

Curriculum

At TBCS we believe that all students should have the opportunity to achieve their full potential and that curriculum pathways are a key part of meeting the needs of our learners. We also aim to provide a range of enrichment and extra-curricular activities that will help to broaden their experiences during their time with us and support the development of cultural, moral, social and spiritual qualities.

Year 7 – Phoenix

Students follow a differentiated curriculum that takes into account their needs and accelerates progress for all students. The phoenix centre provides a half way house between having one main teacher in primary school to having 10 – 12 different teachers in most secondary schools.

Students spend a significant number of lessons with their “phoenix” teachers. In this area of the school, dedicated to year 7, students study English, Maths, RS, Geography, History and ICT. They attend lessons in other subject areas for Food, Art, Graphics, DT, PE, Languages, Expressive Arts, Music, Science and First Aid.

Year 8

Students follow a range of different subjects in year 8 under the National Curriculum for KS3: English, Maths, Science, RS, PE, Art, Food, Graphics, DT, Geography, History, ICT, Music, Expressive Arts and Languages. More curriculum time has been given to Maths and English to ensure that students have a solid grounding in Literacy and Numeracy which will support their studies further up the school. Students will choose subjects to continue studying at GCSE during year 8.

KS4 courses

The curriculum at KS4 offers different pathways to ensure that all of our students can succeed and go on to gain good qualifications at the end of year 11. It consists of English, Maths, Science, RS and PE which are all compulsory. Students then choose a further five subjects suitable for them from the following options: Art, Child Development, Engineering, Food, Graphics, Horticulture, Photography, Resistant Materials, Geography, History, Business studies, ICT, Spanish, Polish, Music and Performing Arts. There is also additional Maths and English built in to an option block to further support our students to achieve good outcomes.

KS5 courses

Our sixth form students are able to tailor their curriculum with a mixture of A levels and Level 3 Btec subjects. Current on offer are the following: English Language, English Lit, English Lang and Lit, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Religious Studies, Btec Sport, Photography, Geography, History, Business studies, ICT, Spanish, Polish and Psychology. These are reviewed annually and are subject to change with a view to staffing and student interest. For more information [click here](#)

We also run a football academy which includes a level 3 Btec sport qualification worth 3 A levels. [Click here](#) to find out more

Accelerated reader

All KS3 students follow the accelerated reader programme designed to have a substantial impact on students reading ages. Part of their English curriculum is dedicated to this, but it runs school wide with DEAR time (Drop Everything And Read) where students spend 20 minutes a day reading during one of their lessons.

British values

Within Thomas Becket we aim to promote British values within our lessons as this enables students to, not only achieve academic success, but to become well rounded citizens that actively embrace life in modern Britain. This includes encouraging an ethos of mutual respect between staff and students, during lessons and as we go about the school day. We endeavour to foster the notion that citizens can influence decision making through a democratic process. This is reflected throughout each year group with the establishment of the student council in which students bring issues that are important to them to the attention of senior staff members for discussion. Finally we highlight the importance of abiding by British laws that protect individual freedoms and an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.

Extra- curricular

There are many extra-curricular and enrichment activities available in school, such as chess club, choir, performing arts clubs and many sporting clubs. [Click here](#) for more details