

Setting and resources:



At Walton Hall our Key Stage 4 provision is located in a discreet area of the school – the Coach Houses. This supports the students to develop increasing levels of independence and a key stage identity. The area is situated adjacent to many of our vocational resources such as the farm, horticultural and motor vehicle department. For our students with more complex needs, a personalised sensory curriculum is supported by a sensory room and bespoke recreation area. When students enter Key Stage 4, their curriculum opportunities widen to include vocational options.

Groupings:

Groupings vary year on year to meet the changing cohorts of students as they progress through the academy. Currently, year 10 and 11 have pastoral bases but are ability set for the core subjects of English, maths, science and ICT. Students with complex needs are in a small vertical key stage pastoral group with a very high staffing ratio to facilitate their learning needs. We also have a Booster group in Key Stage 4 where student needs are nurtured and the timetable is bespoke to their individual learning needs.

Core curriculum offer:

For maths and English, students are following Edexcel Functional Skills Curriculum across all levels of ability from Entry Level 1 to Level 2 where appropriate. Examinations for these subjects are held under controlled conditions with windows of opportunity for assessment throughout the year.

In science, students are ability set access the WJEC Entry Level Science or BTEC Applied Science at Level 1 and 2. Science work is modular and students have use of a fully equipped science laboratory in addition to extensive resources readily available in the grounds of the academy.

In ICT, students access Functional Skills at a level appropriate to their ability. In addition to these core curriculum elements, students study humanities, PHSE, work skills and physical education. These courses are delivered to pastoral groups and are mostly assessed via WJEC pathways.

Students with additional needs complete units in the Pearson Personal Progress Award Scheme in addition to intensive interaction, sensory therapy and a range of additional enrichment activities including RDA where appropriate. Their curriculum focussed around communication and strives to develop independence using a personal pathways route.

Vocational options:



In Key Stage 4, we aim to prepare our students for transition both within school and into adult life. Our curriculum offer includes the equivalent of 1 day per week on vocational studies. Students can select from a wide range of courses within Walton Hall Academy and at our other MAT sites. For full details of these courses and levels, please see the current offer in the key stage 4 options booklet.

Examples of courses on offer include:
BTEC Land Based Studies in small animal

care and horticulture. WJEC Motor Vehicle Technology, motor vehicle riding skills, BTEC Performance Skills, drama, music and media, food technology, Resistant Materials, Sports and Active Leisure and Art & Design. Vocational offers change annually and are based on student choice and staff expertise.

Where appropriate completion of off-site work experience is offered and students complete a block of 1 week at the end of the academic year. This is supported by a Shaw Trust Employment Engagement Officer who assists with the facilitation and placement of our students.

Additional information and enrichment activities:

In KS4 we provide a broad and balanced curriculum that is student centred, holistic and develops the whole child. Emotional wellbeing is of utmost importance and students have the opportunity to access therapeutic sessions such as small group of 1:1 sessions with our Behaviour Support Officer.

Enrichment opportunities are scheduled throughout the year, these include a themed arts week, the Tall Ship Expedition, student firefighter courses, visits, and various activity days (Waterworld, fly -fishing, student conferences etc)

Citizenship, student voice and British values:

KS4 students play an active role in the school council and on the Anti- bullying Ambassadors team. They develop key skills in citizenship and British values through the PHSE and humanities programmes of study. These courses supported by the ethos and values of the academy and academy sponsor, encourages the students to be positive contributors to the local and wider community and society as a whole.