

# Implementing the new secondary curriculum



National Curriculum

The national curriculum applies to all pupils of compulsory school age in community and foundation schools, including community special schools and foundation and voluntary-controlled schools.

## Key stage 3

### What is statutory?

The statutory subjects that key stage 3 pupils must study are:

- art and design
- citizenship
- design and technology
- English
- geography
- history
- information and communication technology
- mathematics
- modern foreign languages
- music
- physical education
- science.

The teaching of religious education, sex education and careers education is also statutory.

### Non-statutory programmes of study

To support the teaching of religious education, sex education and careers education, there are non-statutory programmes of study for:

- religious education, based on the framework for religious education
- personal wellbeing, which includes the requirements for sex and relationship and drugs education
- economic wellbeing and financial capability, which includes the requirements for careers education.

### Timetable for implementation

New programmes of study to be implemented from September 2008 with all year 7 pupils.

This cohort will be the first pupils to experience the new programmes of study in year 8 (from September 2009) and in year 9 (from September 2010).

In summer 2011 they will be assessed using the new attainment targets for the first time.

## Key stage 4

### What is statutory at key stage 4?

The statutory subjects that key stage 4 pupils must study are:

- citizenship
- English
- information and communication technology
- mathematics
- physical education
- science.

The teaching of religious education, sex education, careers education and work-related learning is also statutory.

### Non-statutory programmes of study

To support the teaching of religious education, sex education, careers education and work-related learning, there are non-statutory programmes of study for:

- religious education, based on the framework for religious education
- personal wellbeing, which includes the requirements for sex and relationship and drugs education
- economic wellbeing and financial capability, which includes the requirements for careers education.

### Key stage 4 entitlement

All key stage 4 students are also entitled to follow a course of study in a subject within each of the following four entitlement areas:

- arts (comprising art and design, music, dance, drama and media arts)
- design and technology
- humanities (comprising geography and history)
- modern foreign languages.

Key stage 4 students also have a statutory entitlement to have access to a course of study leading to at least two science GCSEs: either science GCSE and additional science GCSE; or all three of physics, chemistry and biology GCSEs. Schools may choose to offer other combinations of qualifications, but these must be in addition to, not instead of, the above.

### Timetable for implementation

September 2009: new programmes of study for citizenship and PE to be implemented with all year 10 students

September 2010: new programmes of study for English, mathematics and ICT to be implemented with all year 10 students (coinciding with the introduction of new GCSEs in these subjects)