

CARDINAL NEWMAN COLLEGE

CURRICULUM STATEMENT OF INTENT FOR 16-18 STUDY PROGRAMMES

Cardinal Newman is a Catholic Sixth Form College inspired by the Christian tradition and holds at the centre of our ethos the dignity and uniqueness of each person. As a Catholic Sixth Form College, we strive to be a centre of educational excellence for the community built on faith, hope and love. We celebrate diversity amongst all our students and staff, and we seek to nurture the gifts of each individual through high quality teaching, learning and providing extensive individual support to enable each student to achieve their full potential.

At Cardinal Newman we are committed to ensuring that all of our students have access to experiences that enable them to progress and succeed. We want to challenge and motivate our students to build their skills and level of commitment so that they feel confident and able to compete with the very best in any sector. By providing students with opportunities to develop their skills, increase their confidence and resilience, raise their aspirations and broaden their awareness of careers and employability skills, we are able to motivate and inspire our students to be ambitious and to have an ethos of high aspiration to help each of them reach their potential.

The College will ensure each student develops employability skills, has access to work related experiences and broaden their awareness of careers and the world of work, to ensure they have the skills to compete in an increasingly competitive recruitment market and for students to realise their potential.

The curriculum is reviewed at least annually in response to developments in local environment, government educational strategy, student and industry need. We aim to develop skills relevant to students' study programme, their everyday lives and their plans for their next steps.

STUDY PROGRAMMES

Cardinal Newman is predominantly a provider of Advanced Level with some Applied General Qualifications and T -Levels at Level 3. Entry requirements are set to broaden opportunities and ensure students succeed with requirements set for programmes of A Levels, Applied Generals and mixed programmes or both. Students can choose from a choice of 36 A Level qualifications, 13 Level 3 subject Applied General qualifications and 3 T-Level qualifications. Those eligible to join our HE* programme also have the opportunity to study an AS in several subjects or complete a L3 Extended Project Qualification.

The college also offers a Level 2 Transition Programme of Study in Business or Education and Childcare. All students who are yet to achieve a grade 4 in GCSE English Language and Maths are required to study GCSE English Language and GCSE Maths until they secure the required grade. The focus of this programme is to provide a progression pathway to Level 3.

Cardinal Newman also offers Foundation Learning Programme which aims to ensure students become independent learners and focuses on employability skill and has 30 student enrolled.

TUTORIALS, ENRICHMENT, GENERAL RE AND SUPPORT

At Cardinal Newman we recognise the importance of supporting students throughout their studies including through times of difficulty. Our fundamental belief in Christian virtues is lived through this support which is both pastoral and academic, to reflect the students' needs throughout their study with us. Students with a learning need or disability have a bespoke learning support programme to support their studies.

The learning support department also offers cross college support throughout the academic year which staff can either refer students to or students can self-refer, as and when it is needed. This includes bespoke study skills and subject specific workshops. Student support is also through the pastoral system which supports students on a daily basis from a College Chaplain, a counselling and health and well-being team, and a designated pastoral support member of staff.

At every stage we work with students to develop their resilience, courage and perseverance to help each student to fully access their education.

All study programmes are designed to ensure students develop an awareness of the skills and qualities needed for employment in their specific field. Each student has a coherent Programme of study which includes 3 or sometimes 4 subjects (or equivalent BTEC), General RE, Tutorial in which employability skills, Prevent and British Values are embedded and Curriculum Plus (CP), in which all subject support and subject enrichment takes place. Students are offered extensive CIAG from pre-application through to completion of their programme of study to equip students with the skills, knowledge and qualifications needed to progress onto positive destinations. The emphasis is on ensuring the study programme meets the needs and aspirations of each student, therefore there is a great deal of flexibility when putting together a study programme.

Through the classroom students studying an Applied General qualification gain the theory and through dedicated work experience or industry placement of two weeks or more, students will gain the skills employers are looking for. All A Level students are provided with work experience opportunities which they record in their ILP on Cedar. Level 2 students have one week of work experience as part of their programme of study. Foundation Learning also have work experience as a fundamental part of their study programme.

Cardinal Newman is not just about gaining qualifications and passing exams. We also believe in the importance of encouraging spiritual and moral growth, and developing important core skills and knowledge which add to the breadth of education. In our Catholic college, General RE is a key part of the core curriculum and all students, in both Y12 and Y13 students are expected to attend a one-hour weekly session.

General RE is an exploration of faith programme that aims to give post-16 students an opportunity to reflect on the deeper questions of life, such as who we are, why we are here, and how we want to live our lives and conduct our relationships. The emphasis in the lessons is on active participation and learning from each other. The importance of General RE lies in two main areas. The first is that it augments and supports the distinctive ethos of the College; that we are a community which puts the human being at the centre of all we do, helping to develop values, attitudes and character separately from the main examination subjects.

The second is that General RE is the only lesson where the students can meet people outside their chosen subjects, thus allowing them to develop wider relationships and encouraging inclusivity and understanding among our diverse student population. To lay the foundation of a good character we believe we need to create an arena in which students gain virtue literacy through both the teaching of virtues such as respect, perseverance and responsibility and also the opportunities to practice and apply these skills in college, at home and in the community. This will be enhanced further through the delivery of the tutorial programme and then even further through a whole college approach.

The tutorial programme is a two-year programme taking place once every half term apart from the first half term when two tutorials are held for both year groups as part of induction. Throughout the tutorial programme, there is reference to previous topics to reinforce safeguarding information, academic and pastoral support provided in college. Students can require this additional support at any point throughout their time at Newman and will be more receptive and alert to these reminders when needed. This was also highlighted via a student focus group where the requested short but often reminders. Study skills support exams information is timed to prepare for CAPs and formal examinations. Students are also able to access a range of enrichment opportunities both within subject departments and across college. This enables students to bring their curriculum to life and enhance their college experience.

As 70% of students progress onto HE or study as a Degree Apprentice, our curriculum is aimed at supporting students progress onto this pathway with the relevant skills and knowledge. Employability skills are embedded throughout the curriculum supporting those who progress directly to employment from Cardinal Newman.

Curriculum Intent statements are available for individual subjects, L2 transition, Foundation Learning, Tutor Programme and General RE.

For further information please see the College website: <https://www.cardinalnewman.ac.uk/>