

Our curriculum aims to improve the life chances and opportunities of our students. It is designed to match the aspirations of our community, both engendering in our pupils a love of learning and the process of learning and giving all learners a transformative experience through a broad and knowledge-rich curriculum. This ties closely into our mission statement-

Inspire the child

Discover the future

Empower the community

When it comes to ensuring our students are successful, we believe that it's the curriculum that matters most – what pupils learn which will help them have successful and fulfilling lives. Our rigorous and challenging curriculum defines the purpose of our school and the journey we want our pupils to take.

Our curriculum allows students to acquire knowledge that supports development and also takes them beyond their experience and knowledge which may not be accessible outside of school. We believe that this knowledge empowers: it gives students the confidence to learn more, think both critically and creatively, and to be able to participate in society. Powerful knowledge is a question of social justice: children need this knowledge to understand and interpret the world. It ensures our pupils can 'hold their own' and be successful when they leave Cleaswell Hill.

We want our students to be excited about what they have learned and to leave them wanting to know more. Our curriculum is designed to foster curiosity, so that our pupils identify the knowledge and skills that they acquire, not merely as a means to an end, but as a source of interest and enjoyment in itself.

At Cleaswell Hill, we believe that the knowledge imparted by our ambitious curriculum is the entitlement of all pupils who attend our school. We include the more difficult content of some subjects for pupils because we know that this would be doing our learners a disservice and refusing them their entitlement to knowledge if we did not.

High-quality teaching for pupils is our most effective tool to ensure that every learner can access the curriculum; all our pupils access exceptional teaching and learning.

Acquiring knowledge is worthwhile in itself, because it gives all our pupils a rich and detailed understanding of the world and our placings in it and the opportunity to develop a passion for learning. We ensure that our learners are exposed to, and know for themselves, the best of what has been thought and said, so that they are able to enjoy, participate and thrive in their lives.

We are rightly proud of our pupils and their outstanding learning outcomes year after year.

We know that qualifications are milestones on the journey for some of our learners. Exams exist in service to our curriculum and not the other way round; exams check understanding of a small sample of our curriculum. Our curriculum leads to our pupils' excellent outcomes because these outcomes reflect our pupils' knowledge and what our pupils have learned.

Our curriculum is underpinned by the following principles in order to achieve **excellence**:

- Personalised
- Knowledge and skills-rich
- Thoughtfully sequenced
- Increasing in depth and complexity
- Exciting, rigorous and challenging
- Consolidation through frequent and systematic review

Achieving exceptional practice

How does the curriculum at Cleaswell Hill achieve excellence?

We aim for excellence in all we do, every day. Within our school and wider community, we drive excellence by striving to be the best version of ourselves, better today than we were yesterday.

To achieve excellence, an individual needs to securely grasp knowledge that they can independently apply through skills that are specific. To achieve excellence is to reach a high level of proficiency that allows for fluency. At Cleaswell Hill, we aim for each pupil to achieve excellence within all the personalised targets and subjects they study.

The curriculum is methodically sequenced to ensure knowledge and skills build in a logical order. This enables strong foundations for knowledge to continually build, increasing in depth and complexity.

The curriculum provides clarity for progression. Teachers understand the learning journey students need to follow to achieve excellence – within a lesson, cycle of learning, across key stages and beyond the school. As a result, pupils learn more, remember more and are able to do more, sustaining excellence over time.

The curriculum allows for frequent and systematic reviews of student learning. Formative and summative assessments are mapped within the curriculum to provide teachers with regular opportunities to assess progress and understanding, and address misconceptions and errors through feedback, re-teaching and intervention.

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