

# **Pittville School Curriculum**

As a true comprehensive, we recognise and celebrate the fact that our students arrive at Pittville School with a wide range of skills, talents, abilities and interests.

## **Key stage 3 – Years 7 and 8**

We have designed our curriculum to allow students to gain a wide range of experiences in key stage 3. The core subjects of English, maths and science are supported by history, geography, RE, French and Spanish, ensuring all students have access to a full suite of EBACC subjects. All students have 2 hours of PE a week and all students in Years 7 and 8 study music, art, drama, textiles, design technology and food and nutrition. We believe providing a wide range of subjects right from the start of Year 7 is essential if students are to have the opportunity to develop new skills, find new interests and passions and possibly find inspiration for a future career. Students are set homework using our online platform and are assessed regularly in all subjects, including end of year exams. There is an expectation that as well as working hard in lessons, students will be studying at home to ensure they achieve their best.

## **Key stage 4 – Years 9, 10 and 11**

Students at Pittville School take their options at the end of Year 8. A longer key stage 4 allows more time to teach the new GCSE courses. This ensures teachers have time to teach the curriculum and still provide opportunities for extra-curricular development. It also provides time to stretch our most able students to achieve the top grades in their subjects and prepare for post-16 education or training.

All students take core courses of English language, English literature, maths, science, RE and continue to have 2 hours of PE a week. On top of this, they choose 4 options subjects. New subject areas, such as business studies, health and social care and PE become available and we offer further maths and triple science in addition to the KS3 EBACC subjects to stretch our most able students. Whilst we encourage students to aim high academically, we also encourage students to look at a wide range of subjects at GCSE and to continue to follow their interests.

## **Student Development**

Throughout Years 7 to 11, all students take part in our Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) programmes. These are designed to support students in their personal development, help them with their study and career choices, teach them study and exam preparation skills and support them with their post-16 applications. This includes running a Work Experience programme in Year 10.

As a small comprehensive school, we are to tailor our curriculum provision and our student support to each cohort as they progress through the school. We know our students really well and can therefore personalise their provision to ensure they have an engaging and relevant curriculum. This leads to great achievements at the end of Year 11 and the development of a lifelong love of learning.

## **Extra-Curricular Provision**

Students have access to a wide range of extra-curricular activities at Pittville School. This includes clubs during lunchtime and after school, such as sports clubs, music and drama, astronomy, chess, science, Japanese club. The music department also arranges musical instrument lessons with external teachers. Students can also become MPs for their tutor group and join the School Parliament.

There are a number of events held throughout the year to offer wider experiences to students such as Poetry Slam, Technology Days, Spelling Bees, Maths Challenges, Artist in Resident, Play in a Day, the School Musical, Visiting Chefs, PT session with the Marines, and any more. We have students from schools in other countries, such as Spain and Japan come to join our students for lessons and to share cultural experiences. We also run a number of inter-house competitions which are linked to curriculum areas and a wide variety of trips. Last year every year group took part in geography field trips, and external trips included Barcelona, skiing, the Science Festival, Parliament, Theatre trips, Paris, and opportunities to try out new pursuits in Activities Week.