

## Senior School Curriculum

In the Senior School at RGS we strive for excellence in academic study and achievement. Our students are supported in this by a curriculum that promotes both breadth of study in the early years to develop the subject knowledge and development of the key skills that students will need to allow them to access learning at a suitably high level for success at GCSE and beyond.

In Years 7-9 all students study the same wide core of subjects that embrace and develop numeracy, literacy, scientific knowledge and understanding, development of language, appreciation of the humanities, artistic and creative learning, dramatic performance, sporting and physical development and social and emotional well-being.

Students in Years 7 and 8 study Maths and Modern Languages in mixed groups which, in Maths only, are organised according to ability and attainment, but all other subjects are studied as a class group. Students therefore develop good social interaction skills within these groupings.

In Year 9 the curriculum allows a degree of choice to give students the opportunity to broaden their knowledge into new areas and to deepen their understanding of others. The broad core remains common to all. The arrangements for Maths and Modern Languages continues as in Years 7/8.

At GCSE students are given greater freedom of choice of academic subjects but within the constraints of what we consider a good RGS education should provide; namely a solid grounding in Maths, English and Science. New subjects are introduced in Year 10 that give opportunities for further knowledge and understanding to be developed.

Throughout these formative years students are encouraged to think carefully about their emotional, social and physical well-being through our PSHE programme together with a combined Philosophy and Religion course that allows them to explore spiritual and ethical ideas. This encompasses not only timetabled lessons but also time off-timetable to explore ideas in greater depth.

All students take 10 GCSE exams at the end of Year 11, with some taking an extra GCSE in Further Maths. Many of our subjects offer the IGCSE exam as opposed to the mainstream GCSE. These are directly equivalent in terms of university applications but we think they provide better courses more suited to our students and certainly a better preparation for A Level.

In the Sixth Form, students have complete freedom of choice to choose the subjects they wish to study. We expect all students to study three or four subjects to A Level. Full details can be found in the Sixth Form Guide and <http://www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk/SixthForm>

## Year 7 and 8 curriculum

All students study all of these subjects through the two years

Year 7		Year 8	
Class-taught subjects	Non-class taught subjects	Class-taught subjects	Non-class taught subjects
Art	French	Art	French or German
Biology	Maths	Biology	German
Chemistry		Chemistry	Maths
Engineering, Design and Technology		Engineering, Design and Technology	
Drama		Drama	
English		English	
Geography		Geography	
German		History	
History		Latin	
Latin		Music	
Music		Personal, social, health and economic education	
Personal, social, health and economic education		Philosophy and Religion	
Philosophy and Religion		Physical Education and Games	
Physical Education and Games		Physics	
Physics		Spanish	
Swimming		Swimming	

## Year 9 curriculum

Core, class-taught subjects (studied by all)	Non-class taught subjects	Option subjects (students choose three)
Biology	French or German	Ancient History
Chemistry	Maths	Art
English		Engineering, Design and Technology
Geography		Drama
History		German
Personal, social, health and economic education		Greek
Philosophy and Religion		Latin
Physical Education and Games		Music
Physics		Spanish
Swimming		

## GCSE curriculum

<b>Core, class-taught subjects (studied by all)</b>	<b>Non-class taught subjects</b>	<b>Option subjects (students choose three)</b>
Biology	French, German or Spanish	Ancient History
Chemistry	Maths	Art
English Language and Literature		Engineering, Design and Technology
Personal, social, health and economic education		Drama
Philosophy and Religion		Economics
Physical Education and Games		Geography
Physics		German
Swimming		Greek
		History
		Latin
		Music
	Spanish	