



## The Curriculum Offer at Townsend School



Each table shows the number of hours taught per subject per fortnight.

**In Key Stage 3**, students are taught a wide range of subjects. All classes are taught in mixed ability groups, except for English and Maths in Year 7, where there are smaller groups for students in need of extra support. Subject curricula are designed to build on students' prior learning, and to strengthen their knowledge, memory and skills.

If students require further intervention with their **Reading Skills**, students take part in the *Reading Fluency Programme* or *That Reading Thing*, depending on their starting level. All students follow the *Accelerated Reader* programme to track their progress by reading age.

**Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)** is facilitated using the Jigsaw scheme in lessons in Year 7 to 9, and is enhanced by further input from the Enrichment Programme, Form Time, Year Assemblies, Collective Worship and other subject lessons, such as, Science and Religious Studies.

**Careers Education** for all year groups is firmly threaded throughout the Enrichment Programme and woven into subject lessons and Year assemblies, with events for subject-specific careers, and Work Experience provided in Year 10 and 12, and a Work Shadowing Day in Year 7.

The number of hours taught per subject per fortnight per year group:

YEAR 7	English	Maths	Science	Religious Studies	Physical Education	RSE	History	Geography	French	Computing	Music	Drama	Art	Food Tech	Design Tech
	6	6	6	3	4	1	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	2	2

YEAR 8	English	Maths	Science	Religious Studies	Physical Education	RSE	History	Geography	French	Computing	Music	Drama	Art	Food Tech	Design Tech
	6	6	6	2	4	1	4	4	5	2	2	2	2	2	2

Students choose the subjects they would like to continue with in greater depth halfway through Year 8. To ensure well-informed decisions, students are given taster lessons in all options subjects, and have the opportunity to discuss future potential with subject teachers at the Year 8 Progress Evening and Options Evening. The Enrichment Day prior to this process focuses on future possible careers, so their choices are guided by ambition and intrigue.

In **Year 9**, students continue with Religious Studies and RSE, alongside the other core subjects of English, Maths, Science and PE. Students can then choose from all subjects on offer and we aim to deliver as many first choice options as possible. Students must choose one subject from Computing, French, Geography or History.

We currently offer **Key Stage 4 courses** in: Art, Business Studies, Computer Science, Design Technology, Drama, Engineering, Food Technology, French, Geography, History, Media Studies, Music, Physical Education, Textiles.

Through the extensive Enrichment Programme (of off-timetable sessions), extra-curricular activities (lunch clubs, after school activities, productions, concerts and trips) and lessons in core subjects, students are able to access a wide range of subjects. In Year 10 and 11, RSE is delivered through Tutor Time, Year assemblies, Collective Worship, and also through the Religious Studies curriculum in Year 11.

*The number of hours taught per subject per fortnight per year group:*

YEAR 9	English	Maths	Science	Religious Studies	Physical Education	RSE	Option A	Option B	Option C
	8	7	8	4	4	1	6	6	6

YEAR 10	English	Maths	Science	Religious Studies	Physical Education	RSE	Option A	Option B	Option C
	8	8	8	4	4	Tutor time	6	6	6

YEAR 11	English	Maths	Science	Religious Studies	Physical Education	RSE	Option A	Option B	Option C
	8	8	8	4	4	Tutor time & RS lessons	6	6	6

**In Sixth Form**, students have a large range of subjects to choose from, some of which are studied in association with our consortium schools (Loreto College, Marlborough Academy, St Albans Girls' School, Samuel Ryder Academy) with minibus travel facilitated by Townsend.

We currently offer **A levels** in:

Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Design Technology, Drama, Economics, English Literature, French, Geography, Government & Politics, History, Mathematics, Mathematics (Further), Music, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, Spanish.

We also offer a **Level 3 Diploma or Extended Diploma** in Health and Social Care.

**AS level Core Maths** is part of the extended programme for students studying maths-related courses, such as, Business Studies, Design Technology, Physical Education, Physics and Psychology, for those who achieved at least a Grade 4 at GCSE. This is a 2-year course.

**GCSE resit** classes in English Language and Maths, for students who did not achieve a Grade 4 at GCSE, take place in Year 12.

To continue providing key skills and development of knowledge, alongside Core Maths, students take **Learning for Life** (a blend of Careers and RSE), physical exercise in weekly **Games** sessions and dedicated time for supervised **Private Study**.

*The number of hours taught per subject per fortnight per year group:*

YEAR 12	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D	Core Maths*	Games	Learning for Life	Private Study*
	6 or 9 hours	6 or 9 hours	6 or 9 hours	6 or 9 hours	4	2	2	4

YEAR 13	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D	Games	Learning for Life	Private Study*
	7 or 10 hours	7 or 10 hours	7 or 10 hours	7 or 10 hours	2	2	4

*\*These hours are new for September 2022 as part of the increase of 40 hours for each student's timetable over the year.*