

ARK ACADEMY

YEAR 12 GCE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

A Mathematics and Citizenship Rich School



2020 - 2021

www.arkacademy.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Ark Academy has at its core the pursuit of highest standards possible in education. We believe in high aspirations, high motivation and high achievement for all. Through our extended curriculum and community life we seek to meet the needs of the whole person. Civitas – Citizenship – is at our core. We will build a community of civic pride and social justice in which all members are equally valued. We are committed to the service of young people and to helping them play their full part in society.

In light of this we aim to:

- *Provide every student with the knowledge, skills, self belief and motivation to be successful in their learning and lives*
- *Welcome, value and respect all who come to the school*
- *Build a community based on justice and a sense of personal responsibility*
- *Provide opportunities for all to experience CIVITAS whilst developing a spirit of tolerance and understanding for all cultures, traditions and faiths*
- *Promote dialogue and co-operation with the wider community*

Our Driving Principles are:

- ***Excellence***
- ***Citizenship***
- ***Participation***
- ***Persistence***

Our goal

Our goal is that all students should be able to access higher education and participate fully in our democratic society.

Introduction

We have reached an important year in your education – the start of the study which will lead you to your chosen **university** and eventually – your chosen **career**!

This booklet focuses both on the **year 12 curriculum** and has been designed as a ‘go to guide’ for you to reference during the key months ahead.

It includes:

- A comprehensive **timeline of the year**, including dates for key assessments and both sets of mock exams
- Our plan for **supporting all students** to achieve their best this year through independent study, targeted intervention and revision
- The **provision curriculum: university preparation** & UCAS applications

Individual subject guides will be available to collect to supplement this booklet and each will explain

- The **exam board** for the subject & **outline of the course** in year 12 and year 13
- **Controlled assessment** this year (where applicable)
- Information on the maintaining appropriate **notes / folders** for that subject
- Details of when **homework** is set and marked
- Advice on what students need to do to **prepare well** for the each **examination point**

Should you have any questions about the curriculum and assessment plans for the year please speak to individual teachers or the relevant Head of Department. Alternatively contact one of the senior team who will be more than happy to help:

Miss Iliffe	Director of Sixth Form	e.iliffe@arkacademy.org
Mr Triantafilidis	Senior Tutor: Year 13	n.triantafilidis@arkacademy.org
Miss Rogers	Senior Tutor: Year 12	k.rogers@arkacademy.org

KEY DATES



3 week Review:
Monday 5th – Friday 9th October

BTEC MOCK assessments
W/B Monday 23rd November
Autumn assessments
W/B Monday 30th November

Parent Tutor Day:
Wednesday 16th December

BTEC EXAMS
W/B Monday 4th Jan

BTEC MOCK assessments
W/B Monday 8th March
Spring assessments
W/B Monday 15th March

Summer assessments
W/B Monday 21st June

Parent Tutor Day:
Thursday 22nd July

The External Examination Process:

GCE Exams 2020-21

KEY DATES:

GCE Target Setting

Ark Academy has decided, like most A-Level providers to move to the linear A-Level model from this September. This means that our students will not sit any AS examinations.

We want to ensure that every one of our students is challenged to reach their potential in their A-Level exams and take the process of setting and sharing targets very seriously. Every Ark Academy Sixth Form student will be set **challenging A Level targets** this year based on their **average GCSE score**, their baseline assessment result the subject grades they achieved at GCSE (where applicable). The targets will be based on historic data of the **top 25% attainment** at Key Stage 5 across the country.

Students will receive their targets for **individual subjects** from their teachers next week and these will be compared to **current attainment** and **teacher predictions** at every assessment point in the year ahead.

Termly examinations: *Reviewing attainment through the year*

This coming term is a very important one for teachers and heads of department in every subject, who look carefully at each A Level student's progress, attainment and commitment to the subject. The first **Year 12 Review** will have take place during the week beginning 5th October, during which teachers will report to senior staff on the effort and attainment of each student so far. This will enable us to intervene effectively to support your son/daughter. In almost all cases, the students will have settled in the work well and with gusto and will be progressing nicely. Where we have concerns, we will contact you individually.

The **first set of full exams** will take place before the Christmas holidays in the week beginning **30th November**. Students will have one exam per subject that they take. The paper will test them on everything they have learnt in year 12 up to that point. This will be a cumulative exam that will take place in the students own subject room and we would project that the pupils will have covered approximately 20% of the course by that stage.

The **second set of full exams** will take place before the Easter holidays in the week beginning **15th March**. Students will have one exam per subject that they take. The paper will test them on everything they have learnt in year 12 up to that point. This will be a cumulative exam that will take place in the students own subject room and we would project that the pupils will have covered approximately 40% of the course by that stage.

The **third and final set of full exams** will take place before the Summer holidays starting in the week beginning **21th June**. Students will have one or more exam per subject that they take. The paper will test them on everything they have learnt in year 12 up to that point. This will be a cumulative exam that will take place in the exam hall and we would project that the pupils will have covered approximately 60% of the course by that stage.

Supporting you to achieve your best

In addition to all the hard work taking place in lessons every day, special support will be provided for Year 12 in this crucial year. Staff will be going above and beyond to ensure that every student can fulfil their potential in their AS exams in the summer. These additional levels of support will be available in a variety of ways as detailed below.

Study Periods

All sixth form students are studying three subjects and will have twelve study periods during the weekly timetable.

Having study periods and two exclusive, designated supervised study rooms is a great privilege of being a sixth former at Ark. Our students welcome the opportunity to have two rooms for their exclusive use where they can study without interruption, focussing on reading and homework which needs to be done well and on time. How well students work in this time is the students' responsibility although the time and study areas are also monitored by teachers. **It is critical that students use their Study Time effectively and students not working will lose privileges.**

Independent learning

Finally, it is absolutely essential that students are completing independent work (in addition to homework) outside of school. By making this investment of time now it will pay huge dividends in the exams this summer.

Preparing for University

Preparing for University requires getting top grades at AS Level. Top Universities, including the Russell Group Universities, are looking for A and B grades at AS Level. With low academic grades, students have limited choices for university.

The Ark Diploma

The most successful and interesting students in Britain develop knowledge, skills and interests beyond their academic subjects. This is up to your son/daughter, but at Ark we do everything we can to support.

That's why we have the Ark Diploma: a diploma which will help your son/daughter **structure** time and commitments beyond the classroom and help develop knowledge, skills and interests. The Ark Diploma **awards** personal development through **extra-curricular activities, leading societies and clubs, community outreach and "off specification" learning.** The Ark Diploma **appeals to**

universities because it is evidence that students are active and well-rounded young people – someone universities would want on their campuses.

By achieving this Diploma, your son/daughter will develop a range of knowledge, skills and interests which will enhance their CV so they can access top universities and career opportunities. We hope that the Ark Diploma will also support your son/daughter to become **independent thinking, purposeful, compassionate and joyful**, enjoying life at school, separate from the rigours of examinations.

There are two levels of Ark Diploma available:

Ark Gold Diploma (complete 5 out of 8)	Ark Diploma (complete 5 out of 8)
Completion of two terms' work during Civitas Hour (volunteering within the school)	Completion of one terms' work during Civitas Hour (volunteering within the school)
MPQ	MPQ
Leadership of school society	Active membership of school society
Participation in House Competitions	Participation in House Competitions
Regular performance for the school (sport, drama, debating)	Performance for the school (sport, drama, debating)
Leading charity fundraising	Participating in charity fundraising
Leading subject competitions or "off spec" learning	Involvement in subject competitions or "off spec" learning
Over 40 hours of work experience.	Over 20 hours of work experience.

*Because the experiences in the Ark Diploma are so important for personal development, we **expect all Year 12 to complete the Ark Diploma.**

****The Ark Diploma brings together all the enrichment, societies, clubs and "Off Specification" learning that we do.**

The UCAS application Process

Ark Academy will support your son/daughter to choose the right university pathway and career with confidence. The right university degree and career will probably make your son/daughter a happier, more prosperous, and more enlightened person.

Critical for a degree is the UCAS Application. **UCAS stands for Universities and Colleges Admission Service.** UCAS coordinates applications to different universities – a student can apply to up to five universities through UCAS.

Ark Academy provides expert advice on UCAS applications and it is critical that students follow this advice. The Ark Academy Home School Agreement, signed by students, parents and teacher states that students

“will accept help, guidance or support, be that academic or pastoral, when offered it and understand that Ark Academy will make decisions in my best interests”.

Often people present the UCAS process to be very complicated and difficult: it is not, if your son/daughter is **organised, honest** and, after taking some time to weigh up different options, **decisive**. By September 2020, your son/daughter should have:

- 1) Chosen a preferred degree;
- 2) Chosen five universities where this degree may be studied (with a favourite, “firm choice”, and an “insurance choice” - a back up which requires lower grades for entry);
- 3) Completed a UCAS form and written a personal statement explaining why it is the preferred degree.

So, this year, building up knowledge of universities, degrees, and perhaps gaining some degree related work experience is important (essential in Medicine, Pharmacy and Law), but the most important is the AS Grades. **Get good AS grades and your son/daughter will have lots of good universities to choose from, get bad AS grades and their aspirations will be impossible.**

Ark Academy subject teachers and tutors will work together to write an honest and supportive UCAS reference which will be completed in the Autumn of 2020: the sooner your son/daughter chooses their degree and completes the UCAS Application, the sooner this reference can be completed. This reference will state their academic achievements so far and describe evidence of their academic passion for the degree of their choice. Above all, however, it will describe honestly and supportively their learning attitude since starting in Ark Academy Sixth Form: **those students with excellent attendance, punctuality and an Ark Diploma, will benefit from a strong reference.**

Your son/daughter’s predicted A-level grades (which are given to universities) will depend very heavily on their Year 12 grades: your son/daughter must do well during their first year to have a wide choice of universities and degrees.

Open Days: the Ark Academy will lead outings to Universities, in Summer 2019 and Autumn 2020. Students will have authorised absence for **one day** this year to go independently to a University Open Day as well.

Subject Contacts

The easiest and quickest way to contact your son/daughters teacher is via email. Staff emails all follow the same format: the first letter of their first name followed by a full stop followed by their surname then @arkacademy.org.

For example If you wish to contact Tracey Keane her email is t.keane@arkacademy.org

Subject	Code	Teacher Name
Art & Photography	DPA	Paton, Daniel
Biology	LSA	Sach, Laura
	AWA	Wanklyn, Alastair
	SMC	McGrath, Shannon
Business Studies	JKH	Khalayleh, Joseph
	ARI	Rais, Aoutmen
	FAS	Aslam, Farah
	HBA	Balal, Hassan
Chemistry	MSA	Salad, Maryan
	NSH	Shah, Nabil
	TKE	Keane, Tracey
Core Maths	SBN	Burney, Saba
Economics	CRU	Russell, Charlotte
	EIL	Illiffe, Emily
English Literature	ICL	Clark, Isabel
	MBC	Burcham, Michael
	ABY	Boyd, Alison
	AHA	Hanna, Amy
	FMA	Mannerings, Finnbar
Further Maths	NTR	Triantafilidis, Nicolas
	EIL	Illiffe, Emily
	OSK	Skehel, Oscar
French	SST	Stewart, Sandra
	CNE	Neill, Chris
Geography	LTA	Tamburello, Lucia
	RSA	Shah, Riya
	TCH	Cheetham, Tom
Government and Politics	PNU	Nugent, Paul
	MHI	Hill, Michael
History	AKI	Kinnon, Alice
	TSA	Sawbridge, Tom
	FPI	Pitkin, Fiona
	DAL	Araliya, Dilhara
Maths	CRU	Russell, Charlotte

	EOZ	Ozeke, Emi
	KBT	Butler, Katie
	OSK	Skehel, Oscar
	JBO	Bowley, Janette
	NTR	Triantafilidis, Nicolas
	EIL	Iliffe, Emily
	HRE	Rees, Hilary
PE	SOC	O'Carroll, Stephen
	KGA	Gallagher, Kelly
Physics	ADI	Dineen, Adam
PSHE	MBC	Burcham, Michael
	MSA	Salad, Maryan
	HBA	Balal, Hassan
	JJO	Joseph-Bristol, Jamilla
	ADI	Dineen, Adam
	OSK	Skehel, Oscar
	JKH	Khalayleh, Joseph
	DPA	Paton, Daniel
	AWA	Wanklyn, Alastair
	RMO	Moore, Ryan
	LSA	Sach, Laura
	FPI	Pitkin, Fiona
Psychology	JJO	Joseph-Bristol, Jamila
	KRG	Rogers, Kimberley
	ALE	Lisle, Angela
Religious Studies	JMC	Macivor, Jess
	HMA	Maundrell, Heather
	FDY	Daya, Fatima
Science	SMC	McGrath, Shannon
	ADI	Dineen, Adam
	RMO	Moore, Ryan
	EPI	Pierce, Eoghan
	TKE	Keane, Tracey
Sociology	ALE	Lisle, Angela
	JJO	Joseph-Bristol, Jamila
	KRG	Rogers, Kimberley
Spanish	JFI	Figuroa, Julieta
	CKE	Kelly, Caroline