

Art Curriculum Intent

The Art curriculum provides students with the knowledge and tools to become fluent in both practical making skills and creative thinking, developing a visual language to express ideas. These transferable skills relate to the world at large and prepare students for next steps in education and experiences beyond school.

Through knowledge, skills and understanding learned and inquisitive observation and analysis of the world around them students will realise their own vision for the future.

Business Studies Curriculum Intent

In Business, we expect all students to leave with a broad understanding of many features of different companies – and the wider implications the economy/businesses can have on their lives.

- In addition, we believe they should understand the wider implications that businesses can have from a social and environmental aspect.
- Finally, we want to develop the student's character, which will give them the knowledge of employment skills and qualities and the confidence to have a happy and fulfilling career, in whatever industry they choose to pursue.

BTEC Dance Curriculum Intent

BTEC dance will provide an engaging introduction to the world of performing arts. The aim is to inspire students to stimulate their creative abilities as well as show their bravery, confidence and talent when performing.

BTEC Sport Curriculum Intent

To provide meaningful experiences in physical education and sport that develops an individual's character and enhances their own and others physical, mental and social well-being, leading to life-long participation.

Computer Science Curriculum Intent:

The Computer Science curriculum at Northampton Academy looks to inspire and engage students in the different areas of using technology. At Key Stage 3, it is important that students build their digital literacy skills by learning simple things such as creating folders and saving work so that they can competently use IT in any lesson and even after school as we know that IT skills are necessary in many jobs, if not all. Building on from this, students will learn how computers work and represent information, covering some of the basic concepts KS4 students learn at GCSE level. To get students into programming, we are going to introduce Micro-bits and then complete the year looking at designing and creating webpages for a specific target audience.

Drama Curriculum Intent

1. Cultural and Artistic Awareness

The intent behind the Drama curriculum in this Secondary School is to help pupils develop a deep cultural and artistic awareness. Through the study and practice of drama, pupils will explore a range of theatrical forms, genres, and styles, as well as engage with diverse cultural and historical contexts, providing cultural capital. This will enable them to develop a strong understanding of the importance of drama in society and embrace its wider cultural significance.

2. Creativity and Expression

The Drama curriculum aims to cultivate pupils' creativity and expression. Pupils will have opportunities to devise, perform, and critically analyse dramatic pieces, encouraging them to explore their imaginations, experiment with different approaches, and take risks in their creative choices. Through these experiences, pupils will enhance their communication skills, self-confidence, and self-expression, both on and off the stage.

3. Collaboration, Teamwork and Leadership

Another crucial aspect of the Drama curriculum is to foster collaboration and teamwork. Pupils will engage in group work, ensemble performances, and devised projects that require effective communication, co-operation, and shared responsibility. This will help them develop essential skills in working collaboratively, respecting diverse opinions, and resolving conflicts, contributing to their personal and social development.

In addition to this, leadership skills are nurtured in Drama too: pupils have the opportunity to lead their group on a vision and part of their assessment criteria will begin to introduce leadership and challenge success criteria, in addition to 'director tasks,' giving learners the opportunity to speak up and shape their group's piece.

4. Critical Thinking and Analysis

The Drama curriculum intends to enhance pupils' critical thinking and analysis skills. Through the study of texts, performances, and theatrical techniques, pupils will learn to interpret and evaluate dramatic works, understanding the intentions of playwrights and directors. They will develop the ability to analyse performances, identify design elements, and critically reflect on their own and others' work, thus nurturing a more discerning and reflective approach to the subject.

5. Empathy and Understanding

Building empathy and understanding is a key part of the Drama curriculum's intent. Pupils will explore a variety of roles, characters, and situations, enabling them to appreciate different perspectives and experiences. Through drama, pupils will learn to empathize with others, explore complex social issues, and develop a greater awareness and understanding of diverse cultures, backgrounds, and identities.

Design and Technology (including Food and Nutrition) Curriculum Intent

Design and Technology is an inspiring practical subject. You will use creativity and imagination to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems. You will also be taught how to cook and apply the principles of nutrition and healthy eating.

KS4 Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

KS4 food preparation and nutrition is an exciting and creative course, focussing on nurturing students' practical cookery skills to ensure students develop a thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and the working characteristics of food materials.

By exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with textiles materials, techniques and processes, students that study GCSE Art and Design Textiles will be provided with the knowledge and understanding to become fluent in both creative thinking and practical skills.

English Curriculum Intent

Our English Curriculum Intent: to value diverse ideas through reading and communicate clearly and creatively through our writing. You will be given the opportunity to explore a range of diverse texts to help you foster a love of reading whilst showing an appreciation and understanding of other cultures, themes and historical periods. English encourages all students to develop their character as they become analytical, critical and independent thinkers, allowing them to be able to cultivate their place in their community.

Geography Curriculum Intent

The geography department aims to provide students with a diverse curriculum that promotes a passion for the subject and an eagerness to understand the relevance of this in the wider world. Students will gain not only a deep knowledge of natural and human processes, but will gain a variety of key transferrable skills that can be used as they move onto the next stage in their lives.

History Curriculum Intent

The aim of the history curriculum is to build and grow a wide-ranging interest and passion for history by studying the past so that pupils can understand the world they live in today, which will show progress at each key stage. The passionate and engaged student will be able to foster and develop their written, oral and analytical skills through independent, logical and inquisitive thinking, combined with a tolerant approach to contrasting opinions.

French & Spanish Curriculum Intent

To enable pupils to be open minded and culturally sensitive individuals while inspiring a love of languages. The MFL department strives to instil confidence in pupils to be able to communicate and empathise with the global community.

Maths Curriculum Intent:

Maths is the language of the universe. We aim to help you to understand that language.

Mathematics students at Northampton Academy will:

- Be problem solvers and logical thinkers;
- Have high levels of numeracy and a strong understanding of proportional reasoning, algebra, geometry and statistics;
- Be able to interpret graphs and data;
- Develop the determination and resilience needed to overcome the most challenging problems.

Music Curriculum Intent

The aim of the music curriculum is to build an enthusiastic, broad and creative understanding of the subject and as a tool for positively enriching the lives of young people. This will progress through each key stage, whilst building students' independence and drive to succeed.

The creative and passionate student will engage with all aspects of music, both in and out of lesson time, whilst growing their confidence and understanding of musical career opportunities. Parallel to the curriculum, there will be inclusive opportunities for solo, ensemble and whole class engagement, including the potential additions of peripatetic music lessons and diverse enrichment from network professionals, to enhance the varied and artistic curriculum.

Photography Curriculum Intent

Photography is an inspiring practical subject. You will develop personal and creative photographic work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with photographic materials, techniques and processes, building on core skills and knowledge learnt in art at KS3.

Politics Curriculum Intent:

Our goal in Politics is to educate our students on the fundamental debates within UK and US politics, including both political and structural issues, so that they are confident in engaging in political debates with respect and tolerance for the views of others. Students will also be confident in understanding and explaining how the UK government operates so that they can be active participants in politics at a local, national, and international level, including educating others and encouraging wider participation in politics through various means. Knowledge of key ideologies will allow the students to develop a deeper understanding of the origins of policies and why people have different views and allow them to begin to form their own views on current affairs.

Psychology Curriculum Intent:

Our mission in Psychology is to create an environment where our students become creative thinkers, who will be able to challenge the status quo and draw on their own conclusions with respect and tolerance for others. We aim to provide a curriculum which enables students to develop a range of expertise through Psychology that allows them to excel at degree level.

Religious Studies Curriculum Intent:

Religious Studies intends to offer students a wholistic experience of what it means to function in a diverse society. We are keen to deliver an academically rigorous curriculum right from Year 7 based on academic study of the Bible and other religious texts and how these have shaped Britain and the world. High standards of academia are also applied to everyday issues that promote the tolerance of others and mutual respect of all within our multicultural society.

Knowing others beliefs will help students to shape their own opinions and identity; we study injustice and respect in order to shape the character of students in such a way that means they can express their own beliefs while also respecting those of others. Students engage within written debate to help them gain an appreciation of what it means to discuss controversial issues in a productive manner and develop their own authority in argument.

Science Curriculum Intent

We aim to stoke your curiosity and better your understanding of the world around you. You will have the opportunity to:

- Gain investigative skills, allowing you to question and inquire.
- Expand your scientific knowledge about the world you live in.
- Improve and develop existing numeracy, literacy and problem solving skills.

Sociology Curriculum Intent

Our mission in Sociology is to create an environment where our students become creative thinkers, who will be able to challenge the status quo and draw on their own conclusions with respect and tolerance for others. We aim to provide a curriculum which enables students to develop a range of expertise through sociology that allows them to excel at degree level. We want them to understand the inequalities which different groups face in society and how these structural issues can be tackled to improve inequality for all.

Statistics Curriculum Intent:

In GCSE Statistics we aim to develop the analytical and enquiring minds of our students, as well as providing an insight into the crucial role of statistics in the modern world. Students will learn about the reliability of the sources of information in today's society

Students will examine the role of statistics in industry and economics to gain skills they can transfer to a wide range of disciplines and careers.