

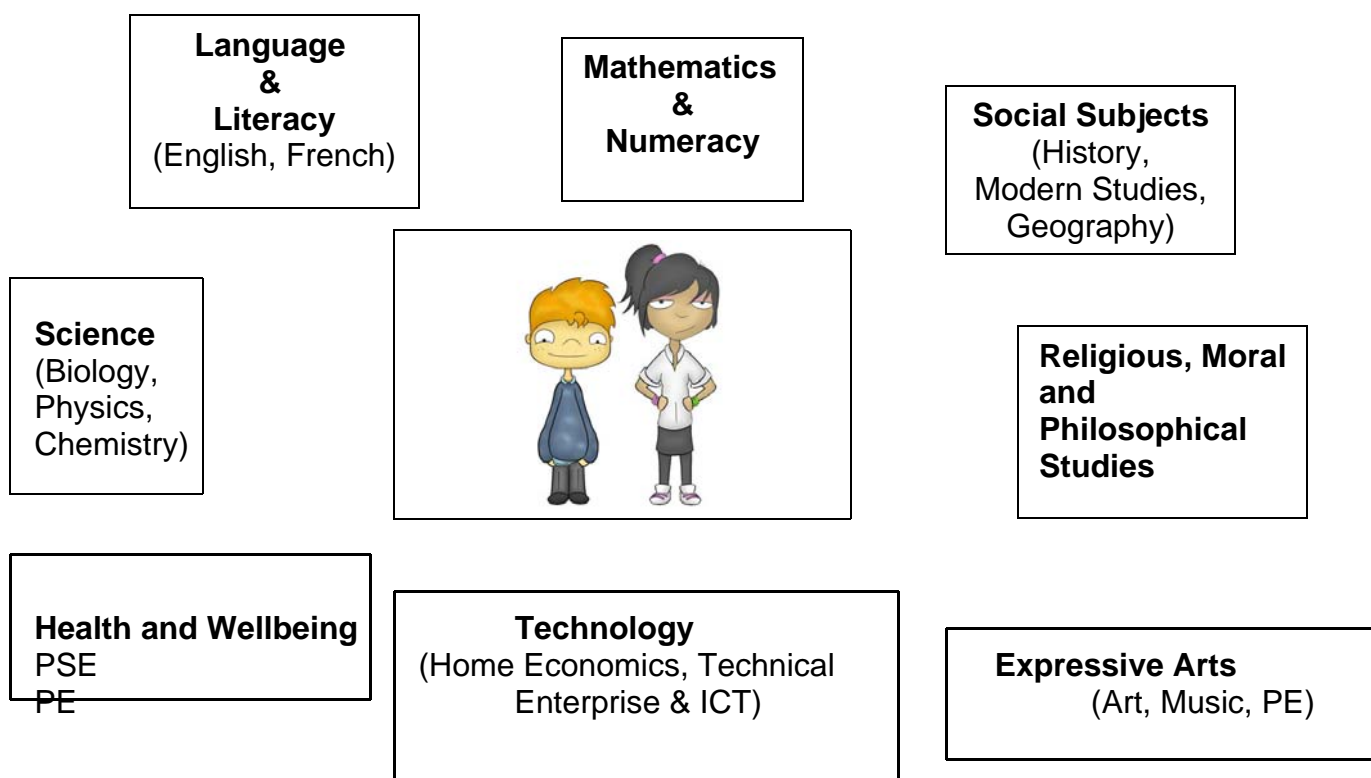
# Smithycroft Secondary School



## S3 Learner Pathways

## S3 LEARNER PATHWAYS

Since coming to Smithycroft you have been studying what we call a broad general education. This has ensured that you experienced a range of subjects in S1 and S2 which come under eight different areas of the curriculum.



As well as these curricular areas you have been involved in activities to help you understand how learning links up across the curriculum, given opportunities to develop your personal achievements and to get involved in the life of the school and wider community.

As you move into S3 we know that you are beginning to think more of your future beyond Smithycroft. We want to ensure that you continue to study over the eight key curriculum areas but we think it is now time to begin to **SPECIALISE** within these areas. Specialising will allow you to choose your own learner pathway in S3. As you move from this Junior phase of school to a Senior phase starting in S4, we believe this will help to prepare you well for your future.

**Some curriculum areas will continue as normal and you will study the experiences and outcomes for these areas.** These areas are:

- Language and Literacy – You will study English and French
- Mathematics & Numeracy- You will study Maths
- Health and Well Being - You will study Personal & Social Education and PE
- RMPS - You will study Religious, Moral and Philosophical education

**In the four remaining areas you will have the opportunity to specialise and study subject areas in more depth.**

- In Social Subjects you can specialise in either  
History or Modern Studies or Geography
- In Science you can continue to study all 3 in a combined science course or specialise in either  
Biology or Chemistry or Physics
- In Technology you can specialise in either  
Home Economics (Hospitality Food and Health Developing Textile skills) or Technical (Craft Skills Graphics) or Business Studies (Administration Business Management)
- In Expressive Arts you can specialise in either  
Art & Design or Music or PE

**You will also have the opportunity to specialise in one further subject.** So let's say you really enjoy and are good at Science and think this is something you would want to pursue in the Senior phase. You could pick Biology in the science curricular area and Chemistry in the '**Additional Specialist area**'. You may also be good at and really enjoy French so might want to develop your languages picking Spanish in the 'Additional Specialist Area'

**'The Additional Specialist Area'** will comprise one of

- |           |         |                |       |                  |                       |
|-----------|---------|----------------|-------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Biology   | Spanish | Chemistry      | RMPS  | Physics          | Skills Support Course |
| Technical | Art     | Home Economics | Music | Business Studies | PE                    |

You will also have the opportunity to choose an 'elective'. This will be a list of opportunities which may help to develop your literacy, numeracy, health & wellbeing, citizenship or ICT skills. Some will just give you an opportunity to try something different. Examples of these may be writing for a pupil newspaper, producing comics, developing international links, jewellery making, become a cupcake expert etc.

**The remainder of the booklet will provide you with more information about the subjects in each of the curricular areas.** This will allow you to make important decisions about your own chosen pathway. These decisions will be important since you will want to build on the specialist skills you have developed in S3 as you move into the Senior Phase. At the end of S3 you will have the opportunity to look again at your learning pathway and choose how you wish this to be continued in the Senior Phase beginning in S4.



**Throughout this particular period of your school journey you will get lots of help and support from your Pastoral Care teacher and PSE itself. The important thing to remember at all times is that it is YOUR future and YOUR learner pathway – not your friends, not even your best pal. So think carefully and weigh up your areas of interest, challenge and enjoyment. This will ensure that you make decisions that are right for you!**