

James Gillespie's High School Curriculum Structure

Curriculum Statement

Our vision is to provide a curriculum which enables all learners at James Gillespie's High School to achieve their maximum potential and develops skills for life, learning and work. Our curriculum should provide depth, breadth, challenge, enjoyment and progression at all levels; promote choice and allows specialisation; enable learners to work towards fulfilling their aspirations.

Our school's values of respect, kindness, integrity, inclusion and high expectations underpin our curricular offering, and, through a breadth and progression of learning opportunities, we strive to enable learners to become successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

Curricular Areas

The curriculum is structured around 8 Curricular Areas:

1. Expressive Arts
2. Health & Wellbeing
3. Languages (English, Gaidhlig, Modern Languages) & Literacy
4. Mathematics & Numeracy
5. Religious & Moral Education
6. Sciences
7. Social Studies
8. Technologies

S1/S2 Curriculum Overview

Our S1 and S2 provision ensures pupils have access to all curricular areas in S1 and S2. Pupils will 'split' the 28 periods per week into each curricular area which are timetabled across the week.

The S1/2 curriculum structure should provide clarity as to how the Level 3 Experiences and Outcomes will be delivered in all curricular areas through discrete subject teaching and inter-disciplinary learning, providing coherence for the learner. Some learners will continue with their level 2 pathway during this period, whilst others will embark on level 4 Experiences.

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S1/2 Timetable Structure:

English & Literacy 4 ppw	Maths & Numeracy 4 ppw	Modern Languages 3 ppw Gaelic French German Mandarin Spanish	Social Subjects/ Humanites 3 ppw Geography History Modern Studies	Sciences 3 ppw	Expressive Arts 3 ppw Art Drama Media Music	Technologies 3 ppw Bus Ed (S2) Draft & Design Computing	Health and Wellbeing/ RME 4 ppw PE x 2 FHT x1 RME x 1 PSE x1
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* ppw = periods per week

- In S1, pupils rotate between an extra period of Design and Music Technology/Gaidhlig
- In S2, pupils will commence Business Studies to replace the rotation

The S3/4 Curriculum

During S2, pupils will make their subject choices for S3. They will study up to 8 National Qualification subjects, including English, Maths, a Modern Language, a Science, a Social Subject/Humanities and three 'free' choices of subjects. These 'free' choices enable learners to choose to their strengths and abilities, whilst still retaining a breadth of subjects studied during this period.

Pupils will retain the 'core' subjects of PE (x2), PSE and RME (x1)

Pupils will sit their National Qualification in each of the NQ subjects at the end of S4.

S3/4 Timetable Structure:

English 3 ppw	Maths 3 ppw	Gaelic 3 ppw	Mod. Language Choice 3 ppw	Social Subject/ Humanities Choice 3 ppw	Science Choice 3 ppw	Optional Choice 3 ppw	Optional Choice 3 ppw	Optional Choice 3 ppw	Health and Wellbeing/RME 4 ppw
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* ppw = periods per week

- Support for Learning is offered for pupils with an identified learning need to consolidate the learning of their other subjects
- Health and Wellbeing consists of P.E. (2 periods), P.S.E. (1 period) and R.M.E. (1 period)
- Opportunities for work placement and training through JET and RUTS in S4

The Senior Phase Curriculum (S5 and 6)

Our Senior Phase comprises S5 and S6 who are considered as a cohort during their senior years. This means they will be offered the same subjects to choose from and will be timetabled together.

At the end of S4 pupils will choose to study 5 subjects at level 3, 4, 5 or 6.

At the end of S5, pupils will choose to study a maximum of 5 subjects at level 4,5, 6 or 7.

Additional vocational courses and opportunities will also be on offer, including part-time college courses and skills-based courses.

Pupils will sit their National Qualification in each of the subjects at the end of S5 and S6.

S5/6 Timetable Structure:

Optional Choice 5 ppw	Optional Choice 5 ppw	Optional Choice 5 ppw	Optional Choice 5 ppw	Optional Choice 5 ppw	Health and Wellbeing/Core 3 ppw
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* *ppw = periods per week*

- Senior pupils benefit from a wide variety of courses offered through the Schools College Partnership Programme with Edinburgh College. Successful applicants for part-time college courses will have their college course timetabled on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon.
- Senior pupils benefit from attending courses offered at other Edinburgh schools through the consortia arrangement and alignment of columns
- Opportunities for participating in Career Ready, JET Plus and the Youth Philanthropic Initiative
- S6 opportunity for applying for LEAPS
- Support for Learning is offered for pupils with an identified learning need to consolidate the learning of their other subjects
- Health and Wellbeing consists of P.E. (1 period), P.S.E. (1 period) and an activity period
- S5 Activity period gives the opportunity for some pupils to gain other awards, such as unit awards or accreditation for work completed e.g. PC Passport
- Adult Achievement Award introduced at SCQF levels 4-6 for 2 periods per week

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JGHS Possible Curricular Pathways:

Curricular Pathways		Pathway 1	Pathway 2	Pathway 3
		Higher Education Focus	Further Education Focus	Training / Employment Focus
Broad General Education	S1/2	Our S1 and S2 provision ensures pupils have access to all curricular areas in S1 and S2.		
	S3	<p>At the end of S2, pupils will make a choice of which subject to study over S3 and S4. They will study up to 8 subjects, choosing from across all curricular areas.</p> <p>Pupils will also continue with the core subjects of P.E (2 periods per week), PSE and RME (both 1 period per week)</p>		
Senior Phase	S4	<p>8 academic subjects (level 5)</p> <p>Possibility of Higher/level 6 in, for example, Music or a Modern Language</p> <p>Continue with core subjects of PE, PSE and RME</p>	<p>7 or 8 academic subjects (level 3/4/5)</p> <p>King's Trust/Achieve Support for Learning JET RUTS Work Experience Youth Philanthropy Initiative</p> <p>Continue with core subjects of PE, PSE and RME</p>	
	S5	<p>5 Higher subjects</p> <p>Possibility of Advanced Higher/level 7 in, for example, Music or a Modern Languages</p> <p>Continue with core subjects of PE and PSE (both 1 period per week) and an activity period (1 period per week)</p>	<p>4 or 5 academic subjects (level 4/5/H) including level 5/6 National Progression Awards, Foundation Apprenticeships, Daydream Believers, Adult Achievement Award</p> <p>Work Experience Edinburgh College Career Ready Duke of Edinburgh JET Plus</p> <p>Continue with core subjects of PE and PSE (both 1 period per week) and an activity period (1 period per week)</p>	
	S6	<p>Additional Highers Advanced Highers Baccalaureate Work Experience Edinburgh College Duke of Edinburgh</p>	<p>Up to 5 academic subjects (levels 3 to 7) including National Progression Awards, Foundation Apprenticeships, Daydream Believers, Adult Achievement Award</p> <p>Work Experience Edinburgh College Career Ready Duke of Edinburgh LEAPS</p>	