

Junior Department – Curriculum



What will you learn?

Subjects such as English, mathematics, geography, history and religious studies are taught by the class teacher. This is complemented by Senior School specialist staff teaching of PE and Modern Foreign languages, with Year 5 learning Spanish and French, while Year 6 learn German and Mandarin. Girls are provided with opportunities to develop their creative talents through art, design technology, food and nutrition, drama and music.

Junior staff liaise closely with Senior teaching staff to design a curriculum which will not only inspire young minds but will provide them with the skills required as they move into Year 7.

How are the subjects taught?

Year 5 and 6 subjects are generally taught in an individual class setting. However, as the girls move into Year 6 and prepare for the transition to Year 7, we divide the class into two smaller groups in some subjects. In mathematics this allows us to ensure the girls progress at a pace appropriate to them. Staff can support students with specific aspects of their learning and further challenge them to inspire and achieve high levels of success.

The Year 6 class is also divided into two groups for art and design technology, where students really benefit from smaller teaching groups to enable high levels of support and appropriate access to facilities and resources.

Facilities, expeditions and more...

Many of our lessons are taught using Senior School facilities. Science lessons are taught in our specially equipped labs where there is a strong focus on practical and investigative work. We use the Senior School drama and dance studios as well as art, design technology and food technology rooms.

In both year groups the curriculum is extended through various expeditions, challenges and visits. In addition to trips to museums and other places of educational interest, we often invite specialists to school and provide workshops and experiences which enhance the curriculum and inspire the girls.

What do students say?

"I really love all my subjects!"

"I like to learn through acting because it helps me to feel how the character might feel, which then helps with writing."

"All the teachers know our strengths and needs."

"I really like the way that teachers use technology in lessons. It's fun and it makes things easier to understand."

Curriculum overview

It is the aim of the Junior Department to promote enthusiasm for life-long learning within a safe and secure learning environment. We are committed to helping our students recognise their individual strengths whilst challenging them to take risks and fulfil high expectations. Our curriculum is designed to achieve these aims through exciting, inspiring lessons and a breadth of subjects. Girls take part in a variety of practical relevant activities as well as focussed independent and group tasks.

Situated within the Senior School, the Junior Department provides a 'best of both worlds' environment, enabling us to enhance our curriculum and provide the best possible preparation for transition into the Senior School. A range of subjects are taught by Senior School staff and we are able to use the School's many facilities for teaching science, art, drama, PE and food studies.

