

KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL



Curriculum Policy

Date: September 2025

Approved: GB

Leadership Team Responsibility: SAH

Key Stage 3 – years 7, 8 and 9 (ages 11-14)

Number of lessons per week

There are certain subjects that are statutory and we must teach. Crucial amongst these are the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science. The other statutory subjects are Design and Technology, Art, Music, Foreign Languages, Geography, History, Physical Education, Computing, Citizenship, Religious Education, and Relationships, sex and health education.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Core subjects			
English	3	4	4
Mathematics	3	4	4
Science	3	3	5
Foundation subjects			
Art	1	1 [^]	***
Design & Technology	1	1	***
Foreign Languages	3	2**	2**
Geography	2	1.5	1.5
History	2	1.5	1.5
Music	1	1 [^]	***
Drama	1	1 [^]	***
Physical Education	2	2	2
Religious Education	1	1	1
Relationships, Sex & Health Ed. (PSHE)	1	1	1
Computing	1	1 [^]	***

Notes

**Foreign Languages

- One of Spanish, French or German is studied by all students in Year 7, 8 and 9 (2 periods in Y8 and Y9)
- In Year 8 and Year 9 some students will have the opportunity to add a second language from a choice of Spanish, French or German (2 periods)

***Curriculum individualisation in Year 9 (3 periods)

- All students study Art, Computing, Drama, Food, Music and Product design for 1 period in rotation throughout the year.
- Two periods are dedicated to individual choice which is a second language for those who opted for this in Year 8 or 2 additional creative subjects for other students. Students choose 3 out of 5 from Art, Drama, Food, Music and Product design.

[^] **Creative Subjects** Year 8 – Dual Linguist students only do half of each creative time.

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (PSHE)

This involves sex and relationship education, staying safe, health, citizenship, careers education and guidance, study skills and current affairs in which many of the National Curriculum themes are explored.

Key Stage 4 – years 10 and 11 (ages 14-16)

Number of lessons per week

	Years 10 and 11
Core subjects:	
English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	5
Foundation and other subjects:	
Option A	3
Option B	3
Option C	3
Other compulsory subjects:	
Personal, Health & Social Education	1#
Physical Education	2 (1 in Year 11)
Religious Education	1#

Notes

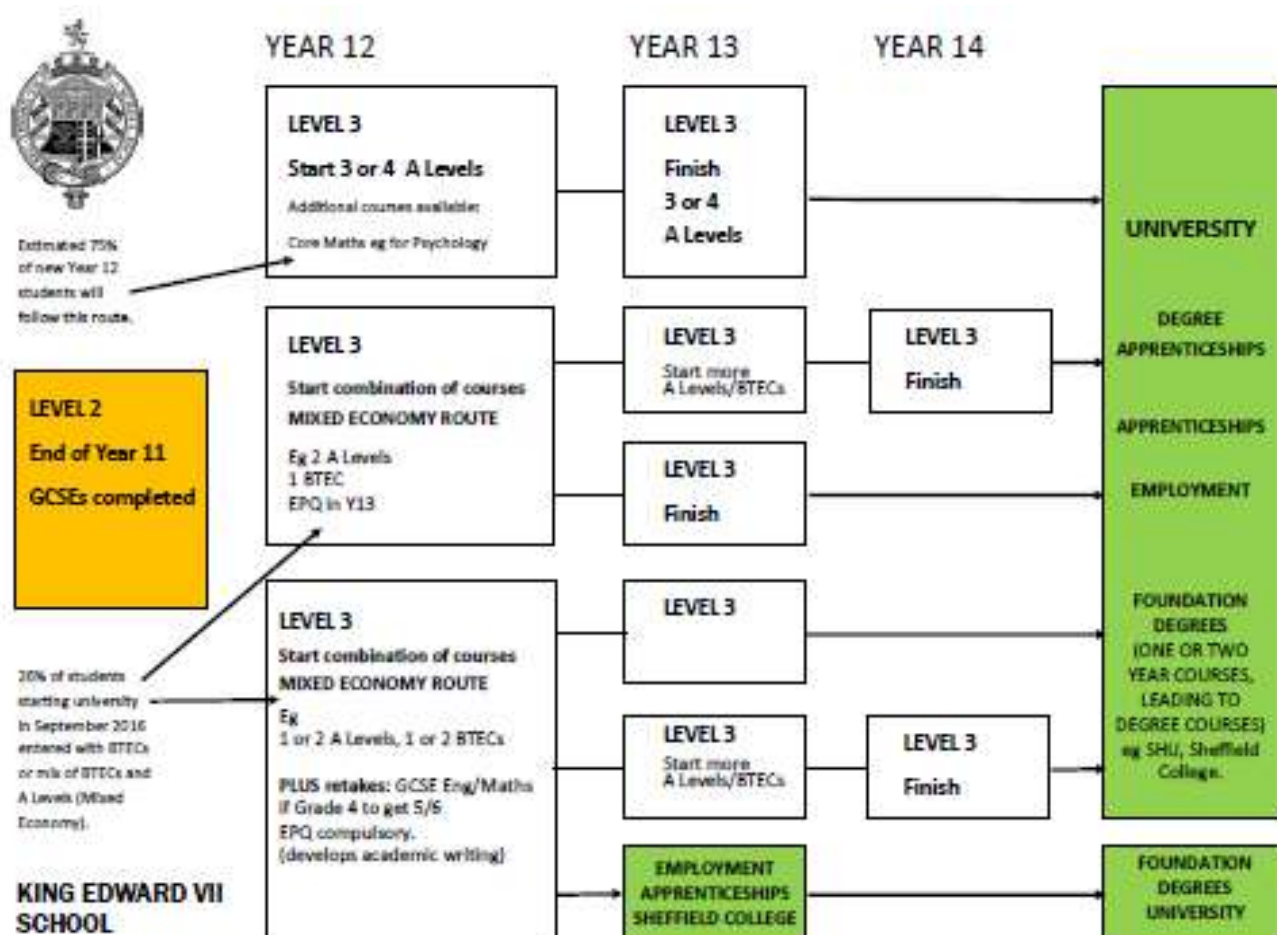
At this stage, students concentrate predominantly on public examination courses leading to GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education), BTEC or other recognised awarding bodies associated with vocational work related courses.

- The compulsory common programme of English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education, Religious Education and PSHE accounts for 64% of curriculum time. The remaining 36% is divided between a range of 'options'.
- Students must choose a Foreign Language if their ability in year 9 indicates they will be able to achieve a pass in the language at GCSE. This is a required element of the Key Stage 4 curriculum.
- Students are encouraged to choose one of the Humanities (Geography or History) and a creative or practical subject
- Students are encouraged to choose subjects which will allow them to fulfil the requirements for the English Baccalaureate (A Language, Humanity, Science, Maths and English)
- English includes Language and Literature, leading to two GCSEs for all students.
- Science incorporates Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The majority of students will take these as individual qualifications leading to three GCSEs. A few students will take the Dual Science qualification which is worth two GCSEs.
- A range of vocational courses are also available to students through Sheffield's Learning for Life Programme and the School's curriculum model is adapted, where it is deemed appropriate or necessary, to accommodate access to these for certain students.
- Careers Education and Guidance is timetabled alongside English on a rotation in Year 11.

In year 10 Religious Education and PSHE are taught, in rotation, for a single period with three quarters of the year spent in RE and one quarter in PSHE. In year 11 they return to a single period for each subject.

Post 16

At Post 16 a variety of different routes and qualification types are available. The diagram below shows the most common routes at post 16 and where they may lead.



A variety of subject choices are available, with a large number of different combinations possible. Each Level 3 subject will be studied for 4 or 5 periods in the week. Many departments also offer a support scheme (MAP) where students can ask for additional support and advice with issues relevant to those subjects.