

## Curriculum Content: Core Subjects

### Maths

Mathematics has a key role in education, learning, daily life and employment. It is imperative that during their time at Moat House, students are delivered a level of mathematics which not only supports them in achieving accreditation but enables them to have a *deeper understanding* of mathematics supporting them in the workplace and home-life.

We believe in developing the mathematical fluency of the students to meet the needs and aspirations of the student, their guardians and the local community. We aim to do this through a supportive learning environment where each student feels they can reach their full potential.

#### Functional Skills Maths and EdExcel Awards:

Opportunities exist for students to develop their core skills using Functional Skills and the EdExcel Awards in mathematics and, where appropriate, progress to other forms of qualification. These forms of accreditation enable students to:

- develop a thorough knowledge and understanding of concepts in number and a sound foundation of mathematical techniques
- acquire confidence in their mathematical skills to move into further study in the subject or related areas
- enjoy using mathematics, and become confident when using mathematics
- develop a proficiency in number and measures to support progression in their studies, the workplace and training.

#### GCSE Mathematics and Statistics:

In **GCSE Maths** the aims are for students to:

- develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts
- acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems
- reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences, and draw conclusions
- comprehend, interpret and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context

**GCSE Statistics** may also be offered to students, where appropriate, with the same aims and objectives.

## English

In English lessons at Moat House students develop skills in reading, writing and speaking and listening. The aim of the department is to foster confidence and enjoyment in all areas of English, to allow students to develop skills for future learning and employment, and reach their potential. Students work towards qualifications in GCSE English Language and/ or Functional Skills English at Level One and Level Two.

### GCSE English Language

The aim of this qualification is for students to develop skills in:

- reading with understanding; retrieving information from fiction and non-fiction texts; analysing language and structure, evaluating, summarising, and making comparisons between texts
- writing an extended piece of fiction and non-fiction
- writing clearly, effectively, imaginatively and accurately, using a range of sentence structures and vocabulary
- present to an audience using Standard English and respond to questions and feedback.

### Functional Skills English

The aim of this qualification is for students to develop skills in:

- reading to understand and retrieve information from non-fiction texts, infer implicit meaning, analyse and compare texts
- writing in a a range of forms, including letters, emails, reviews or articles
- writing clearly and accurately using language appropriate to the context
- contributing ideas to group discussions
- presenting to an audience in appropriate language, and responding to questions.

Some students may study for **GCSE English Literature**.

In **GCSE English Literature**, Students study a Shakespeare text, a 19th century novel, a modern drama text, an anthology of 15 poems and some unseen poetry

The aim of this qualification is for students to develop skills in:

- literal and inferential comprehension
- critical reading
- evaluation of a writer's choice of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features
- comparing texts
- producing clear and coherent text: writing effectively about literature
- writing accurately

## **Science**

Moat House offers GCSE (9-1) Biology, following the EDEXCEL programme. This qualification identifies the activities and experiences learners will come across in everyday life, and links these to scientific ideas and their implications for society. It provides the opportunity to acquire scientific skills through a series of core practicals. Four science lessons are offered each week.

Students will develop their knowledge of:-

- Life processes depend on molecules whose structure is related to their function
- The fundamental units of living organisms are cells, which may be part of highly adapted structures including tissues, organs and organ systems, enabling living processes to be performed effectively
- Living organisms may form populations, communities and ecosystems, interacting with each other, with the environment and with humans in many different ways
- Living organisms are interdependent and show adaptations to their environment
- Life on Earth is dependent on photosynthesis in green plants and algae
- Organic compounds are used as fuels in cellular respiration to allow the other chemical reactions necessary for life
- The chemicals in ecosystems continually cycle through the natural world
- An organism's characteristics are influenced by its genome and its interaction with the environment
- Evolution occurs by a process of natural selection and accounts both for biodiversity and how organisms are all related to varying degrees.

Students will develop their skills in the following areas:-

- Working scientifically
- Experimental skills and strategies
- Analysis and evaluation
- Scientific vocabulary, quantities, units, symbols and nomenclature

GCSE Chemistry and Physics may also be offered as part of a Combined Science qualification or as separate sciences when these courses have been started in referring or previous schools.

## **RSHE / Life Skills**

Since 2020, RSHE has been a statutory subject for all students in KS1-4 and is recommended for post 16 students. There is no written examination or qualification. Students will cover a range of topics which will help them to develop as an individual and ensure they are ready for the world after their time in school ends. Relationships and Sex education (RSE) is included as part of RSHE. At the end of each session, students will be signposted to further help and information should this be required.

In sessions, students develop their knowledge of:-

- Organ donation
- Cancer
- Alcohol, drugs, tobacco
- Mental health
- Pregnancy, abortion and miscarriage
- Contraception, STIs
- HIV and AIDS awareness
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Online safety
- Healthy and unhealthy relationships, including consent
- Families
- LGBT+ awareness
- Diversity and the Equality Act 2010
- Preventing extremism
- Gambling
- Crime and the Law
- Democracy
- Other sessions may be included according to the needs of students

Students will develop their skills in the following areas:-

- Discussion
- Decision making
- Handling conflict
- Understanding others and building empathy
- Self-reflection

A First Aid session will also take place, run by external providers.