

HCC Curriculum

Our intent is to plan and teach an inspiring, coherent and memorable curriculum that inducts students into “powerful knowledge”.

Powerful knowledge is key knowledge that enables young people to go beyond the limits of their own experience; better explain and understand the world; think about alternative futures and how to influence them; learn new ways of thinking; and follow and participate in current debates of local, national or global significance. These are all types of knowledge that give young people intellectual abilities that they are unlikely to learn from their everyday lives. (Michael Young)

Our Curriculum Should:	Why?	How?
Encourage a love of learning	We want students to be passionate about their learning and want to make progress.	Lessons delivered by teachers with excellent subject knowledge who are passionate about their subject.
Be broad, giving all students the opportunity to study a wide variety of subjects	We want our students to have a breadth of subject knowledge and experiences to enable them to become well rounded citizens.	Subject offer remains broad and Arts and DT open to all students. 3 year KS3 with options in Year 9.
Encourage equal opportunities	We are an inclusive college and want all our students to achieve their potential.	Curriculum planning should consider all students and allow them to be successful.
Ensure that assessment allows teachers to adapt their teaching to meet the needs of their students and is not excessive or onerous.	We want assessment to be meaningful and effective to help students make progress. We do not want testing for the sake of it and to overburden teachers.	Most assessment should be formative. Feedback can be live, whole class or written for key pieces of work in line with subject or faculty policy.
Should ensure that no student leaves HCC unable to read at their chronological age.	Reading fluency improves vocabulary, understanding and builds cultural capital. It is a key skill for life.	Reading and vocabulary development should be a priority.
Should be underpinned by knowledge-rich learning that builds throughout the terms and key stages.	Knowledge is empowering. It builds confidence and enables students to surpass the limits of their own experience.	The specific knowledge for expertise in any subject needs to be explicitly mapped, sequenced and taught to students in order to build up a systematic understanding of a subject.
Be ambitious for students	An ambitious curriculum combined with high expectations opens up opportunities for all students.	The curriculum should be challenging and broad, and lead to all students completing an appropriate number of rigorous qualifications.
Be responsive	To remain relevant and appropriate.	Through review and evaluation.