

The Minster School Curriculum

Spiritual Curriculum





The Minster School Curriculum

The Minster School curriculum is based around the school ethos. Our curriculum is built around our school virtues of **Wisdom, Optimism, Resilience, Kindness** and **Service** and it designed to ensure that all students can **Succeed Together**. "Enabling all members of our school community to work together, care for each other and strive to realise their potential in their studies and all other aspects of life". This we believe can be achieved through hard work.



“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord.”

Colossians 3:23.

Our curriculum is designed to be inclusive so that all students can access it no matter what their starting point. We maintain a strong focus on SEND; lessons and activities are designed around inclusion and adapted to meet the needs of individual learners where needed.

There are 4 strands to the school curriculum. These are interwoven across the school and within each key stage.

Academic curriculum –

This enables students to access a wide range of subjects, to develop their knowledge and learn how to use that knowledge to achieve great outcomes.

Extended curriculum –

This builds on learning in lessons to allow students to continue to develop knowledge and how to apply it, once they have left the classroom.

Immersive curriculum –

This provides opportunities for students to engage more deeply in school life, take on responsibility and demonstrate their wider skills.

Spiritual curriculum –

This gives students the opportunity to explore spiritual and moral aspects of learning and gives them opportunities to travel on their faith journey.

Spiritual Curriculum

As a Church of England school, we believe in providing opportunities for all students to explore and develop their own beliefs and values whilst reflecting on the relevance of Christian principles to their lives.


Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education and British Values are taught across the curriculum. In particular in Tutor time, through weekly themes, and in RS/PSHE lessons, students explore these issues in greater detail. Learning is focussed both on the importance of these values as well as their application to student's lives and the benefits to wider society.




“My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you.”

John 15:12


Opportunities are built into the wider curriculum to allow students to explore the Christian faith in more detail, through regular Acts of Worship as well as half termly invitational services and End of Term services which are led by the school Chaplain. The curriculum encourages students to reflect on these themes through one of 3 lenses.



To support and develop their own Christian faith.



In exploring their own beliefs and faith journey.



As human values, reflecting on the importance of them in their own lives.

In all aspects of the curriculum students are encouraged to consider the importance of equality, diversity, kindness and respect in how to treat others and in the way we serve our friends, school and wider society.



“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.”

Mark 10:45



Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education

SMSC is an important part of the school curriculum. Developing the whole student is at the heart of all that we do at the Minster School. This ties in with the Extended and Immersive curriculums which are designed to allow opportunities for students to explore subjects, themes and qualities further.

SMSC is mapped across the academic curriculum to ensure full coverage of each theme and sub-theme. The developing of these themes are also promoted in schemes of work and summarised in curriculum intent documents.

A particular emphasis on SMSC is delivered through RS and PSHE lessons. Students will explore topics such as:

- Diversity
- Discrimination
- Respectful relationships
- Communities
- Britain: Government and the Law

SMSC is also delivered through tutor time and theme of the week activities, including Acts of Worship. These explore many of the SMSC themes such as:

- Service builds our community
- Kindness nurtures respect
- One day I hope – Holocaust memorial day
- Gender equality – International Women's day
- Diversity enriches us all
- I am wonderfully unique - Pride



“The need of the moment is not one religion, but mutual respect and tolerance of the devotees of the different religions.”

Mahatma Gandhi

British Values

As a school we aim to promote British values within the academic curriculum and through the Extended curriculum. Students are encouraged to reflect on why these values are important and their role within a successful, tolerant and caring society.



“Each person must live their life as a model for others.”

Rosa Parks



British
Values

British values are covered within the academic curriculum. These contributions are mapped along with SMSC to ensure that they are covered within each year group. Students are encouraged to ask questions, discuss and challenge each other in regards to the application of such values in UK society.

British values are explored and encouraged in many subjects within the curriculum but there is a particular focus through RS, PSHE and History lessons.

These values are also explored in tutor time through Acts of Worship, Thought for the Week, One minute moments and the weekly themes. These are often linked to topical issues and themes.

Examples of these include:

- Remembrance
- Equity
- Diversity
- Respect
- Freedom to believe

Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance, Individual Liberty.

Students are also encouraged to take part in mock elections to tie in with local and national elections. These allow students to explore these themes in a hands on way.



Spirituality



“Spirituality is the act of being fully human by discovering and revealing ourselves through love”

Spiritual Development – Church of England

At the Minster School Spirituality is developed in a range of ways:

- *Collective worship – Reflection time is built into all aspects of our worship, including Acts of Worship, Thought for the week, and One minute moments. Prayers are used to encourage students to either think about the message of join in, depending on their own faith.*
- *Curriculum lessons – teachers encourage students to ask questions and seek opportunities to explore the subject further. Lessons are built on promoting independent thought, and enquiring minds. Imagination and creativity are celebrated across the curriculum. This occurs across the curriculum but particularly in subjects such as Art, Drama, and Music.*
- *Discussion and debate – students are encouraged to express their own views and beliefs, reflecting on those of others and coming to their individual beliefs. They are then encouraged to act on these views through Courageous advocacy.*
- *School virtues – our 5 virtues of Wisdom, Optimism, Resilience, Kindness and Service are explored throughout the curriculum but with a particular focus through tutor time and Acts of worship. In particular the themes of Kindness and Service encourage students to actively live out spirituality in school and beyond.*
- *Charity work & Minster cares – students are encouraged to develop support and care for each other and for those in wider society who need help. These include whole school activities and voluntary groups.*
- *Students have a wide range of opportunities to reflect on their own beliefs and values in relation to the Christian virtues that are at the heart of the school, Biblical teachings, the examples of Jesus and the life of key religious thinkers.*



Spirituality



Worship

As a Church school we offer a range of opportunities for students to reflect on, explore and deepen their faith in relation to the Christian virtues that are at the heart of the school, Biblical teachings, the examples of Jesus and the life of key religious thinkers



“Worship is giving God the best that he has given you”

Oswald Chambers

A variety of activities run throughout the year in order to support students in their faith journey.

These include:

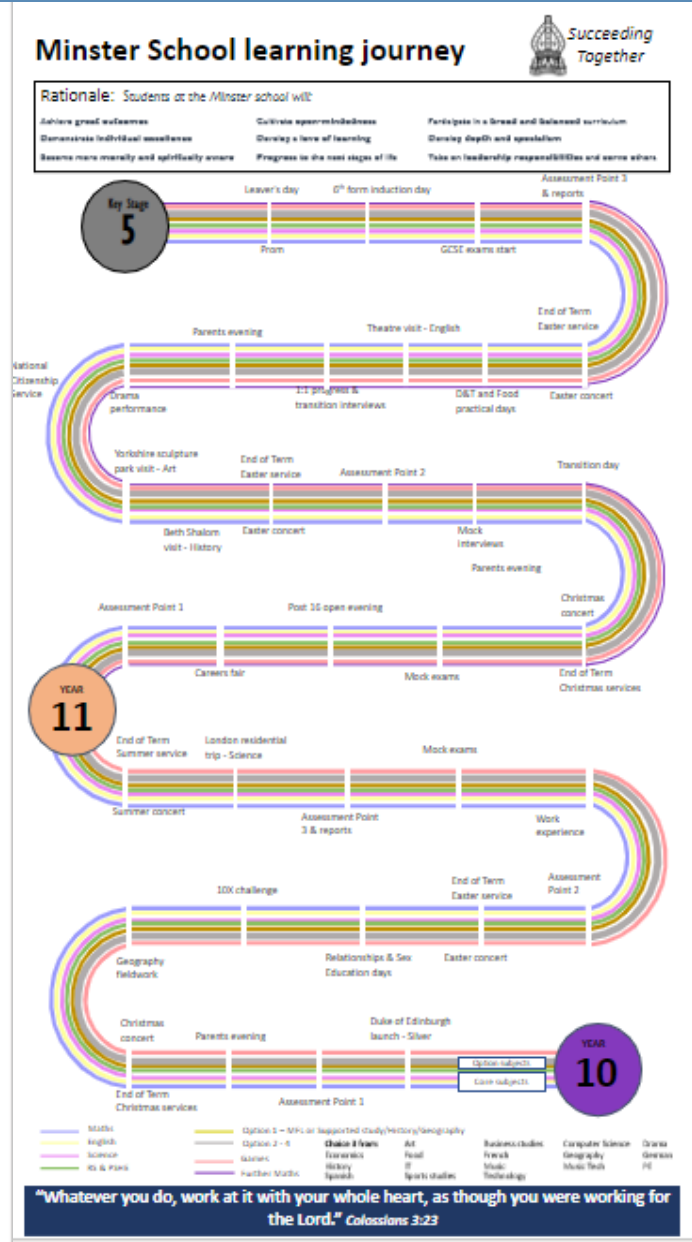
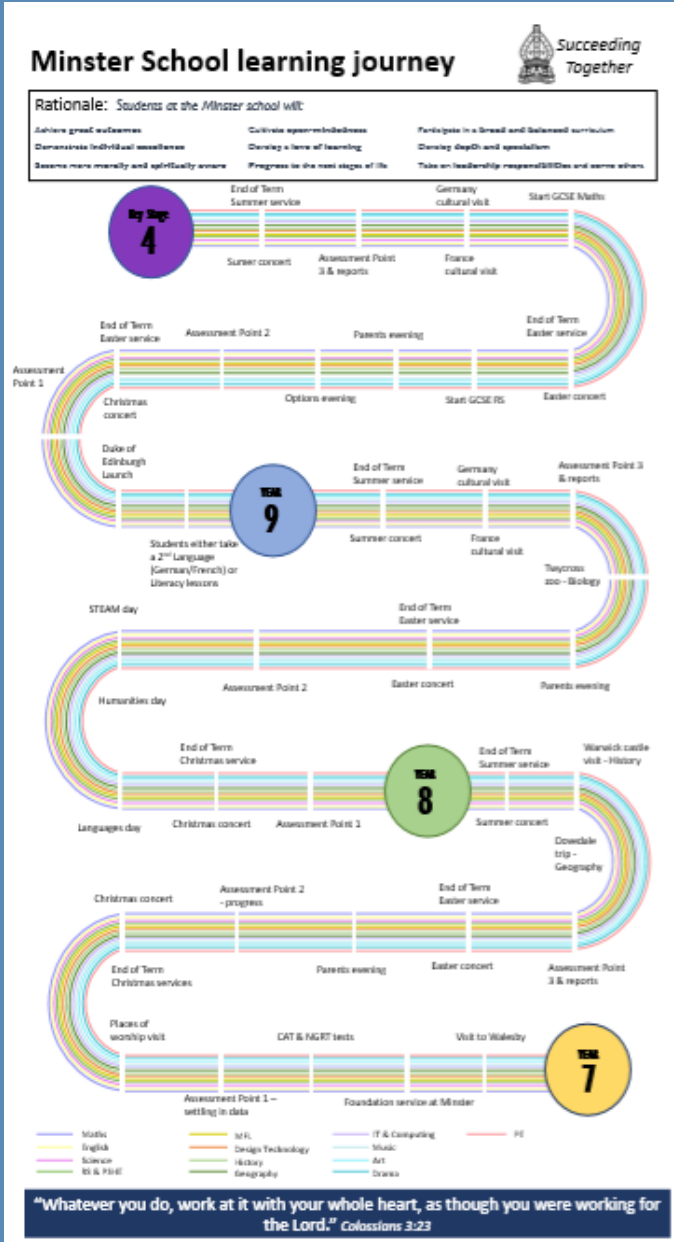
- *Acts of worship – Twice weekly students participate in a distinctly Christian Acts of Worship, revolving around a theme and Bible passage. These include opportunities for prayer, reflection and response.*
- *Thought for the week – led by form tutors, this weekly activity enables all students to explore the theme and Bible passage in more detail and relate it to their own beliefs, values and life.*
- *One minute moments – A weekly opportunity for students to pause and reflect on a key aspect of the weekly theme.*
- *End of term services – Each term is marked by a formal service. Easter and Christmas take place in the Cathedral. Students attend in year groups and the services include student participation, worship and reflection.*
- *Invitational services – Twice a half term all students are invited to a service. These include communion services and student worship services.*
- *Online Heartspace – This is an online community run by the school Chaplain where students can interact with each other to explore spiritual, moral and religious themes.*
- *School Chaplain drop in – we have a school Chaplain who provides spiritual, emotional and welfare support for students. These may be one off or regular appointments.*

A magnifying glass icon with the word 'Worship' written inside the lens.

Worship



More information



To view students learning journeys or for more detailed information about our school curriculum please go to our Website.

