



## UPPER SCHOOL/P16 CURRICULUM STATEMENT

### Introduction

The Upper School/P16 Curriculum at Lonsdale is aimed at providing pupils with a more independent style of learning and focuses on greater responsibility for self-organisation in preparation for adulthood. In the Upper School/ P16 I we aim to continue with a wide ranging offer and individual pathways including accredited courses.

Student pathways are individually planned, and all work is differentiated to take account of the individual's needs. We always consider the strength and abilities of the student. Options to study A levels can be explored through the Stevenage Sixth Consortium when a student has achieved a GCSE in the subject to further challenge them. Currently we have links with Marriotts School.

### GCSE

Some pupils will study English, Maths and Chemistry at GCSE. These classes are taught by subject-specific teachers and are sometimes taught across the key stages. Some pupils will access Marriotts to complete other GCSE subjects.

### AS/A Level

Pupils now have the opportunity to study subjects beyond GCSEs. Lonsdale School is part of the Stevenage Sixth Consortium, which gives pupils a greater opportunity to access a wider range of level-3 accredited courses.

### Functional Skills

Pupils have the opportunity to study Functional Skills in Maths and English. These are taught by subject specialists in Lonsdale. Once Entry Level 3 is achieved, pupils move onto GCSE pathways if that is applicable; some pupils may study towards their Level 1 qualifications in Functional Skills English over studying for GCSE English.

### City & Guilds – AAC Qualification

Some pupils that use Augmentative and Alternative Communication (VOcAs) are invited to complete the Entry Level 2, 3 and Level 1 Award and Certificate in Augmentative and Alternative Communication. The coursework based qualification nationally recognised, providing formal recognition progress and achievement for AAC users.

### Life Skills Courses/Vocational Learning/UAS

At Lonsdale School, Post16 pupils have the opportunity to develop their life skills, explore options, develop aspirations and start to prepare for their next steps after Lonsdale. They work further towards their future/chosen college courses (or alternatives). Pupils are given the opportunity to opt for some chosen content to help them prepare for their next steps.

Lonsdale School use the AQA Unit Award Scheme (UAS). This accreditation is a unique way to record learner achievement. Its 'can do' approach is used to boost pupils' confidence, engagement and motivation. Units of study span the breadth the National Curriculum and can be studied at pre-entry level to level 3. AQA's UAS allows all pupils to engage with learning and have their achievements formally recognised. They can build up a portfolio of certificates to evidence their skills, knowledge and experience.

The scheme boosts confidence, increases engagement and improves motivation, helping pupils to make progress on their lifelong learning journey.

A breakdown of how UAS is used to supplement pupils' learning each term can be found in our Curriculum Overview.

## **Other Areas of the Curriculum**

### **Physical Activities**

Pupils participate in blocks of swimming sessions either at school, where we have a state-of-the-art pool, or at the Stevenage public swimming pool.

Pupils also join a weekly PE lesson with subject-specific staff. This can either be on school site or at local facilities such as Marriotts Sports Centre and Fairlands Valley Lakes.

Pupils who express a particular interest in PE, where appropriate, may be given an opportunity to join sessions of PE at Marriotts School.

### **PSHE/RSE**

Personal, Social, Health Education is designed to support our learners to develop skills enabling safe and healthy lives as they move into adulthood. We have designed our curriculum to support well-being and mental health, independent living, money, rights and responsibilities.

Relationship & Sex Education (RSE) is delivered through the wider PSHE and Science curriculum at Lonsdale School. These subjects are designed to equip your child with knowledge to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships as well as enabling pupils to learn and develop essential skills for adult life in line with the school's values and ethos.

### **Preparing for Adulthood**

Lonsdale's PfA Curriculum is designed to support our learners to develop the skills and knowledge they need to access services that will improve their quality of life and to begin to understand the options and choices available to them when they leave school. There is a strong focus on preparing learners for their next phase and adulthood. Learners develop skills which will support their independence, social skills, as well as functional numeracy and literacy. They are supported to understand how to be safe, healthy and fulfilled in the wider world. A key aspect in achieving this is the emphasis we place on communication. Whether verbally or through the use of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), we want our young people to use their voice, form opinions, challenge and question, and object when they are unhappy about something. We want our Lonsdale pupils to have the confidence to speak up in all contexts and wherever possible advocate for what they want in life.

S.North  
NPQML  
Upper School/P16 Phase Lead

The five strands of Lonsdale's PfA Curriculum are based on the four Preparing for Adulthood (PfA) outcomes, the consideration of which is promoted by the Department for Education (DfE) as part of EHC planning:

- Employability
- Independent Living
- Community Inclusion
- Health
- Relationships

### Work-Related Learning/Careers

Work-related learning is covered through a variety of means. For some pupils this will mean work placements for the many it means learning about WRL by studying it as part of their UAS accreditation, through PHSE lessons, listening to guest speakers or taking part in a WRL day/week. Pupils will also visit places of work and find out what roles people do. In the past our pupils have accessed Ardeley Church Farm, worked at Marriotts, to gain knowledge of the work place. Pupils also attend work-related learning workshops together with Marriotts pupils.

Every week, pupils will work as one business to research, make and sell items in order to make a small profit. The money earned is then used to purchase items, support charities and provide extra budget for Prom. Work is completed in school and also out in the community. We have taken our business out into local markets and sold items to the general public.

We use Compass/Gatsby Benchmarks to evaluate WRL across the department and the school

### Assessment

In the Upper School /P16 we use the school's assessment framework 'New Horizons'. We set targets using the student's Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and liaise with their parents and multidisciplinary teams around a student. We monitor progress at least half-termly and set new targets termly. Pupils studying GCSEs or Functional Skills will be given predicted grades. Progress in Literacy and Numeracy for learners working at Entry Level 3 and below is tracked through regular use of assessment.

### Weekly Programme of Study for Lonsdale's Upper School/P16

S Class	G Class	F Class
7 x Basic Skills (English, Maths, Science, IT & Life Skills)	2 x English	2 x English
1 x PSHCE/RSE	3 x Maths	3 x Maths
1 x PE	1 x PSHCE/RSE	2 x Science
1 x Food	2 x IT	1 x PSHCE/RSE
1 x Creative	1 x PE	3 x IT
3 x Vocational	1 x Food	1 x PE
1 x Tutor	1 x Creative	1 x Food
	3 x Vocational	1 x Creative
	1 x Tutor	1 x Vocational

The above is approximate and varies for each pupil.

S.North

NPQML

Upper School/P16 Phase Lead

Individual timetables are in place for each pupil's individual educational pathways, including lessons at Marriotts (where appropriate).

## **Transition**

During P16/Upper School pupils are encouraged to plan for their provision after Lonsdale. Our Transition Adviser (Services for Young People) plays an important role for our older pupils. They attend the pupils' annual reviews from Year 9 onwards to begin the transition process. They also meet individually with pupils and their parents to ensure good transition planning.

Wherever possible, pupils experience life at local college before leaving Lonsdale by attending on a part-time basis or completing regular visits in their final term at school.

We also hold an bi-annual events called 'Learning for Life.' At this event, parents and professionals from the local colleges and social services are invited into school to work alongside the pupils for the day to map out their plans for the future.

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