

An Introduction to Curriculum Outlines

Summerhill aims to provide a broad and balanced curriculum including core subjects; Maths, English, Literature, Science, ICT, MFL, Art, Music and History up to GCSE level.

Each teacher maintains a curriculum outline, which they review and update annually.

Together the curriculum outlines form a document which describes the curriculum in formal learning spaces across the school. Classes 1 and 2 have individual curriculum outlines for their area. Class 3 and sign up are covered by all other (subject) curriculum outlines (which may also include details for classes 1 and 2). Class 3 is to give time and space for children to try out subjects and discover their interests removing the pressure of GCSE syllabi and allowing freedom to experience formal learning, this helps to nurture a positive relationship to given subjects, while allowing teachers the opportunity to enthusiastically share their passion.

A curriculum outline describes all that is available in that subject area, for both non exam and exam classes. Details of any schemes of work used are given as well as other planning methods. Non compulsion at Summerhill dictates that curriculum outlines should be flexible in nature, take into account attendance patterns and enable access to the curriculum for all learners, allowing Summerhill to provide a bespoke education.

National curriculum year groups are not used in any way or at any stage in Summerhill. This is vital to remove age related expectations and uphold the school's philosophy of allowing children to develop at their own pace (See Summerhill General Policy Statement). For this reason, Class 3 focus is on non GCSE work, although, when appropriate and agreed upon by pupil and teacher it is possible to enter for GCSE in Class 3.