



NOTTING HILL & EALING
HIGH SCHOOL

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

Senior School

Senior School Co-Curricular Policy

2023-2024

Co-Curricular Policy

The aims of this the school's Co-Curricular programme are:

- To pursue areas of interest that may enrich or enliven subjects taught on the curriculum
- To give opportunities or further opportunities which are not easily made available on the curriculum (this may include the learning of a musical instrument)
- To continue with interests which might not be possible on the curriculum at this stage, in order that they are not lost, and can be developed further in the future
- To enjoy taking part in activities with others
- To ensure widely varied provision so each student thrives in an area of personal interest.

Co-Curricular activities are mainly organised through after-school or lunchtime clubs. These activities can be run by staff but the sixth form are encouraged to lead their own clubs with a member of staff as a 'link teacher'. Some student run clubs have included Dissection Club, Chess Club and Gardening Club. The school encourages initiatives from the students through the Assistant Head (Co-Curricular) and the Head of Sixth.

Some activities, such as fencing and dance are paid extras, but most clubs are provided by departments and the aim is to be as inclusive as possible. Where an activity is over-subscribed, the activity is organised on a rota basis so that all students can have a turn or there are clear and fair means of selection.

Although a small number of PE and music activities are organised on a competitive or aptitude basis, such as the Netball and Hockey clubs after school, and Senior School Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Choir, there is a large range of other sporting, music, and subject related clubs which are open to students of all abilities and aptitudes if the interest and enthusiasm is there.

A **timetable** is drawn up every term by the Assistant Head (Co-Curricular), working with the Deputy Heads to help minimise as far as possible clashes which may affect a number of students. This timetable is given to the students at the beginning of each term and is published on the school website. There is a Co-Curricular Fair in September to raise awareness of clubs and societies to all students.

A number of **educational visits or school workshops** are organised at each of the key stages by departments to further the aims of the curriculum. Some may involve older students attending lectures, galleries etc. off-site, accompanied or unaccompanied by staff. Workshops are increasingly organised for students within school, such as the Poetry workshop, when students may experience an activity off timetable or be withdrawn from lessons to take part.

In addition, a variety of workshops/clubs exist at each key stage to stimulate critical, independent and creative thinking and wider interest in scholarship at a higher level, including the '**Da Vinci**' Club which organises cross-curricular master classes for students in Years 10.

The **Debating and Public Speaking** clubs for students at all levels of the school. There is flourishing interest and participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award available from Year 10 upwards and regular expeditions are organised by the DoE Co-ordinator.

A range of **visiting speakers** come to the school to enrich the curriculum at all key stages. Some lectures by visiting speakers are organised by Heads of Year to support the PSHCEE curriculum and take place in the Senior school within the PSHCEE slot, or instead of assembly on occasion. Other lectures are organised by Heads of Department and usually occur after school. There is a separate lecture programme organised by the Year 12s for Years 11, 12 and 13 on alternate weeks.

Competitive events with other schools are usually held after school, but may occur in the school day e.g. Trust Sport rallies, or require a team to leave before the end of the day, e.g. Hans Woyda Mathematics competitions.

Private group LAMDA drama lessons are held outside the normal curriculum. **Private individual music lessons** are held on a rotating basis through a particular day, so different lessons are missed each week for the instrumental lesson.



Many students pursue **interests outside school**. As much as possible, providing they do not jeopardise attendance at school for curricular studies and other commitments, we encourage this, and help students see their lives in a holistic manner as much as they can.

The Co-Curricular clubs do change from time-to-time and an up-to-date rota can be found **on the School Intranet and Firefly Parent Portal**.

Last Reviewed September 2023
Next Review July 2024

