



Curriculum Vision and Statement

Aims

The curriculum, at St Ivo Academy, is defined as ‘the knowledge, skills & values students are expected to learn, the units and lessons that are taught, the planned sequence of instruction, the resources used to support teaching and the assessments used to evaluate learning’.

At St Ivo Academy, our curriculum is designed to fulfil our core purpose which aims to secure the best possible experience, learning and outcomes for each young person for whom we have responsibility.

St Ivo seeks to offer student a broad and balanced, knowledge-rich curriculum. In addition, our provision is tailored so that all students, whatever their background and ability, can follow suitable pathways, from Years 7 through to Year 13, which maximise their chances to make progress in their learning, achieve academic excellence and success in public examinations. This will enable them to successfully access the next stage of their development.

In addition to the core curriculum, St Ivo is committed to providing a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities and instilling a number of core values in our students. These include being ready to learn and achieve with high aspiration whilst being respectful and safe towards themselves and others in the community.

We aim to develop a knowledge-rich curriculum which:

- communicates the value of knowledge as a worthwhile goal in itself;
- ensures that knowledge is sequenced and mapped coherently;
- is pursued through subject networks to enable support and challenge for our teachers in order to blend the teaching of school subjects with sound academic and pedagogical practice;
- promotes opportunities for links between subjects;
- creates an aspirational high achievement culture which enables all students to strive for success;
- develops our students to understand the world around them, so they are able to make a positive contribution to modern British society.

Curriculum Principles

- Curriculum design involves an ongoing process of development. This is the responsibility of all teaching staff, led by subject leaders and overseen and supported by senior leaders, through the allocation of sufficient time and resources for evaluation.
- 7-year curriculum pathways, from Year 7 to Year 13, which are clearly defined to enable progression, including substantive and disciplinary knowledge over time.
- A curriculum which encourages both breadth and depth, throughout all courses, with an appropriate allocation of learning time.
- Pedagogy which instills a powerful combination of both knowledge and skill, thus equipping students for aspiration and success in their learning and future lives.

- Curriculum design which encourages students to acquire, retain and effectively utilise knowledge during their 7 years journey and beyond.
- Appropriate time is given to reading, literacy and numeracy to ensure that all students can access the full curriculum and have the essential skills needed for life.
- Vocabulary development in the curriculum contributes to improved oracy and literacy outcomes, ensuring students use spoken and written language to communicate effectively.
- Uses a range of formative and summative assessment that is appropriate to each subject, thereby allowing teachers and parents to monitor students' learning.
- Time is invested in a comprehensive programme of trips, visits and extra-curricular activities including sport, music, dance, drama and STEM activities. There is daily support for homework and supervised study, in the Resource Centre.

The Curriculum: Years 7 - 9

We operate a traditional Key Stage 3 curriculum which the majority of students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will follow, taught in one-hour blocks (the numbers indicate hours of lessons per fortnight); further information about programmes of study can be found on our website:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
English	6	7	7
Maths	6	7	7
Science	6	6	7
Art	2	2	2
Geography	4	3	3
History	4	3	3
Computing	2	2	2
Languages	4	5	5
Music	2	2	2
PSHE	2	2	Taught within Ethics
PE	4	4	4
Ethics	2	2	2
Design Technology	4	4	4
Dance	1	Taught within PE	Taught within PE
Drama	1	1	2
Total	50	50	50

For students who are significantly behind in their chronological reading and writing ages, additional support is provided through our Intensive '7Jump' programme to enable them to catch up. 7Jump is a provision for students whose Key Stage 2 SATs are significantly below those of their peers when they join us at the start of Year 7 (typically in the lowest 10% of the cohort). Students are selected for 7Jump based on recommendations from junior school staff as well as their Key Stage 2 results and our own assessment. The aim of the course is to provide the opportunity for accelerated learning in English and Maths and develop confidence in their abilities to access the secondary curriculum. Students will concentrate on key literacy and numeracy skills in year 7 and build on these skills as they progress. It is expected that students will remain as part of Jump throughout Key Stage 3 and may be likely to access an alternative curriculum when they begin their GCSE studies. Although students are given a taster of French culture and language, they will not be able to access Languages at GCSE.

The Curriculum: Years 10-11

Our Key Stage 4 curriculum aims to ensure that all students have the opportunity to follow a GCSE pathway appropriate to their abilities and interests. We aim to prepare each student as well as possible for the most appropriate, aspirational and prosperous progression route when they graduate from St Ivo Academy and as such we recommend students for one of five pathways to help guide their GCSE subject choices. Using progress review data and prior attainment data from primary school, each student will be selected who either:

- is strongly recommended to follow the EBacc pathway (history or geography plus a language), with the possibility of Triple Science.
- is strongly recommended to follow the Ebacc pathway.
- can choose to study either a humanity (history or geography) or a languages, plus other options including Triple Science.
- can choose to study either a humanity (history or geography) or a languages, plus other options.
- will be invited to follow the foundation pathway (level 1 courses) to support their learning needs.

Further information about the pathways is set out in a personalised letter which accompanies the Year 9 Preference booklet.

All students study the following core curriculum (hours per fortnight):

- English – Literature and Language (10)
- Mathematics (7)
- Science – Combined (10) or Triple (as above – 10 + 5)
- Physical Education (non-examined – 3 hours in Year 10, 2 hours in Year 11)
- Learning4Life (non-examined – 2 hours in Year 10, 3 hours in Year 11)

Subject Choices (5 hours per fortnight):

To qualify for the EBacc, the majority of students **must** choose one from Geography or History **and** one from French or German.

Other Subjects:

- Art (Fine Art, Graphics, Sculpture or Textiles)
- Business Studies
- Child Development
- Computer Science
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Dance
- Drama
- Ethics (RE)
- ICT
- Media Studies or Film Studies
- Music
- Physical Education
- Product Design (Materials or Electronics)

For our foundation pathway, we offer Level 1 Construction, Level 1 Cookery, Entry Level Mechanics and the Pathway Award.

Courses are subject to review, and may not run if numbers are insufficient.

Our Learning4Life programme covers aspects of PSHE, RE and Computing. The programme aims to develop a wide range of skills, strategies and coping mechanisms which students can take with them to help them to be successful in their future lives.

Outside regular curriculum time students have opportunities to obtain accreditation for additional subjects and programmes including Further Maths. In Year 10, all students benefit from a two week work experience placement. In Year 11 there is an extensive revision programme to supplement work in lesson time.

The Curriculum: Years 12 and 13

Entry to courses at St Ivo Sixth Form is based on students' attitude to learning, behaviour, attendance and punctuality. In addition, students study academic and vocational courses according to the pathways shown below, based on their best 8 grades at Key Stage 4.

Pathway	Average KS4 grade (or equ.)	Subjects included
Blue	6 +	A Levels: Maths, Further Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and all green pathway courses
Green	4 / 5	A Levels: Fine Art, Business Studies, Chemistry, Drama & Theatre, Economics, English Literature, Ethics, Philosophy & Theology, Film Studies, French, Geography, German, History, Law, Media Studies, Music, Photography, PE, Politics, Product Design, Psychology and Textiles & Fashion. Applied Level 3: Performing Arts Dance, Food Science & Nutrition, Health & Social Care, Information Technology and Sport.
Purple	2 / 3	Level 2 'Bridging Year' Either double Public Services or double Sport

Some courses carry subject-specific entry requirements, as defined in the entry requirements booklet published annually. Courses may not run if numbers are insufficient.

The 'bridging year' is offered to those students who do not obtain at least five grade 4s (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4. One year, level 2 courses are offered, with the aim of students being able to go on to further level 3 study or training.

Additional Qualifications and Awards

Our enrichment offer to students in the Sixth Form includes the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) to support their application to university, reading buddy scheme, first aid courses, numerous clubs and societies and student leadership opportunities. There is also support and guidance for future pathways including university applications and apprenticeships. Some students undertake work experience placements as part of or to supplement their courses.