

**WE WANT OUR YOUNG
PEOPLE TO BE...**



SOUTH WIRRAL HIGH SCHOOL
A Visual & Performing Arts, Maths & Computing College

SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS

CONFIDENT, INSPIRED INDIVIDUALS

ASPIRING, RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS



Statement of Aims: Art and Design

The aim of the KS3 Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 Art and Design encourages students to be equipped with knowledge and skills to experiment, invent, **refine ideas** and create their own works of art as **personal outcomes**. Students are challenged to **develop ideas** and critically reflect on how art and design both reflects and shapes our history and contributes to the culture and creativity of British values today.

Confident, inspiring individuals

KS3 students are encouraged to creatively **record ideas** through the development of increasing proficiency of acquired technical skills, especially drawing. Students learn how to be confident by refining and evaluating their own work and that of others, which includes the major art and design movements from ancient times to the present day. Extra curricular clubs promote and provide opportunities for the 'love' and enjoyment of subject.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

KS3 students are encouraged to support cross curricular projects and school events with high quality visual impact practise. Students are also actively encouraged to employ excellent levels of presentation with confident, creative flair in all their KS3 subjects.

Statement of Aims: Computing

The aim of the KS3 Computing Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 Computing equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the way they think about the digital world today. Developing deeper knowledge of **digital literacy**, use of **information and communication technology** and **computer science** to effectively participate in, and be ready for, the workplace and able to participate effectively in the digital world.

Confident, inspired individuals

KS3 Computing allows students to become responsible, competent, confident and creative users of **information and communication technology**. They will be given the opportunity to express their creativity by creating solutions with the tools they feel are most suitable for the task. **Computer science** encourages them to evaluate the effectiveness of their solutions in terms of goals and suitability, and reflect on the process they followed, including the software they used.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

KS3 Computing aims to assist students to become active participants in a digital world by becoming **digitally literate**, being able to use, express themselves and develop their ideas through, **information and communication technology**.

Statement of Aims: Dance

The aim of the KS3 Dance Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 Dance is where students can experiment with **performance** of a variety of dance styles in a genre. The topics are varied and link to many ideas in our real world context, that are social, historical, cultural and political. Students have the opportunity to **choreograph & perform** as well as honing existing skills and new ones that are both physical, technical and expressive. Home learning allows them to discover themes that they can create and develop in dance as well as **understanding and appreciating** the world of dance.

Confident, inspired individuals

Students are encouraged to **perform** at different times throughout their stage with a view to **describing and explaining through appreciation** the various dance forms that they see. Students are encouraged to think outside the box in a safe, stimulating and inspirational environment. The setting and resources available to students, also helps to enhance their learning in the classroom. Students also have the opportunity to attend extra curricular clubs and perform to an audience through musicals, shows and assemblies.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

Whilst learning the history of dance, dance practitioners and dance skills, they too are learning social skills such as team work and developing self confidence.

Statement of Aims: Drama

The aim of the Drama KS3 Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 Drama is a vehicle in which students explore themes and issues in a practical way by **presenting and performing a text**, enabling them to develop their knowledge and understanding. Scripted works from Mark Wheeller, Willy Russell and the Grimms Brothers are explored and studied, developing the students understanding of the social, cultural and historical contexts of the plays. **Devising a performance** is also a large part of the curriculum as it promotes creativity, originality and the development of drama skills and techniques, including evaluating live theatre; **Performance and Response**. Drama practitioners such as Brecht, Stanislavski and Artaud are also studied, explored and assessed; challenging all students.

Confident, inspired individuals

Students are encouraged to think outside the box in a safe, stimulating and inspirational environment. The setting and resources available to students, also helps to enhance their learning in the classroom. Students also have the opportunity to attend extra curricular clubs and perform to an audience through musicals, shows and assemblies.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

Students are encouraged to get to grips with themes and real life issues. Whilst learning the history of theatre, drama practitioners and drama skills, they too are learning social skills such as team work and developing self confidence.

Statement of Aims: Design Technology

The aim of the KS3 Design Technology Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 DT allows students to acquire a broad range of subject knowledge and draw on cross curricular disciplines such as mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art. Through **design and make** students learn how to take risks, become resourceful, innovative and enterprising. Through the **evaluation and analysis** of past and present design and technology, they develop a critical understanding of its impact on daily life and the wider world. Students **analyse** the work of past and present professionals and others to develop and broaden their understanding and use this knowledge to investigate new and emerging technologies.

Confident, Inspired individuals

KS3 DT stimulates the development of critique and **evaluation** skills along with the ability to test ideas, products and work as a team.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

KS3 DT develops the creative, technical and practical expertise through **technical knowledge** that is needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world.

Statement of Aims: English

The aim of KS3 English is to develop:

Successful learners

KS3 English encourages students to develop their understanding on how **writers convey meaning through language form and structure** and how they, as writers, can **use language, form and structure to convey their own meaning**. As successful learners, students will develop skills which allow them to **analyse and comment on texts using specialist terminology and precise evidence to construct detailed criticism and analysis**.

Happy and inspired individuals

KS3 English nurtures the confidence of students so that as they develop the skills to **read a text and infer meaning** then **convey interpretations of text and opinions of subjects raised with confidence and clarity** through either the spoken or the written word they become inspired by the messages conveyed through literature. Students will be exposed to a range of text form and genre from across the literary ages so that they will be able to **understand the influences of time and history on a text and its purpose**, become inspired and develop a love for reading.

Aspiring and responsible citizens

KS3 English prepares students to aspire to become tomorrow's leaders and innovators by understand the society and community that they live in, drawing from experiences from other cultures, ethos and times.

Statement of Aims: Food Technology

The aim of the KS3 Food Technology Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 Food Technology allows students to explore their creativity using a range of materials and techniques. Students have the opportunity to design and make products that respond to a wide variety of problems within a range of contexts. Using **evaluation and interpretation skills** they analyse case studies to develop a more thorough understanding of important concepts. Students are taught how to become competent with their **cooking and technical knowledge** such as selecting and preparing ingredients, using utensils, electrical equipment and how to adapt their own recipes.

Confident, inspired individuals

KS3 Food Technology encourages **health and nutrition** allowing students to understand their diet and health choices, drawing conclusions from a wide variety of different themes investigated.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

KS3 Food Technology aims to ensure students are equipped with the knowledge to understand the economic, environmental, ethical, and socio-cultural influences on food availability and production processes, equipping them with the tools to make the right social decisions

Statement of Aims: Geography

The aim of the KS3 Geography Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 Geography encourages students to have a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Geography encourages **the use of fieldwork and skills to communicate findings**. Geography equips students with the ability to **demonstrate knowledge of locations, places, processes, environments and different scales**.

Confident, inspired individuals

KS3 Geography encourages students to deepen their *understanding of geographical concepts and processes*. **Students will apply this knowledge to different geographical issues by using key geographical skills** such as interpreting a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs. Students communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

KS3 Geography aims to help students understand environmental, political and social issues which affect our future sustainability.

Statement of Aims: History

The aim of the KS3 History Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 History encourages students to develop their understanding of **underpinning themes** such as **cause and consequence, change and continuity, chronology and significance**, in order to develop a deep understanding of events in the past. It also seeks to develop student's ability to communicate their thinking in **extended written communication**.

Confident, inspired individuals

KS3 History encourages students to examine **sources of evidence and interpretations of history**, draw conclusions from those sources and interpretations, and engage in debate on how the past can be interpreted.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

KS3 History aims to help students understand modern society by drawing upon the lessons of the past.

Statement of Aims: Life Studies

The aim of the KS3 Life Studies Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 Life Studies provides the **skills, knowledge and understanding** that encourages pupils to develop their understanding of opportunities available to them to reflect on and clarify their own values and attitudes, explore the complex and sometimes conflicting range of values and attitudes they will encounter now and in the future.

Confident, inspired individuals

KS3 Life studies encourages pupils to become happy and confident individuals by teaching them to **tackle issues, construct reasoned arguments and draw conclusions on current events and topics**. It allows them to build their confidence, resilience and self-esteem, identify and manage risk, make informed choices and understand what influences their decisions. It enables them to recognise, accept and shape their identities, to understand and accommodate difference and change, to manage emotions and to communicate constructively in a variety of settings.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

They are also encouraged to develop an understanding of themselves, show empathy and the ability to work with others that will help pupils to form and maintain good relationships. **They will establish a knowledge of democracy in the UK.**

KS3 Life studies develop the essential skills for future employability and better enjoy and manage their lives.

Statement of Aims: Mathematics

The aim of the KS3 Maths Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 Maths is a creative and highly inter-connected subject that has developed over centuries. It is essential to every day life. Maths provides a foundation for understanding the world and allows the students a sense of enjoyment and curiosity of the world around.

Confident, inspired individuals

KS3 Maths students will become fluent in the fundamentals, **number, algebra, geometry, ratio, probability and statistics**. They will be able to reason mathematically and solve problems in differing situations

Aspiring, responsible citizens

KS3 Maths aims to help students develop problem solving skills that can be transferred to all aspects of modern life.

Statement of Aims: Modern Foreign Languages

The aim of the KS3 Languages Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

Key Stage 3 Modern Foreign Languages encourages students to develop an interest in the **vocabulary and structures of other languages**. They are able to recognise linguistic patterns and to use cognates and their understanding of sentence structure to engage with unfamiliar language. Successful learners will recognise links and connections between foreign languages and English.

Confident, inspired individuals

Key Stage 3 Modern Foreign Languages encourages students to **develop skills not just in writing but also in responding to spoken and written texts**. The ability to respond to questions and deliver presentations in the target language helps develop students' confidence and especially their communication skills.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

Key Stage 3 Modern Foreign Languages aims to encourage students to have a respect for, and an understanding of, other cultures and societies.

Statement of Aims: Music

The aim of the KS3 Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

Key Stage 3 Music is an opportunity for learners from all starting points to develop their ability in **performing music, composing music, and Understanding music**. Students will progress through the key stage 3 curriculum studying music from a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions. This includes music from the Western Classical Tradition, Popular Music and Traditional music, which links with the Areas of Study at GCSE.

Confident, inspired individuals

Students are encouraged to participate in class solo and ensemble performances, completing self and peer assessments, and setting SMART targets for improvement during DIRT time. Students have the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities, to develop their love of subject beyond the classroom. Students have a wide range of opportunities to develop in class skills in public performances, including showcase evenings, end of year musical, presentation evenings, CAMEO and Open Evening.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

The collaborative learning within the classroom helps students develop essential, transferable soft skills such as team work, reliance, dedication, perseverance and determination, which they can take into the work place. Students also have the opportunity to see how music fits in with cross curricular themes by exploring music's historical and social contexts.

Statement of Aims: PE

The aim of the KS3 Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 PE is a vehicle in which students **develop techniques and improve performance** in a range of physical activities, enabling them to develop their knowledge and understanding. **Using tactics and strategies to overcome opponents** is also a large part of the curriculum as it promotes creativity, originality and the development of PE skills, tactics and techniques. Students will **analyse and compare performances to achieve their personal best** across a range of sports – year 7, 1 activity; year 8, 2 activities; year 9, 3 activities. Through the use of **verbal assessment**, students will know how to prepare participants to take part in physical activity in a way that minimises the risk of injuries occurring.

Confident, inspired individuals

Students are encouraged to actively take part in all practical activities in a variety of roles and to be confident when performing in front of their peers. PE lessons will create an environment where confident, independent thinkers and effective decision makers can operate as individuals or as part of a team. Students also have the opportunity to attend extra curricular clubs and represent the school.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

Students are encouraged to follow the values of sportsmanship, fair play, respect and inclusion. Students will demonstrate awareness of the rules/laws and regulations of the activities during performance. They will also demonstrate excellent regard for the safety of themselves and others. Students will be given opportunities to show leadership, including, Sports Captain, Unified Sports Leaders and formal Sports Leadership qualifications at levels 1, 2 and 3.

Statement of Aims: RE

The aim of the KS3 RE Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 RE encourages students to **learn about and develop their understanding and respect of the beliefs and views of people from other religions and cultures**. It also develops students' ability to communicate their thinking in **extended written communication** and begin to learn skills and knowledge to support the GCSE curriculum

Confident, inspired individuals

KS3 RE encourages students to **express their opinions and beliefs** on the big questions in life such as immortality and the problem of evil and compare their lives with those who belong to other cultures and traditions.

Aspiring, responsible citizens

KS3 RE aims to help students make an **informed** contribution to British society and value by having knowledge and understanding of others in a multi-cultural country.

Statement of Aims: Science

The aim of the KS3 Science Curriculum is to develop...

Successful learners

KS3 Science enriches students' awareness of the big ideas that underpin scientific knowledge and understanding: **Cells and organisation, Energy, Particles, Earth and its Atmosphere, Chemical Reactions, Forces, Space, Genetics and Interdependence.**

Confident, inspired individuals

KS3 Science also seeks to develop students' ability to work scientifically, through experimentation and investigation. Alongside this, students learn the importance of scientific models and the way in which theories develop. By undertaking **scientific enquiry** students are given the chance to develop their **critical thinking and analytical skills.**

Aspiring, responsible citizens

KS3 Science aims to help students to understand how human actions have shaped our world and how, through the advancement of Science, we might shape it in the future.