

Ivybridge Community College

# Curriculum Guide



# The Academic Curriculum

At Ivybridge Community College, our curriculum is designed with the clear purpose of achieving academic excellence while nurturing the personal development of all students.

We aim to provide an ambitious and inclusive curriculum that empowers every student, regardless of their background or starting point, to reach their highest potential.

Guided by our core values of **Respect, Aspiration, Inspiration** and **Compassion**, we foster a learning environment of high expectations, where students are challenged academically while being supported holistically. Our curriculum is broad, balanced, and structured to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills our young people need to make informed decisions about their future, guiding them from novice to expert.

We believe in building character alongside academic success. Through a rich offering of extracurricular opportunities and leadership experiences, we cultivate students who are not only academically successful but also respectful, compassionate individuals prepared to contribute positively to society. Our curriculum actively promotes personal growth, social responsibility and ethical understanding, in line with our commitment to fostering well-rounded citizens.

Through habitual evaluation, evolution, training and clarification, we are continually adapting and refining our curriculum in response to the evolving needs of our students and the wider world. We are dedicated to inspiring aspiration for lifelong success, considering both our local context and global best thinking in each subject area.

Ivybridge Community College is committed to creating an environment where excellence in both education and character development goes hand in hand, ensuring every student leaves equipped with the knowledge, understanding, skills and values they need to thrive in their future endeavours.

This curriculum is rooted in our mission to be a college of academic excellence, aiming for the best possible set of qualifications for each child, ensuring future doors are wide open and that every child can reach their life's fullest potential.



## What we would like our curriculum to do

### How we define our curriculum

The knowledge and skills selected for students to learn are structured over time. The sum of all the experiences and learning from the moment a student walks through the gates to the moment they go onward in their educational journey.

At the heart of Ivybridge Community College's learning experience is our **curriculum**. Learning at Ivybridge Community College encompasses far more than the knowledge and skills developed in the classroom.

Students enjoy an enviable range of clubs, societies and enrichment activities and our **Personal Development Programme**, supported by our exceptional **Careers Guidance**, provides an all-round educational experience that is the foundation for future success.

Students at Ivybridge Community College experience a curriculum which contributes to a well-balanced education, developing the abilities and skills so that they take a valuable, positive and active place in society.

### Through our curriculum

- **We aim to enable every student to excel**  
We offer a thoughtfully sequenced curriculum which encourages academic progress by allowing all students to master the foundations and develop the confidence to engage with ambitious and challenging material.
- **We aim to broaden and nurture students' interests**  
We ensure all students have the opportunity to engage with, and enjoy the richness of, a wide range of subjects and experiences, and encourage them to pursue those they are passionate about.
- **We aim to develop students' sense of self and community**  
We provide a safe environment in which all students can reflect on and evolve their personal points of view and understand these in relation to the world around them.



# Curriculum Structure

## Curriculum Structure commencing 2024

### Key Stage 3 – Years 7, 8 and 9

- Students each study fourteen subjects. On entry into Year 7, students enter a French or Spanish pathway.
- Students study RSE and PHSE in Personal Development Sessions.
- Students spend 25 minutes per day reading in our Strong Starts reading programme. Students read texts from our College Literary Canon.

Numbers indicate hours of teaching per subject per fortnight:

Subject hours for Year 7 and 8

Subject	Hours of teaching per fortnight
Mathematics	7
English	7
Science	7
History	4
Geography	4
MFL	5
PE	4
Art	2
Music	2
Drama	2
RE	2
DT/Food	2
ICT	1
PSHE	1

Subject hours for Year 9

Subject	Hours of teaching per fortnight
Mathematics	8
English	8
Science	8
History	4
Geography	4
MFL	5
PE	3
Art	2
Music	1
Drama	1
RE	2
DT/Food	2
ICT	1
PSHE	1



# Core Curriculum

## Key Stage 4 – Years 10 and 11 Core Curriculum

- All students at Ivybridge Community College will study for a minimum of nine Level 2 qualifications. Students study the core subjects of Mathematics (Pearson), English Literature and English Language (AQA) and Combined Science (AQA) with selected students able to elect to study for Separate Science GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics as one of their Key Stage 4 options.
- All students choose from either GCSE Geography or History.
- Students then select further Level 2 qualifications to ensure they have a programme of at least nine Level 2 (GCSE/BTEC) qualifications.

Numbers indicate hours of teaching per subject per fortnight:

Subject hours for Year 10 and 11

Subject	Hours of teaching per fortnight
Mathematics	8
English	8
Science	9
History / Geography	5
Option 2	5
Option 3	5
Option 4	5
Core PE	3
Core RE	1
PSHE	1

- English Literature  
Selected Texts
- Category  
Shakespeare  
Selected Title  
Macbeth
- Category  
19th Century Novel  
Selected Title  
A Christmas Carol
- Category  
Modern Texts-Drama  
Selected Title  
An Inspector Calls
- Category  
Poetry Anthology  
Selected Title  
Power and Conflict



# Elective Curriculum

## Key Stage 4 – Elective Curriculum

### Level 2 GCSE/BTEC Option Subjects

One of our core aims is to facilitate students to select a pathway that informs their future career choices and supports their interests and passions. As a large Community College, we feel it is important to ensure a wide range of option subjects above the core offer.

Students at Ivybridge Community College can select from 28 Level 2 qualifications.

Subject	Qualification	Subject	Qualification
Art - 3D Design	GCSE (9-1)	French	GCSE (9-1)
Art - Art, Craft and Design	GCSE (9-1)	Geography	GCSE (9-1)
Art - Photography	GCSE (9-1)	Health and Social Care	BTEC
Art - Textiles	GCSE (9-1)	History	GCSE (9-1)
Business	GCSE (9-1)	Media	GCSE (9-1)
Business Enterprise	BTEC	Music	GCSE (9-1)
Catering	BTEC	PE	GCSE (9-1)
Child Development	BTEC	Psychology	GCSE (9-1)
Computer Science	GCSE (9-1)	Religious Studies	GCSE (9-1)
Dance	GCSE (9-1)	Separate Sciences	GCSE (9-1)
Dance RSL	BTEC	Sociology	GCSE (9-1)
Design Technology	GCSE (9-1)	Spanish	GCSE (9-1)
Drama	GCSE (9-1)	Sport	BTEC
Economics	GCSE (9-1)	Statistics	GCSE (9-1)



# Sixth Form

## Key Stage 5 - Post 16

Students at Key Stage 5 can select from 42 academic and vocational subjects with pathways to university, higher level apprenticeships, degree apprenticeships or further employment and training.

Students electing to study at Ivybridge Community College have contact time of nine hours per fortnight per subject. Students are also required to attend supervised study blocks per subject per week with guided learning from their course tutor.

All students are encouraged to select a minimum of a three and a half A Level equivalent programme. Students can elect to study up to five Level 3 subjects, although most students select three full Level 3 courses and one AS.

All students must study at least one A Level.

For example:

### Student A

#### Future Medic

(4 A Level equivalent + 1 AS Level equivalent)

- A Level Biology
- A Level Chemistry
- A Level Mathematics
- A Level Psychology
- AS Level French

### Student B

#### Future Naval Officer

(3 A Level equivalent + 1 AS Level equivalent)

- A Level English Literature
- A Level Psychology
- BTEC Uniform Protective Services
- AS Extended Project Qualification

### Student C

#### Future Marketing and Business Executive

(3 A Level equivalent + 1 AS Level equivalent)

- A Level Psychology
- BTEC Applied Business
- A Level Media Studies
- AS Level Mathematics in Context (Core Mathematics)

## Our Key Stage 5 Subjects - Level 3

Subject	Qualification
Biology	Advanced Level
Chemistry	Advanced Level
Physics	Advanced Level
Environment Science	Advanced Level
Mathematics	Advanced Level
Further Mathematics	Advanced Level
English Literature	Advanced Level
English Language and Literature	Advanced Level
Computer Science	Advanced Level
Media Studies	Advanced Level
Film Studies	Advanced Level
Music	Advanced Level
Drama and Theatre	Advanced Level
Dance	Advanced Level
Geography	Advanced Level
History	Advanced Level
Politics	Advanced Level
Design and Technology	Advanced Level
Product Design	Advanced Level
Art and Design	Advanced Level
(Art, Craft and Design)	
Art and Design (Textile Design)	Advanced Level
Art and Design (Photography)	Advanced Level

Subject	Qualification
Economics	Advanced Level
Physical Education	Advanced Level
Religious Studies	Advanced Level
Sociology	Advanced Level
Psychology	Advanced Level
French	Advanced Level
Spanish	Advanced Level
Business	Advanced Level
Mathematics in Context (Core Mathematics)	AS Level
French	AS Level
Extended Project Qualification	AS Level
Sport	BTEC Extended Certificate
Health and Social Care	BTEC Extended Certificate
Applied Psychology (finishing Sept 2025)	BTEC Extended Certificate
Uniform Protective Services	BTEC Extended Certificate
Applied Business	BTEC Extended Certificate
Criminology (finishing Sept 2026)	Level 3 Applied Certificate
Introductory Diploma in IT	Level 3 Cambridge Technical
Dance	Level 3 Diploma
Music	Level 3 Diploma
Creative and Performing Arts	Level 3 Diploma

## Personal Development

In addition to the academic programme, all students in Key Stage 5 benefit from a personal development program comprising of the following elements:

### Futures Programme

- Careers and future planning

### Tutor Programme

- Relationship and Sexual Education
- Personal
- Social
- Health and Economic (PSHE) Education

### Enrichment Programme

- Leadership opportunities
- Elite sport
- Recreational sport
- Performing Arts
- Enrichment
- Peripatetic music lessons

### Early Entry UCAS Support

for those students wishing to make

- Oxbridge
- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Veterinary Science applications





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[www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](http://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)

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