

2020 Curriculum review - update

What's already happened?

1. HOD planning day
2. Curriculum committee formed
3. Scope for what's being changed agreed by HODs
4. Sharing sheds created
5. Dept feedback meeting
6. DP Association junior curriculum conference
7. Parent Survey and feedback on website
8. Staff Survey and feedback in sharing sheds
9. School visits - 14 staff have visited schools and this will continue throughout 2019
10. Initial drafts produced to start discussion on possibilities (Term 4 2018)

First Draft proposal

The Curriculum Committee has been meeting fortnightly for much of the year. Working through the feedback and issues, this first proposal has been tabled to help get the discussion going. This model is a six line model, which for timetabling reasons, would require an extra discussion about the senior school dropping from 7 to 6 lines (subjects).

MIDDLE SCHOOL (6 LINES)

- 4 INTEGRATED UNITS (2 or 3 subjects writing each unit together)
- 1 PASSION PROJECT (This could be for 1 or 2 nine-week blocks)
- 1 MENTORING

Years 7-10		9 - 9:50	9:50 -10:40	11:00 - 12:40	1:30 - 3:10
M	Form	1	2	3	4
T	Form	Mentoring		Passion Project	1
W	Form	3	4	2	Mentoring
T	Form	Passion Project		1	2
F	Form	Mentor	Passion	4	3

Additional ideas and details:

- The Integrated **units of 2 or 3 subject combinations** could run for a 9 week blocks where students then switch to another 4 units that have different subject combinations. These units are teacher designed to cover chosen curriculum AOs and are not necessarily a 9 week project and can be broken into smaller integrated tasks. As a school, we will produce "guidelines" for designing integrated topics and assessment types.
- Three of the four integrated unit lines could be a **compulsory programme** to ensure the National Curriculum's 8 learning areas were covered.
- One of the four integrated lines could be used for a **"Choice unit"** each block that suited the individual student (like they choose option subjects now) This would allow for additional study in areas of interest and a controlled amount of personalisation of their timetable. E.g. A Science fan could always pick choice units where Science was one of the two subjects in the unit.
- This means each of the 8 learning areas will be guaranteed access to every child for 3 of the 4 blocks, while having students with a particular talent / passion for the subject for up to an extra four units (Their choice unit from each 9-week block).
- If the model used units of 3 subject combos, then we could guarantee access to every subject area in every block with the additional choice units still giving the extra specialisation.
- **Mentoring** would be resourced (how-to's) by the school centrally to help teachers run:
 - One-to-one teacher mentoring
 - Student-led peer mentoring
 - Mentor group forums
 - Personal reflection / learning portfolios
- **Passion projects** would be arranged with staff who are not teaching senior students or on a non-contact line. The organisation of this could be done during the Passion time itself of the mentoring line. The aim of this time is focused on the National curriculum's key competencies, project management, independence, and resilience.
- **Workload:** If staff are working in small teams to write a unit, each staff member would only be involved in the design of 1 or 2 units for the year. In the first year, it would be possible to create units that allow students to look at the AOs but with the curriculum levels made clear, they would work at their curriculum level within the AO / curriculum topic, meaning Year 9 and 10 could be issued the same units/themes. The 2nd year would require a new set of units for Year 10.