



Maplewell Hall School

KS4 Nurture Group Information Booklet



Dear Year 9 Student's Parents / Carers

This is an exciting time for year 9 students as this is the first time they will be able to make a choice about what their curriculum will contain. We recognise that our nurture group need to continue developing a full range of skills to help prepare them for adulthood and beyond. They will continue to study English, Maths and Science alongside a Diploma in progression that embraces valuable skills from Preparation for Adulthood and Lifeskills.

Our key stage 4 nurture group have expressed initial choices of subjects for the diploma and from this we have built a curriculum that is able to provide them with these experiences, along with continued core subject learning. We will continue to use their feedback so that they study units of work that are important to them, alongside those that are also important to life. This booklet overviews the qualifications that they will get to study and we will also gain parents / carers opinions about what units pupils should study over the next 2 years. You can also speak to teachers during parents evening to get any more details about the courses your child will study, and to put forward more suggestions. The Diploma has a wealth of subjects and will be a key part of your child's day in school.

Our nurture group will complete qualifications that continue to allow them to progress, alongside the development of valuable lifeskills. They will continue to have a staff team that will support and provide nurture during their key stage 4 journey. All qualifications studied at key stage 4 will naturally enable pupils to continue to progress at Post 16.

Year 10 and 11 is about embracing individuality, creativity and trying a new experience during their learning. It is about working hard, earning rewards and being recognised for their achievements and contribution to school life. We will continue to build their independence skills and support them in striving to do their best to achieve their full potential. Above all, it is about them becoming the person they want to be in readiness for their future.

Students have developed essential foundations from an outstanding KS3 experience. This includes familiar routines, values and friendship that will provide the bedrock for progression to their success in key stage 4 and beyond.

We will be there to support you every step of the way!

Jason Brooks

Headteacher

Introduction

Key Stage 4 is an exciting opportunity to choose foundation subjects that students will study for the next two years, and possibly beyond. For our Year 9/10 nurture group we plan to offer a curriculum that enables them to continue progressing, alongside learning key skills that will help prepare them for the future. This curriculum offer has been adjusted to ensure these elements of learning occur at key stage 4, alongside listening to the students voices in what foundation learning they enjoy most.

What subjects must I take?

The ability to speak and write clearly and to understand numbers and quantities is essential in almost any walk of life. Therefore, all students must continue to study English and Mathematics. In addition, all students will continue to study Science as this covers a range of specialisms, and embeds the core subject skills with a range of experiences. All core subjects at Maplewell are taught to a qualification that is based on the right pathway for your child. You can find out which pathway your child is on from each subject teacher during parents evening.

Our core subject qualifications can be studied at: -

- Entry level,
- Gateway level 1/2 or
- GCSE level.

Our subject teachers will place your child on a pathway that ensures they are able to do their best and get the best possible outcomes. This ensures that students are learning in an approach that is more individualised to their needs, alongside positive progression in these subject areas. GCSE's tend to have exams at the end of key stage 4 and the Gateway/Entry Level courses are more coursework or practical skills focused. Sometimes students can change courses in core subjects throughout key stage 4 based on the progress they are making. Again, your child's teacher will discuss this with you if this is the case.

This is a breakdown of what subjects will be taught in a typical week: -

English Entry level	5 lessons per week
Mathematics Entry Level	5 lessons per week
Science Entry Level	4 lessons per week
Diploma in Progression Entry Level (including RE/Humanities, PE, ICT)	10 lessons per week

Making choices

We have spent this last term discussing what happens at key stage 4, and the last few weeks have been focused on transitions ready for making 'choices'. For our nurture group we have used their opinions to identify units from the Diploma. Pupils identified the following subjects in their choices: -

- Sport and Fitness
- ICT
- Animal Care
- Music
- Performing Arts

This booklet has all the information to support with understanding the subjects that we have on offer, along with a more in-depth list so that you are able to see what future units we can select from. You are also able to discuss the options and core subjects fully at parents evening so that you can support your child in their selection. If you are unable to attend parents evening please request a call back from these specific teachers through the office, and they will be able to give you advice.

Throughout the academic year we will continue to ask students and yourselves about what learning opportunities the students can experience. All of this learning will occur in a qualification called a Progression Diploma.

Subject staffing

The following staff deliver the different KS4 courses that we have to offer. It is important to discuss what is next with the relevant staff for your child. If you are unable to attend parents evening, staff will happily discuss your child's progress pathway if you request a call back.

Staff	Subject
Miss Comerford & Miss Goode	Science
Mr Mansell, Miss Glinka, Mr Leaney	Maths
Mrs Ryman	English
Mr Hoult or Mrs Ison	Diploma

Mathematics

Gateway Qualification

Course overview:

The learning outcomes and assessment criteria reflect the national adult numeracy standards from Entry 1 to level 2. The qualifications in Mathematics are built from a number of small units at each level. Each unit covers a curriculum area or an aspect of a curriculum area and is a qualification in its own right and is also included in rules of combination for a certificate which covers all the curriculum areas.



These qualifications address the needs of learners with maths skills below Level 2 and provide the necessary flexibility and responsiveness required by adult learners.

How the course is assessed:

Internal assessment

You can expect to:

Gain a firm understanding of following five key areas of Mathematics:

- Making Calculations
- Money, Time and Temperature
- Numbers, Decimals, Fractions and Percentages
- Numerical Relationships, Algebra and Ratios
- Using and Communicating Data
- Using Probability
- Using Size, Shape and Space

Where does it lead?

The Gateway Qualifications Awards/Certificates in Mathematics have been designed as stepping stones for learners and to recognise and reward progress towards achieving an A*-C in GCSE Mathematics or the Level 1 or Level 2 Functional Skills Mathematics Qualification.

The qualification provides students with a basis for progression towards other related courses, and future employment.

The Mathematics qualifications cover:

- understand and use mathematical information
- calculate and manipulate mathematical information
- interpret results and communicate mathematical information

English

Step Up to English

Step up to English helps Entry Level students build basic and relevant literacy skills and is suitable for students of all ages. The specification will encourage Entry Level students to develop the skills they need to read and understand a range of texts as well as to write clearly, coherently and accurately using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures.

It offers two 'Steps': Silver Step (Entry Level 1 and 2) and Gold Step (Entry Level 3). The two step approach is ideal to build confidence and provide access to further English qualifications.



Assessment:

Assessment is carried out in the classroom. The specification offers two components in both steps:

- Component 1, Literacy Topics, asks students to complete a number of reading, writing and speaking and listening tasks based around a theme set by AQA.
- Component 2, Creative Reading and Writing asks students to read and answer questions about fiction and non-fiction texts, and to write creatively.

Future Pathways

Whichever English qualification your child studies at Maplewell Hall School, the reading, writing and communication skills learnt will form the basis of any future pathway. Whether students plan to continue with us into K5, enrol on a college course, or undertake the challenge of an apprenticeship, the English Department at Maplewell will endeavour to equip every student with the necessary functional literacy skills and creative mindset for future success.

Science

WJEC Entry Level in Science

Course overview:

WJEC Entry Level is a 100% coursework based science qualification. It is aimed at students who struggle under exam conditions. This is a very flexible and far more “hands-on” course, aimed at teaching students skills such as how to grow and maintain plants. This course is also designed to enable students to develop their independence and ability to work in a group. The course is taught in units over two years.



How the course is assessed:

Internal assessment – 100%

You can expect to:

- Complete research projects.
- Perform practicals.
- Develop team working skills.
- Develop independence.
- Develop organisational skills.

Where does it lead?

Upon completion of Entry Levels, there is the option of pursuing more skills-based qualifications in post-16.

The WJEC qualifications cover:

These qualifications aim to provide learners with basic scientific enquiry skills. They are designed to support pupils who may need to develop their basic practical abilities. The units chosen cover a variety of science topics, but are mostly focused on relatable topics such as food, health and animal care.

Additional information:

Students will require the following equipment for every lesson during the WJEC Entry Level course:

- pen, pencil, rubber and ruler

Humanities

WJEC Entry Level in Humanities

Course overview:

WJEC Entry Level is a 100% coursework based Humanities qualification. It is aimed at students who struggle under exam conditions. This is a very flexible and far more “hands-on” course, aimed at teaching students skills in Humanities, Geography, RE and History. The course is taught in units over two years.

How the course is assessed:

Internal assessment – 100%

You can expect to:

- Complete research projects.
- Go on visits to places of local interest.
- Develop team working skills.
- Develop independence.
- Develop organisational skills.

The WJEC qualifications cover:

This qualification allows students to complete units in a range of humanities topics and is very practical based, to enable learning to be brought to life. It has a variety of units that covers topics of interest to the pupils.

Additional information:

Students will require the following equipment for every lesson during the WJEC Entry Level course:

- pen, pencil, rubber and ruler



Diploma in Progression Entry Level

“The qualification consists of a range of core units to provide opportunities for learners to develop skills in the areas such as literacy, numeracy, ICT, employability, learning to learn and personal development; plus a range of taster units in different sector specific areas providing opportunities for learners to test out their abilities and personal preferences before selecting a chosen career or employment route.”



Gateway Description of the Diploma in Progression.

Course overview:

The progression diploma is made up of compulsory subjects: -

- Preparation for Adulthood Units of work
- ICT Units
- Subject specific units

Examples of units of work that the compulsory subjects cover: -

- PSHE
- Citizenship
- Independent living skills
- Travel training
- Volunteering
- Budgeting
- CV building
- Confidence and self-awareness
- Interview skills
- Employability skills
- Diet and exercise
- Work experience
- Enterprise
- Careers
- Relationships
- Diversity and society
- Finances
- Social skills
- Science
- Preparing for college

This is just a general overview of the Units covered. There are many elements to these topics that build up the Units to achieve the Diploma. We will use student’s individual pathways to support learning towards their targets by identifying the key Units that will develop their skills and understanding.

In addition to these subjects, students can select choices during their time in Key Stage 4. The choices will vary throughout the 2 years to ensure students gain a wide breadth of experiences, along with students completing this work in small groups.

The subjects that the diploma currently covers are: -

- Animal care
- Administration
- Building and construction
- Business management
- Crafts, creative arts and design
- Child development
- Engineering
- Environmental
- Hospitality and catering
- Horticulture and forestry
- Travel and tourism
- History
- Health and social care
- IT
- Media and communication
- Performing arts
- Retailing and wholesaling
- Hair dressing
- Science- biology
- Sport, leisure and recreation
- Transport and maintenance

Throughout each year we will discuss the subjects that we offer with the students and call this 'choices'. This will allow more flexibility within the nurture group curriculum and the units being taught will be, at times, student focused. These choices will be taught by members of staff who are able to teach an array of subjects, within the range of classrooms across the school.

The Diploma is a qualification that can be achieved leading to a range of outcomes. Students need to attain a minimum of 37 credits to achieve an Entry level 3 Diploma. Students can gain an Award (3 credits) or Certificate (15 credits) if they are unable to complete the full diploma over two years. Students will complete coursework that is internally assessed over the two years. Evidence can be written and practical based. If able, students can achieve this course at a Level 1 with the same units.

In some cases, students may not complete the full diploma due to unforeseen circumstances (illness, appointments etc.). In these instances, students are still able to use the credits accrued from any work submitted to recognise their achievements. This is an advantage in comparison to other courses, as it gives students the flexibility to make different decisions about their pathway for the future, along with gaining accreditation for all work completed.

For further information about the Diploma please use this link, or you can discuss this further with subject teachers during parents evening.

Entry Level 3:

<https://www.gatewayqualifications.org.uk/qualification/gateway-qualifications-entry-level-award-progression-entry-3/>

Subject Overviews for the Diploma



Core Skills (mandatory units)

The core skills cover a range of topics from our P4A curriculum. They consist of units that will teach them about: -

- community,
- basic employability skills,
- living skills,
- keeping healthy,
- shopping skills
- work experience,
- volunteering
- careers,
- citizenship
- communication and social skills
- health and safety
- understanding diversity
- enterprise
- using computers
- using public transport
- college induction
- hygiene
- family relationships
- food safety
- vocational taster

Animal care

The units of work included in this topic support students in developing confidence when working with animals, supports them in checking an animal is healthy, learning how to groom a small animal and understanding how to show visitors around a small animal enterprise. The topics enable students to gain the basis of how to look after small creatures, alongside developing respect and understanding of how to keep them safe.



Administration

Students will learn how to use a telephone and the photocopier as basic skills of preparing them for working in an office environment. These skills are a key part of any office job and will ensure that students boost their confidence in talking to new people and learning new tasks. These units will support students in understanding what happens in an office and reception environment.



Building and Construction

Students will have the chance to learn about brick laying and simple techniques in practical construction. They will be able to practice painting and decorating skills to prepare them for independent living. Students can have the chance to learn basic carpentry and joinery skills, alongside learning about health and safety. These units



are very practical and will be assessed by 'doing'. Students may be looking towards a vocation in the construction trade.

Crafts, Creative Arts and Design

Students will be able to learn about basic clothing design and craft skills. They will have the chance to learn the basics of garment making along with needle and textile crafts. All units enable students to develop basic sewing skills so that they learn how to mend their own clothing. The units are very practical and investigative.



Child Development and Well-being

Students will have the chance to develop the skills of understanding food and nutrition for children. They will learn about the basics of human growth and development and how to look after a child. The units are very practical based and allow students to cover the basics of looking after a child. Students may be considering a vocation in childcare.



Hospitality and Catering

Students will develop the basic skills needed for cooking. They will learn how to prepare and serve food to others. Students will learn to demonstrate the basics of staying safe in the kitchen and the skills needed as an adult to be self-sufficient. Students may be looking at a vocation in the catering business.



Horticulture and Forestry

Students will learn about cultivating plants, how to plant them in containers, garden horticulture and propagation. Students will be able to use these skills practically in the school garden and will develop confidence with using a variety of hand tools. Students can also learn about floristry as part of this topic. Students may be looking at a vocation in gardening.



History

Students will have the chance to discover local history. This will include visits off-site to help students gain a hands-on experience. Students will also be able to visit the local villages that contribute to the school's history. Students may be looking for a vocation in a museum.



IT

Students will develop the skills to stay safe when they are using technology and develop the basics skills in using IT. They will develop word processing skills to support their learning, alongside using email, spreadsheets and presentation skills. Students will learn how to use digital photography, audio and video skills to present their work. Students will be able to use these skills in many vocations.



Performing Arts

Students will develop basic performance and physical performance skills. They will be able to encompass music within their learning to communicate their feelings. The units encourage confidence in learners and supports their social communication. The subject is very expressive and practical based. Students could use this learning as a preparation for Post 16.



Service Enterprises

Students can learn about hairdressing, the beauty sector, hand and skin care. The units cover health and safety within the sector, alongside thinking about potential careers. The topics are very practical based and enable students to get a taste of these sectors. Students may be interested in a salon vocation.



Sport, Leisure and Recreation

Students can develop skills and understanding in angling. They will have the chance to play indoor games, go on short walks, improve their own fitness, participate in leisure activities and take part in sport. The units are very practical and enable students to continue with their learning in PE. They may be interested in sports qualifications in the future.



Transport, Operations and Maintenance

Students will develop the skills to valet a car interior, wax and polish a car and the basic maintenance of keeping a vehicle. Students can also study topics based around bicycles and how to maintain them. Again this subject is very practical based and is all about doing. Students may be considering a vocation within a garage.

