

Our curriculum is:

Individual and Unique – As a school, we believe that our students are unique and that while the national curriculum provides a framework, the context of learning for each individual is key to underpinning what is taught in school. We are clear it is better for students to fully understand the elements of the curriculum they have covered, than to have covered it all badly and without depth and understanding. As individuals, our schemes of work are designed to encourage a curious and questioning mind and are enquiry led. All learning objectives are questions. If we are successful, Edwinstree students ask their own questions of life and find their own answers. Our curriculum framework provides the background and knowledge to do this.

Wonderful – We relish the opportunity that middle school brings, to open students to the foundation subjects in specialised rooms, with specialist teachers. We also recognise that post SATs, we have a fabulous opportunity in Key Stage 3 to build to GCSE and also to explore and celebrate the wonderfulness of all subjects. We are passionate that this time, prior to GCSE should create curious and interested learners who are really engaged. We deliberately choose to follow their and our passions in the curriculum, and to take time to delve deep into subjects. We want them to leave really interested in the world and keen to further explore it.

Flourish - While we recognise the importance of SATs, we refuse to allow the pressure of this exam to shrink our curriculum. All subjects have signed up to supporting the development of literacy and numeracy across the curriculum. As a school we map the learning within maths and English against our other subjects to ensure we are teaching in line with these key subjects and that we are supporting their learning. We are also developing and enhancing natural linkages between subjects to support their learning. However, we take pride in offering our students an enriched, engaging and full curriculum from Year 5 onwards.

Fullness - Our curriculum will not shy away from challenging issues and topics because we are a middle school. We use our Christian values and faith to support students to take on challenging ideas and concepts and to try to understand the world, its wonder and its challenges. All subjects map their involvement with these values, where we celebrate and identify what makes us British and the importance and value that diversity brings us. All subjects provide enrichment opportunities within extra-curricular activities and days out. Our curriculum is flexible and will adapt to the changing needs of the students and the outside environment – for example our PSHE programme contains significant schemes around well-being, mental health and using social media safely, our Geographers in Year 5 and Year 6 recently explored the 'plastic bottle' debate, after becoming enraged at the articles they had seen on television! We map carefully how we safeguard children and support them to developmental wellbeing.