

## **Curriculum Intent**

*Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form continues to have a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical developments of students and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. This is achieved through a coherent and relevant curriculum that is clearly planned and sequenced with consistently high standards of teaching. Our curriculum intent is a statement of our approach to the curriculum, the course of study, the experiences and challenges we will make available for every student. This not only reflects our current practice but also sets out our beliefs and values for the curriculum for the future. We will keep this under constant review in the light of changing circumstances for students, changing evidence from research and feedback from staff, students and the community. The National Curriculum and statutory commitments are our minimum responsibility in meeting the needs of our learners.*

*We believe our focus on excellence is essential. We believe that excellence is the result of the consistent application of three behavioural traits: Aspiration, Respect and Engagement. All interactions in the school will reflect these traits in order to build a strong sense of focus and purpose. In turn, this will build strong independent learners who are well prepared for the challenges of a highly competitive, rapidly changing global society. We believe that the academic and pastoral curriculum must support each other and are not separate curriculum components for students.*

### **Our academic curriculum is driven by the following core principles**

**All students acquire powerful knowledge and expertise by prioritising subject depth and valuing deep knowledge and value scholarship**

- We provide a breadth of curriculum opportunity from Key Stage 3 to Key stage 5 for all learners that is inclusive, aspirational and enables all to achieve excellence developing a passion for their careers and further study.
- Students will read widely and develop a love of reading so that they have access to the best that has been said and thought using ambitious literary and other texts.

**We have the highest expectations of ALL groups of students in order that they achieve excellence**

- We will develop the cultural capital of students so that they appreciate life beyond Norfolk and see the value of subjects in everyday life
- All students will be supported to access the curriculum and achieve excellence in all that they do.

**Have an understanding of what it means to be a citizen of Britain.**

- Understand the values that underpin our diverse society and have the knowledge and understanding of the contribution different cultures and histories have made to Britain's global context.
- Promote tolerance of others and have an understanding of democracy and the rule of law

**The curriculum extends beyond the classroom**

- Our extra-curricular clubs, trips and visits and student leadership provision will provide opportunities for all students
- Home learning is supported through developing technology for all students at our school

## **We prioritise social routines to create a purposeful learning environment**

- This will ensure that every second counts in lessons and that students make the most of every learning opportunity.
- This will provide students with experience of learning and working routines to help them prepare for life beyond the classroom and school

## **The curriculum ensures students know more and can do more over time**

- Teachers will use current research to underpin curriculum development
- The curriculum in all subjects is structured so that students can make connections with prior learning.

## **Our pastoral curriculum and social routines foster the personal development of the whole child by ensuring that ALL students:**

**Aspire** to be active citizens in a local, national and global context by:

- Aiming high and dreaming big
- Striving to be the very best they can be
- Being involved in student leadership

**Respect** themselves, each other and all members of their community by:

- Being kind and behaving sensitively
- Keeping themselves safe.
- Accepting and celebrating diversity

**Engage** in independent learning and aspire to excel in all that they do by:

- Turning up and working hard
- Experiencing a variety of enrichment opportunities
- Contributing positively to our community

## **Our curriculum will create a safeguarded environment for students where ALL:**

- Feel safe and listened to
- Understand risk and make informed choices to navigate the reality of their lives
- Know how and who to contact for support, help and guidance
- Always believe it could happen here