duty to ensure the curriculum is taught and that the aims are achieved for each child in each class.

The Head of School ensures that the progress of each pupil is tracked and that there is appropriate challenge, support and intervention.

### **Reporting**

Parents are kept informed through Parents' Evenings, interim reports and a formal written report at least once a year.

Communication with parents across the school is undertaken in a variety of ways, through phone, e-mail, School Post, letters, news bulletins, website and discussion with parents at drop-off and pick-up. In the Junior School (from Year 3) and in the Senior School all pupils have a homework diary (*Flints*) to communicate the work set by teachers to be completed outside of class time. Parents are asked to look at this on at least a weekly basis.

### **Monitoring**

The school has a Heads of Faculties/Departments' group, which has responsibility for monitoring their subject(s) across all departments. The Head of School and Heads of Departments have responsibility for monitoring the whole curriculum and how it needs developing to cater for all needs.

The Head has overall responsibility for monitoring the curriculum taught and its effectiveness.

### **Interpretation**

## HALL SCHOOL WIMBLEDON

In this policy, the term “senior manager” means a School Principal, Head or their designated deputies.

This policy applies in both Schools and other work environments within the Chatsworth Schools group.

This policy applies within all companies, which are wholly owned subsidiaries of Chatsworth Schools Ltd, a company registered in England, registered number 11541475 , and the term “Company” should be interpreted accordingly, dependent on the employing company.

The registered office of all companies is Crimea House, Great Tew Estate, Great Tew, Oxfordshire, OX7 4AH. Any enquiries regarding the application of this policy should be addressed to the Group Director of Operations at this address.



