



THE  
**MARIST**  
**SCHOOL**  
ASCOT

School DfE No: 868/6013

# Curriculum Policy

## Pt 1, 2

*Feet on the ground. Reaching for the stars.*

## **The Marist School Curriculum Policy**

**Nomenclature: The Marist School consists of Prep and Senior phases. The Prep School refers to all staff and pupils in the Marist Preparatory which includes: Nursery, The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), Pre-prep School (Key Stage 1) and Prep School (Key Stage 2) The Senior school refers to all staff and pupils in the Senior School which includes Keys Stages 3, 4 and 5.**

This policy was formulated in September 2016 and replaces the previous versions. The Marist School curriculum comprises all formal academic opportunities plus the broader opportunities of subject-related activities outside the classroom. Our aim is to deliver a curriculum which enables us to fulfil our commitment to the pupils in line with the School's Aims and Ethos which are shared via the school website and in the staff handbook. The following values and skills underpin our curriculum:

### **Values**

**Marist pupils should appreciate and cultivate the following:**

- Love of Work
- Simplicity
- Presence
- In a Marist Way
- Family Spirit

### **Skills**

**Marist pupils are taught and encouraged to strive to do the following:**

- Read appreciatively and thoughtfully
- Write correctly and clearly
- Speak coherently and persuasively
- Listen attentively
- Understand and apply mathematical principles intelligently
- Use IT effectively
- Cultivate good memory
- Think through problems
- Learn from others
- Learn from past errors
- Work in a team
- Think independently and critically
- Evaluate risks and take them when necessary

- Manage time well
- Lead others confidently and sensitively
- Think creatively

We believe a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities, including field trips and residential visits, outside speakers, workshops and enrichment opportunities offer pupils the chance to further their academic and personal development beyond the classroom, even beyond term time. We recognise that personal development translates into academic success.

Curriculum overviews for each year group are made available on the school website. Our curriculum is characterised by the qualities listed below:

### **1. Relevance**

We will provide a curriculum appropriate to the needs of the pupils at different stages of their learning. We will take into account their age, experience and aptitude, enabling them to contribute with confidence within both the school community and the outside world.

### **2. Breadth and balance**

We present a broad and balanced curriculum which incorporates these elements of learning:

- The development of knowledge
- The understanding of concepts
- The acquisition of skills
- The ability to apply these elements in a variety of circumstances

We aim to give access to the following areas of experience - aesthetic/creative, human and social, linguistic and literacy, mathematical and economic, moral and spiritual, physical, scientific and technological. All pupils follow our PSHE curriculum which reflects the School's aims and ethos, encourages respect for other people, paying particular regard to protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010. We also promote fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect.

### **3. Coherence**

Our curriculum is given coherence by incorporating the different areas of learning and experience in such a way as to encourage the pupils to identify cross-curricular links and make connections between new knowledge and prior learning.

### **4. Continuity and Progression**

We structure the curriculum in such a way as to allow for effective continuity and development through systematic co-ordination of key aspects within each area of study. Schemes of Work acknowledge and develop work covered in previous years.

Through our curriculum we acknowledge the difference between children, even of the same age, by generating variation in tasks and content so that there is a balance between the need for challenge and support. We aim to make the curriculum accessible to all of the pupils. Individual Educational Plans (IEP's) are in place for pupils with specific learning needs. These are devised in consultation with teachers, pupils and parents.

**In addition:**

The curriculum will incorporate the National curriculum KS1 to KS4 as a basis for the curriculum in Years 1 to Year 11 and is likely to extend beyond it. The Early Years Foundation Stage follow the learning development requirements (early learning goals).

The Marist curriculum is flexible and able to respond to changes in Government Policy related to curriculum issues.

**Outdoor Learning**

Opportunities for learning outdoors are incorporated into the curriculum whenever possible/appropriate.

**GCSE choices:**

A large range of subjects are available for GCSE allowing students to personalise their curriculum to reflect strengths and weaknesses. We ensure that they are given the relevant information and receive guidance so that they can make fully informed option choices. The GCSE Core includes English Language and Literature, Mathematics, a Modern Foreign Language, Combined Science and Religious Education. All students have lessons in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. In addition, all the students continue to participate in Physical Education and PSHE lessons.

New subjects are offered at GCSE and pupils are encouraged to choose a broad range of subjects that complement their interests and talents. Students usually take 10 or 11 subjects from the list below:

<b>Core</b>	<b>Option Subjects</b>
English Literature	Art
English Language	Business Studies
Mathematics	Classical Civilisation
Science: Combined/Triple Science	Computer Science
RE	Drama
One Modern Foreign Language (French or Spanish)	Food Preparation and Nutrition
	French (for dual linguists)
	Geography
	History
<b>Additional GCSE (optional)</b>	Latin
Further Maths	Music
	Physical Education
	Photography

	Textiles
	Triple Science

#### A-Level choices:

Pupils are given a completely free choice with their A-Level subjects, most taking 3 A-Levels. In addition, where applicable, some pupils may take up the additional qualifications of an EPQ, or a further subject to AS level only. All Sixth Form pupils continue with PSHE and Physical Education lessons and participate in our Enrichment Programme. The school supports the flexibility of the AS/A Level structure.

#### **In addition:**

The pupils will also be given opportunities:

- To develop and demonstrate the ability to prepare, process, present and evaluate within the disciplines of literacy, number, communication, problem solving and working with others.
- To develop and apply their ICT capability where appropriate.
- For the promotion of their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in which pupils are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences in a British society.

All staff share the responsibility for delivering the curriculum. The Deputy Head Academic ensures coverage of all areas. It is the responsibility of each Subject Leader and Co-ordinator to ensure that appropriate schemes of work are produced and regularly updated. The process of assessment and evaluation is continuously reviewed in light of current educational thinking and is key to the development of a relevant and meaningful curriculum. Teachers are asked to reflect and evaluate their schemes of work at the end of each term in order to further enhance pupils' academic and personal development.