

## Curriculum at Dixons Fazakerley Academy

[DAT Curriculum Principles \(link\)](#)

Our curriculum, like everything at Dixons Fazakerley Academy, is based on our core values of determination, integrity and respect. It is also predicated on the concept of powerful knowledge. Dixons Fazakerley Academy is committed to providing a curriculum that will prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life and meet the aims of our DFA mission.

The aims of our curriculum are to:

- maximise student progress in all areas, regardless of ability, disability, gender or race
- foster successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- encourage confidence in our students so that they are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- ensure that our students become responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society
- ensure that students develop the essential skills for learning, life and employment by incorporating personal, learning and thinking and functional skills into their curriculum offer
- encourage students to develop the skills needed for employment by including opportunities for business challenges and applied learning in real contexts
- ensure students have high aspirations and self-esteem and accept responsibility for their learning
- offer students the opportunity for moral and spiritual reflection in order to promote positive emotional health and confidence.

We do this by offering a curriculum that is personalised, which is broad, balanced and coherent. The curriculum is supported by high-quality electives/enrichment activities for all years.

### Curriculum Allocation

	English	Maths	Science	Geography	History	RE	MFL	Computing	Art	Performing Arts	Design Technology	Physical Education	Morning Meeting	DEAR	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Number of lessons
Class of 2026 Year 7	5	5	5	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	25 mins	20 mins				28
Class of 2025 Year 8	5	5	5	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	25 mins	20 mins				28
Class of 2024 Year 9	5	5	5	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	25 mins	20 mins				28
Class of 2023 Year 10	5	5	5									1	25 mins	20 mins	4	4	4	28
Class of 2022 Year 11	5	5	5									1	20 mins	25 mins	4	4	4	28

### **Key Stage 3**

Alongside English, maths and science, all our students study geography, history, RE, art, design and technology, computing, modern foreign languages (Spanish and French), performing arts and PE. At DFA, we place a high value on developing literacy and reading for pleasure therefore students also benefit from 20 minutes of DEAR (Drop Everything and READ) time every day.

In Year 9, students elect three *options subjects* that they will go on to study over the course of Years 10 and 11. The majority of these subjects will be GCSE as it is our fervent belief that the study of *high-currency qualifications* will not only offer academic rigour but also ensure that our students are best placed to compete with their peers on a national scale.

Options subjects include GCSEs in art, computing, design technology, dance, business, languages, humanities as well as those in core subjects. Vocational qualifications are offered in sport and health and social care.

### **Key Stage 4**

At DFA, we talk to our students all the time about climbing the mountain to university or a real alternative; meeting these aspirations requires hard work, focus, and dedication.

We have a strong academic curriculum at Key Stage 3 which prepares pupils effectively for their GCSEs and beyond. We believe it is important pupils have a balanced curriculum – having balance ensures that they do not close doors too early, that's why pupils at DFA complete a three year Key Stage 3 and study a range of different subjects before they make their GCSE options choices in Y9.

We believe that an academic, knowledge-rich curriculum should be an entitlement for all our students. We have allocated considerable time and resources to ensure students achieve well across the core and options subjects.

### **EBacc**

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a performance measure for schools which helps to provide a snapshot of how well the school is doing. It is not a qualification for pupils but a measure of their success across a core of academic subjects.

The following subjects make up the EBacc:

- English or English Literature
- Mathematics
- Two sciences (either Combined Science or two of Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Computer Science)
- History or Geography
- A Modern Foreign Language

These subjects are those most regularly asked for by colleges and universities. Although students do not need to have studied all of these to go on to higher education, having a mix of subjects geared towards the EBacc will help keep their options open.