

“Nothing but the best will do”

CASTLEMILK HIGH SCHOOL



Curriculum Rationale



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Our Curriculum

The curriculum in Scottish Schools has undergone significant innovation in recent times. In Secondary Education, there are now two distinct phases: **The Broad General Education** and **The Senior Phase**. The aims of Curriculum for Excellence are to prepare our young people to take their place in society. As a result, the primary focus is on ‘raising attainment and achievement for all young people’¹

Curriculum for Excellence states that every young person should:

- experience a traditionally broad Scottish curriculum that develops skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work, with a sustained focus on literacy and numeracy, that encourages an active, healthy and environmentally sustainable lifestyle and that builds an appreciation of Scotland and its place in the world;
- benefit from learning and teaching that strikes a balance between equipping them with the skills for passing exams and skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work;
- have their learning and achievements recognised by an assessment system that supports the curriculum rather than leads it and ensures that their transition into qualifications is smooth.



¹ A Guide for Parents and Carers – CFE Briefing – BGE in the Secondary School (2012)

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Our Distinctive Community

In a recent review of our Vision, Values and Aims stakeholders were consulted and asked 'What makes Castlemilk High unique?' Responses are summarised below:



Our curriculum design aims to reflect both our distinctive community and the national context.

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BGE Curriculum

The framework for planning the Broad General Education is set out in significant detail in the Building the Curriculum series. In particular, we have given precedence to **the principles of curriculum design**².

At Castlemilk High School, we are applying this framework to our curriculum design to ensure that all young people:

- receive a **Broad General Education** that meets their needs and covers across **all 8 curricula areas**;

All young people follow a common curriculum in S1 and S2 that allows experience of all 8 curricular areas as detailed below:

S1							
Mathematics	Language and Literacy	Social Subjects	Science	Technologies	Expressive Arts	RME	Health and Well-being
Maths 4	English 5 Modern Language 3	Social Subjects 3	Science 3	Technical 1 ICT 1	Drama 2 Art 1 Music 2	Religious Education 1	PE 3 WA 2 PSE 1
S2							
Mathematics	Language and Literacy	Social Subjects	Science	Technologies	Expressive Arts	RME	Health and Well-being
Maths 5	English 4 Modern Language 3	Social Subjects 3	Science 3	Technical 1 ICT 2	Drama 2 Art 1 Music 1	Religious Education 1	PE 3 WA 2 PSE 1

- have opportunities for **personalisation** and **choice**;

In S3 there is broad choice within curricula areas that allows for greater depth of study in chosen subjects and greater specialisation in preparation for the Senior Phase. This also allows students to remain in curricula areas, allowing a breadth of experience as well as the aforementioned depth.

S3																		
MATHS		LANGUAGE			SOCIAL SUBJECTS			SCIENCE		TECHNOLOGY		EXPRESSIVE		RME	H&W			
A	B	C	D1	D2	E1	E2	F1	F2	G1	G2	H	I	J	K				
4	4	3 (optional)	3 (optional)	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	2				
Maths	English	French	History Mod Studs Spanish	History Mod Studs	Biology Chemistry Physics	Biology Chemistry Physics	Adm & IT Comp Sci D&M	Adm & IT Comp Sci D&M	Art Music Drama	Art Music Drama	RME	PE	PSHE	WA				

² CFE Building the Curriculum 3 – a Framework for Learning and Teaching

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- are able to experience a **breadth** of learning across **experiences and outcomes** alongside a **depth** to learning that provides for **challenge** through their BGE;

Where appropriate, learners benefit from fourth level curriculum courses throughout the BGE. Due to our distinctive circumstances, we aim to remain flexible to meet the needs of all learners.

- have **wider achievement** opportunities made available to them across **all four contexts of the learning**;

Our Wider Achievement programme enables students to broaden their skills and interest across a range of contexts. These include; UCAS, Book club, Duke of Edinburgh Award, John Muir Award, Primary School Placement, Practical Cookery, Coding club and Film and Media club.

- continue to **develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work**³;

We are in the planning phase for introducing a 'Skills Framework' that we intend to embed in day-to-day learning across the curriculum.

- experience a curriculum that is specifically designed to motivate pupils in achieving their best through a focus on **relevance** and **enjoyment**;

We frequently design bespoke curricula solutions to meet learners needs in the BGE. This can include the provision of alternative courses including a full time 'Alternative Curriculum' and individual courses such as Gardening Skills, Uniform and Emergency Services and Health and Wellbeing award.

³ CFE Building the Curriculum 4 – Skills for Learning, Skills for life, Skills for Work

Senior Phase Curriculum

Our Senior Phase curriculum builds on our longstanding 'Schools of Ambition' partnership and takes cognisance of our BGE rationale. We have designed a Senior Phase curriculum that offers all learners the opportunity to experience learning activities where they can continue to develop the four capacities⁴ and achieve the highest possible qualifications.

All young people in Scotland have an entitlement to a Senior Phase of education which:

- provides specialisation, depth and rigour;

All young people follow a senior curriculum that builds on the learning undertaken in the BGE. There are carefully designed progression pathways for all learners as exemplified in the 'Learner Journeys' section below.

- prepares them well for achieving qualifications to the highest level of which they are capable;

Due to our range of partnerships, learners benefit from the opportunity to study a breadth and depth of qualifications which supports individuals achieving a positive destination.

- continues to develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work;

Centred on Labour Market data, our evolving Senior Phase Curriculum allows increased access to vocational pathways and qualifications. These include SfW courses such as Early Education and Childcare, Foundation Apprenticeships and courses delivered through College partners.

- continues to provide a range of activities which develop the four capacities;

Young people in the senior phase have a range of leadership opportunities available including House Captains and a number of Ambassadorial positions. The capacities are further developed through opportunities in Wider Achievement, Study Skills workshops and residential weekends. The work of the school's various pupil-led improvement committees further supports the development of these capacities.

⁴ Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Effective Contributors, Responsible Citizens

- supports them to achieve a positive and sustained destination.

Our close partnership working allows us to robustly track young people, identify those in need of most support and meet their individual needs as they transition from school. This takes the form of a series of coaching interventions with Skills Development Scotland, tailored work experience, support from the post-school SDS team, a programme of college application workshops and twice weekly meeting of the DYW team.

See Appendix 1 and 2 for Senior Phase Curriculum

Learner Journeys

Learner A found the learning in primary school suited him quite well. Using Primary data, he was identified as someone who may find transition to secondary school challenging. In the BGE he worked closely with the Faculty of Inclusion on strategies to improve his literacy and numeracy. Pastoral care interventions indicated that he was suited to practical subjects and outdoor learning. Following group work with Skills Development Scotland in S3, he expressed an interest in a vocational curriculum to support him in leaving school before the end of S6. Having attended taster's session in S3, he studied SfW courses and Princes Trust XL alongside Level 4 Literacy and Numeracy. Through a partner agency, he attended a residential youth exchange visit to Nuremburg. He accessed our bespoke College application Workshops and identified a Level 5 Joinery Skills at City of Glasgow College as the most appropriate for him. After support from SDS in preparation for his interview, he successfully gained a place and left school having achieved a suite of Level 4 qualifications.

Learner B arrived at Castlemilk High school and experienced a curriculum in S1 and S2 that offered breadth and depth across the curricular areas. Through personalisation and choice in Wider Achievement, she completed her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award in S3. BGE tracking data indicated that she had a proclivity for STEM subjects and at Pastoral Care interventions she expressed a desire to study Science-related subjects at University. In S4 she studied 7 National 5 Subjects including Chemistry and Biology. Learner B achieved 7 A grades in her National 5 studies and at this time decided she wished to study Medicine at University. In S5 Learner B studied 5 Highers, including Biology and Chemistry as well as being advised to gain the wider experience required for entry to her chosen course of study. Learner B was given the opportunity to develop further through her successful application to undertake a summer school placement at Yale University. Through partnership working Learner B was successful in undertaking 3 STEM Advanced Higher courses which gave her the required qualifications for acceptance to Glasgow University to study Medicine. Learner B left Castlemilk High School with 6 A grades at National 5, 5 A grades at Higher and 3 Advanced Higher level awards.

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The Four Contexts of Learning

<p>The Ethos and life of the school as a community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our Vision, Values and Aims - Our Student Council - Our Pupil Leadership teams - Our charity work - Year group and House Assemblies - Our work with the local community and partners - Our House system - Relationships Policy - Castlemilk Fun Day - School Jubilee celebrations - School Show - Equalities Committee - Rights Respecting Schools Award Committee - Our Uniform 	<p>Curriculum areas and subjects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A BGE until the end of S3 which delivers breadth, depth and challenge across the curricular areas - Partnership working with St Margaret Mary's, other local schools and the GCU advanced Higher Hub allows for a senior phase in which young people can achieve at the highest possible level - Flexible pathways in the senior phase with an increasing range of vocational options - Increasingly impactful learning and teaching - Tracking and monitoring of young people's progress with timely interventions to support learning - Targeted support for specific groups of young people
<p>Interdisciplinary Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our Skills framework - Interfaculty IDL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The School Show - Numeracy and the Football Academy - Languages - Accelerated reader and French Writing - Drama/Social Subjects – WW1 - Literacy strategy - Numeracy Strategy – mapping of Third Level Numeracy across the curriculum - Our evening with the Performing Arts 	<p>Opportunities for Personal Achievement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our Wider Achievement programme, delivered through significant partnership working allows young people to develop their skills and learning out with curricular areas and gain accreditation for their wider achievements - Leadership opportunities throughout the school - Tracking of Wider achievement to make sure that no young person misses out - Our DYW partnerships which extend the curriculum and give pupils the opportunity to gain work related qualifications and work experience in a variety of settings

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Castlemilk High School - S4 N4/5 Options 2018/2019



Name:		Career interest:	
Tutor group:		School leaving year:	S4/S5/S6 (please circle)
Date of birth:		Date of interview:	

S4 Options Instructions:

- Using information from your report card, discuss the options with your Pastoral Care teacher who will advise you on which subjects you should study next year
- All pupils will study English and Mathematics at a level suited to their ability (Columns **A** and **B**)
- All pupils will take Core P.E. and courses designed to provide Wider Achievement opportunities
- Choose one *1st choice* subject from each column by placing a ✓ in the box provided
- *Clearly* indicate a *2nd choice* subject in-case your 1st choice is not available

Column C	✓
1st Choice	
History	
Modern Studies	
Physical Education	
Travel & Tourism SfW N4/N5	
2nd Choice	

Column D	✓
1st Choice	
Physical Education	
Dance	
Biology	
Physics	
Prince's Trust Award	
2nd Choice	

Column E	✓
1st Choice	
Art	
Music	
French	
Drama	
Design and Manufacture	
2nd Choice	

Column F	✓
1st Choice	
Computing	
Administration	
Drama	
Woodworking N4/N5	
Early Education & Childcare SfW N4/N5	
2nd Choice	

Column G	✓
1st Choice	
Chemistry	
History	
Music	
Rural Skills SfW N4	
Early Education & Childcare SfW N4/N5	
2nd Choice	

- * SfW = SQA Skills for Work courses
- * Alterations may have to be made where courses are over or under subscribed. Where possible, pupil *2nd choices* will apply
- * Please write down any concerns/problems you may have in relation to your course choices on the back of this page

Pupil Signature:

Parent/Carer Signature:

PT Pastoral Care Comment/Signature:

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Appendix 2

Castlemilk Schools - Senior Options 2018/2019

Pupil Information		S4 Subjects			S5 Subjects		
Name:		Subject	Predicted/Actual Grade	Progression Route	Subject	Predicted Grade	Progression Route
D.O.B:							
Tutor group:							
Career interest:							
Leaving year:							
Date of interview:							

Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D	Column E
Subject & Level	Subject & Level	Subject & Level	Subject & Level	Subject & Level
English H, N5, N4 Personal Development with Driving Lessons 6, 5 Travel & Tourism (StMM)	Maths H, N5, N4 Economics H Community Youth Worker Skills Award (Youth Complex) Practical Electronics (StMM)	Admin (both) H, N5, N4 Art (both) H, N5, N4 Computing (both) H, N5 Spanish (StMM) H, N5 French H, N5 History (both) H, N5 Music H, N5 Design & Manufacture H, N5 Drama (StMM) H, N5 PE (StMM) H, N5	Biology (both) H, N5 Physics (both) H, N5 Lab Skills (StMM) N5 Drama H, N5, N4 Design & Manufacture (StMM) H, N5 Practical Woodworking N5, N4 Photography H Early Education & Childcare N5, N4	Chemistry (both) H, N5 Physical Education H, N5, N4 Modern Studies H, N5 Geography (StMM) H, N5 Practical Metal Working (StMM) N5, N4 Photography H History (StMM) H, N5 Cyber Security (StMM) College Option (<i>See Pastoral Care</i>)
1st Choice Subject & Level	1st Choice Subject & Level	1st Choice Subject & Level	1st Choice Subject & Level	1st Choice Subject & Level
2nd Choice Subject & Level	2nd Choice Subject & Level	2nd Choice Subject & Level	2nd Choice Subject & Level	2nd Choice Subject & Level

- * Alterations may have to be made where courses are over or under subscribed, or where it is not possible to run a particular course. Where possible, pupil *2nd choices* will apply;
- * I understand that returning to school for S5/6 means I am making a serious commitment to attendance and coursework. I also understand that I will be required to sign the school 'Learning Agreement'.

Pupil Signature:

Parent/Carer Signature:

PT Pastoral Care Comment:

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