

# Curriculum Rationale and Pathways



- Our vision is to provide a curriculum which enables all learners at James Gillespie's High School to achieve their maximum potential and is relevant to life in modern society. It provides **coherence, depth, breadth, challenge, enjoyment and progression** at all levels; it promotes **personalisation and choice**; it enables learners to work towards fulfilling their aspirations and realise the school values of **respect, kindness, integrity, inclusion and high expectations**.
- The curriculum is the vehicle through which our pupils are supported to become **successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors** and **responsible citizens** who move into positive and sustained destinations when they leave school.
- There are an increasing number of curricular links between primary and secondary which have been planned together through our transition programme.
- We are committed to developing a whole school approach to **learning for sustainability**: the four contexts of learning are reflected within our curriculum, and we offer many opportunities for personal and wider achievement with over **80 extra-curricular clubs**, many of them with no cost.
- In S1 and S2, pupils experience a broad curriculum that covers 8 curricular areas. Pupils follow a Broad General Education that enables learners to experience success in learning, with courses planned around Experience and Outcomes.



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- As pupils progress from **S2 into S3**, they personalise their curriculum through **coursing conversations** with PSLs, encouraging a **broad coverage of curricular areas**. Subjects are recommended through progression of Experiences and Outcomes (mainly at third and fourth level) equipping pupils with the knowledge and skills required to embark on their SQA qualifications journey, where appropriate.
- JGHS aims to provide a **wide and varied Senior Phase Curriculum** that builds from the BGE offer and offers our young people appropriate pathways to a relevant curriculum that provides **specialisation, depth and rigour**; prepares them for achieving qualifications to the highest level of which they are capable; continues to develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work; and supports them to achieve a **positive and sustained destination**.
- We offer an increased range of **NQs, NPAs, Skills for Work, and Foundation Apprenticeships**, and have developed strong links with Edinburgh College with many pupils studying qualifications through the **School College Partnership**.
- Pupils are also offered flexible options through **JET, LEAPS and Career Ready**, and we are also part of a **consortia** arrangement that enable pupils the opportunity to enrol in Advanced Higher courses in other schools.
- We continue to work closely with our **SDS** and **DYW** partners to offer suitable pathways including university, education, further education, work-based learning and transition to employment.

