

# Curriculum Framework of Crownwell School

## Strategic Institutional Framework and Educational Philosophy

Crownwell School is an Independent Online School that reimagines world-class British education through a hybrid model. This model is predicated on the belief that a one-size-fits-all approach to pedagogy is fundamentally insufficient for nurturing the "unique spark" inherent in every child. By blending the time-honored rigor of the national curriculum of England with advanced digital platforms, dedicated personal mentorship, and transformative in-person experiences, the school provides a comprehensive learning ecosystem designed to cultivate future-ready skills, critical thinking, and resilience.

The institutional mission focuses on empowering global learners by providing an accessible, affordable, and highly personalized education. This objective is achieved through flexible, tiered pathways, including the Pinnacle Program, the Collaborative Cohort, and the Global Access Program, that meet the unique academic and financial needs of families worldwide. The vision for the school, established by founders with extensive experience across UK state and private sectors, is to move beyond the limitations of mainstream schooling to offer a dynamic environment where academic excellence is balanced with compassionate support.

Strategic Pillar	Core Objective	Mechanism of Delivery
Academic Excellence	Cultivating deep subject mastery and critical thinking.	Rigorous alignment with the National Curriculum and specialist teaching.
Global Leadership	Preparing students to navigate and lead in an interconnected world.	Blending virtual instruction with real-world collaboration and summits.
Personalization	Nurturing the specific intellectual requirements of each learner.	Flexible 1-to-1 or small-group live interactive lessons.
Future Readiness	Developing digital literacy and resilience.	Technology-integrated curriculum and mentorship support.

## Statutory Basis: The National Curriculum in England as a Core Framework

The curriculum at Crownwell School is anchored in the statutory framework of the national curriculum in England, which sets out the programs of study and attainment targets for all subjects across five key stages. This framework provides an introduction to the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the "best that has been thought and said" and fostering an appreciation for human creativity and achievement.

As a state-aligned framework, the national curriculum ensures that every pupil receives a balanced and broadly based education that promotes their spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, and physical development. Crownwell School adopts this core knowledge as an outline around which its expert teachers develop exciting and stimulating lessons, while also providing the time and space to range beyond these specifications in accordance with the school's mission to foster curiosity and independent learning.

## Structure of the Educational Journey

The curriculum is organized on the basis of distinct key stages, which define the subject content and attainment targets appropriate for different age groups.

Key Stage	Age Range	Year Groups	Focus of Curriculum
Key Stage 1	5-7	1-2	Foundational literacy, numeracy, and basic scientific observation.
Key Stage 2	7-11	3-6	Mastery of core skills, broadening scientific knowledge, and historical awareness.
Key Stage 3	11-14	7-9	Bridge to IGCSE success; introduction of specialist subjects and critical thinking.
Key Stage 4	14-16	10-11	IGCSE/GCSE qualification pathways and specialized academic options.
Key Stage 5	16-19	12-13	A-Level specialization and university-style seminar learning.

**Note:** The national curriculum structure identifies "core" subjects (English, Mathematics, and Science) which are compulsory throughout all key stages up to the age of 16. Additionally, "foundation" subjects such as Art and Design, Computing, Design and Technology, Languages, Geography, History, Music, and Physical Education are mandatory at various stages to ensure a well-rounded educational experience.

## Pedagogical Delivery Models: The Online Advantage

Crownwell School leverages modern technology to overcome the limitations of traditional brick-and-mortar schools, offering flexible scheduling and specialized instructional tiers. The online delivery model is characterized by live, interactive video sessions that ensure students are active participants in their education rather than passive observers.

- **Tiered Instructional Pathways**

The school offers three primary programs, each designed to provide a specific level of support and peer interaction.

- **The Pinnacle Program (1-to-1 Learning):** This program provides fully bespoke, live interactive lessons tailored to the individual learner's pace and interests. It is particularly suited for elite athletes, performers, or students with specific learning requirements who require a 100% flexible schedule.
- **The Collaborative Cohort (1-to-6 Learning):** This model combines the benefits of direct teacher support with peer collaboration in small groups. It is designed to foster confidence in speaking and collaborative problem-solving while ensuring that each student receives targeted attention from their teacher and a personal mentor.

- **The Global Access Program (1-to-Many Learning):** This pathway offers affordable access to the world-class British curriculum, delivered by certified international partners, focusing on core subjects such as Mathematics, English, and Science.

## The Role of Personal Mentorship and Support

Central to the Crownwell experience is the personal mentor, who guides students across all subjects and provides a supportive ethos. At Crownwell School, students meet daily with their mentor to address academic challenges and personal growth. This mentorship is particularly vital in the online environment, helping students build resilience, navigate digital platforms, and remain engaged with their learning goals.

## Primary School Curriculum: Key Stages 1 and 2

The Primary School provides a nurturing start to the online British curriculum, focusing on foundational skills in literacy and numeracy while sparking a love for discovery. The experience is creative and interactive, utilizing digital whiteboards, educational games, and collaborative projects to make learning memorable.

## Literacy: Developing Literacy and Language

The primary aim for Literacy in the national curriculum is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written word.

- In **Key Stage 1**, the focus is on rapid development in word reading through systematic phonics, ensuring that pupils can sound and blend unfamiliar words quickly and accurately.
- By **Key Stage 2**, the focus shifts toward developing the breadth and depth of pupils' reading. Students are taught to read fluently, understand extended prose, and read for pleasure across both fiction and non-fiction. In writing, the curriculum emphasizes transcription (spelling and handwriting) and composition, teaching pupils to articulate ideas and organize them coherently for a reader.

English Domain	Key Stage 1 Focus	Key Stage 2 Focus
<b>Reading</b>	Phonic knowledge and decoding; listening to wide-ranging stories.	Independent silent reading; drawing inferences and identifying main ideas.
<b>Writing</b>	Simple sentences; basic punctuation (capital letters, full stops).	Paragraph organization; varied grammar and vocabulary; creative narratives.
<b>Spoken Language</b>	Listening and responding to adults/peers; asking questions.	Participating in debates and formal presentations; justifying opinions.
<b>Vocabulary</b>	Developing early vocabulary through listening to books.	Understanding nuances in word meaning and figurative language.

## Numeracy: Foundations and Fluency

The principal focus of numeracy teaching in Key Stage 1 is ensuring that pupils develop confidence and mental fluency with whole numbers, counting, and place value. By the end of Year 2, pupils are expected to know their number bonds to 20 and understand the value of each digit in a two-digit number.

In Key Stage 2, the focus broadens to ensure that pupils become increasingly fluent with the four operations (+, -, x, ÷) and the concept of place value. By the end of Year 4, the national curriculum requires that all pupils have memorized their multiplication tables up to and including the 12 x 12 table. Crownwell School emphasizes Mathematics Mastery, ensuring students develop conceptual understanding before moving on to complex problem-solving.

## Science: Exploring the Natural World

Science education in the primary phase enables pupils to observe phenomena and develop an understanding of scientific ideas through different types of enquiry. "Working scientifically" is a central strand, involving asking questions, performing simple tests, and identifying and classifying organisms and materials.

Science Topic	Key Stage 1 Content	Key Stage 2 Content
Life Processes	Identifying wild and garden plants; naming body parts and senses.	Digestive system functions; identifying teeth types; food chains.
Materials	Distinguishing between objects and materials; basic properties.	States of matter (solids, liquids, gases); reversible changes.
Physical World	Observing seasonal changes and weather patterns.	Light and shadows; sound vibrations; basic electricity circuits.
Living Things	Living vs. dead; simple habitats and micro-habitats.	Evolution and inheritance; classifying plants and animals (Linnaeus).

## Foundation and Specialist Subjects

In addition to the core subjects, Primary students engage in a varied weekly timetable:

- **Humanities:** Geography and History.
- **Languages:** Introduction to Spanish and French.
- **Creative and Technical:** Arts, Design and Tech (DT), and Creative Media.
- **Wellbeing:** PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, and Economic education).

## Lower Secondary Curriculum: Key Stage 3

The Secondary School at Crownwell (ages 11-14) serves as the bridge between primary foundations and IGCSE success. Students at this stage explore a broader range of subjects with specialist teachers, focusing on the development of critical thinking and independent study skills.

- **Core Academic:** Mathematics, English, and Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics).
- **Humanities:** History and Geography.
- **Languages:** Spanish and French.
- **Technology & Computing:** Computer Science and Design Tech (DT).
- **Creative Arts:** Art and Design and Creative Media.
- **Personal Development:** PSHE and dedicated daily Self-Study and Homework blocks.

## Subject Specialization and Depth

In Key Stage 3, the curriculum transitions toward a more disciplinary structure, preparing students for the rigors of examined courses in Key Stage 4.

- **English:** Students read increasingly challenging material, including pre-1914 and contemporary English literature, seminal world literature, and two Shakespeare plays. They learn to write formal expository and narrative essays, developing a command of Standard English and rhetorical devices.
- **Mathematics:** Numerical capability is consolidated and extended to include algebra, powers, roots, and fractions. Students move freely between numerical, algebraic, and graphical representations, developing fluency in solving increasingly sophisticated problems.
- **Science:** The curriculum is divided into biology, chemistry, and physics. Students explore "big ideas" such as the particulate model of matter, structure-function links in living organisms, and energy transfer mechanisms.
- **Computer Science:** Students are taught the principles of information and computation, including logic, algorithms, and data representation. They develop practical experience in writing computer programs to solve problems.
- **Humanities (History and Geography):** History education provides a chronological narrative of Britain and the wider world. Geography equips students with knowledge of diverse places, resources, and environmental processes.
- **Collaborative Learning and Real-World Application**

The learning experience in secondary school is dynamic and highly interactive, with a focus on debate and group projects. Through the Collaborative Cohort, students apply their knowledge to real-world scenarios, building the confidence to articulate their ideas clearly in a focused and supportive classroom environment.

## Higher Secondary: GCSE and IGCSE (Key Stage 4)

Key Stage 4 (ages 14-16) is the critical phase for qualification-focused study, preparing students for international examinations through boards such as Pearson Edexcel and Cambridge International.

### Core and Optional Subject Framework

The Key Stage 4 curriculum is designed to be coherent, practical, and rigorous. Students study a mix of core requirements and optional specializations to align with their university aspirations.

- **Core Requirements:** All students continue to study English Language and Literature, Mathematics, and the Sciences (separately taught as biology, chemistry, and physics).
- **Required Subjects:** Students have the opportunity to specialize in subjects that align with their career aspirations, including Computer Science, Business Studies, Economics, History, Geography, Art and Design and Modern Foreign Languages.
- **Preparation:** Daily Progress Tests and Enrichment blocks ensure students are prepared for high-stakes examinations.

### Preparation for Examinations

The educational approach at this level involves intensive, focused revision and past paper practice. Teachers provide targeted support to help students master challenging concepts and achieve their full potential in terms of grade improvement. This preparation is facilitated by Crownwell's online tools, which allow for granular tracking of student progress and identification of specific learning barriers.

## Sixth Form: Key Stage 5 (A-Levels)

The Sixth Form (ages 16-19) represents the "gold standard" for university preparation, offering a university-style learning environment that prizes deep subject knowledge and independent research.

### Specialization and Academic Mastery

In Key Stage 5, students specialize in A-Level courses that reflect their passions and career goals. The curriculum is delivered in a seminar-style format, allowing for high-level debate and master-led instruction, delivered in 40-minute seminar-style blocks.

Domain	A-Level Subject	Pedagogical Focus	University/Career Path
Mathematics	Mathematics	Advanced calculus, statistics, and mechanics.	Engineering, Finance, Computer Science.
Mathematics	Further Mathematics	Advanced calculus and abstract mathematical theory.	Theoretical Physics, Data Science, Advanced Engineering, and Mathematical Research.

<b>Sciences</b>	Physics	Nuclear physics, field theories, and astrophysics.	Research Science, Advanced Technology.
<b>Sciences</b>	Chemistry	Organic chemistry and molecular theory.	Medicine, Pharmacy, Biochemistry, and Chemical Engineering.
<b>Sciences</b>	Biology	Genetics, cell biology, and ecological systems.	Medicine, Veterinary Science, Biological Research, and Environmental Science.
<b>Social Sciences</b>	Economics	Micro/Macro-economic theory and financial literacy.	Law, Politics, Economic Development.
<b>Social Sciences</b>	Business Studies	Strategic management and corporate ethics.	Business Leadership, Marketing.
<b>Technology</b>	Computer Science	Software engineering and complex data structures.	Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security.
<b>Humanities</b>	English Literature	Critical analysis of diverse literary texts, developing analytical skills, and high-level debate.	Law, Journalism, Media, Education, and Publishing.
<b>Humanities</b>	Spanish	Advanced fluency and cultural research.	International Relations, Global Business, Translation, and Diplomacy.

### **Advanced Critical Thinking and Research**

Beyond subject-specific content, the Sixth Form curriculum emphasizes advanced critical thinking, argumentation, and research skills. Students are guided through the UCAS application process to build highly competitive profiles for entry into leading global universities. This stage is the culmination of the "comprehensive learning ecosystem", transitioning students from virtual classrooms to professional or university life.

### **Inclusion, Special Educational Needs, and EAL Strategies**

Crownwell School is committed to providing an inclusive environment where every student, regardless of their background or learning profile, can thrive. The national curriculum mandates that teachers set high expectations and plan stretching work for all pupils.

### **Addressing Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**

The institution's expertise in Mathematics Mastery and SEN ensures that lessons are planned to remove barriers to learning. For a minority of pupils who require specialist equipment or different pedagogical approaches, the school utilizes the flexible nature of its 1-to-1 Pinnacle Program to provide necessary accommodations. Teachers identify potential areas of difficulty at the outset of

work, ensuring that SEN and disabled pupils can study the full national curriculum wherever possible.

**Supporting English as an Additional Language (EAL)**

For students whose first language is not English, teachers plan opportunities to help develop their communication skills in tandem with the subject curriculum. Monitoring of progress takes into account the student's age, previous educational experience, and linguistic background. The ability of EAL pupils to participate in the national curriculum may often be in advance of their English proficiency, and teachers aim to provide the necessary support to bridge this gap.

**Operational Framework: Scheduling and School Day**

Crownwell School operates a structured yet flexible online timetable designed to accommodate global learners and diverse training schedules.

**Flexible Timetabling**

The school offers flexible and convenient scheduling designed for traveling families, elite athletes, and performers.

- **Lesson Duration:** Most private and interactive group sessions are 40 minutes long.
- **Frequency:** Lessons typically occur five times per week per subject for core subjects, with additional mentor support sessions.

**Daily Routine**

The school day is divided into consistent morning and afternoon blocks to balance rigorous instruction with independent study and holistic growth.

Daily Routine	Timings	Details
Morning Sessions	08:00 - 12:50	Six 40-minute academic blocks with 10-minute intervals for transitions and breaks.
Lunch	12:50 - 01:40	A midday break for rest and nutrition.
Afternoon Support	01:40 - 03:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Progress Tests:</b> Daily assessment slots for KS4 and KS5 to track mastery.</li><li>● <b>Homework &amp; Self-Study:</b> Dedicated time for KS1-KS3 to consolidate learning.</li><li>● <b>Enrichment:</b> A final daily block dedicated to non-academic growth and extracurricular exploration.</li></ul>



## Flexible Delivery

While the standard timetable follows a UK-based structure, the school provides options for international students to build schedules around their specific time zones and external commitments, such as athletic training, without compromising educational quality.

## The Admissions Journey

The school follows a clear, four-step process to ensure that students are placed in the program best suited to their needs. This personalized entry pathway ensures that academic goals are aligned with the student's unique learning profile and instructional tier for maximum success.

Step	Phase	Action and Requirements
1	Consultation	Meeting with an Education Consultant to discuss needs and aspirations.
2	Documentation	Submission of proof of age, residence, immunization, and academic records.
3	Assessment	Academic assessment to gauge levels and suitability for online learning.
4	Enrolment	Finalizing payment and receiving school credentials and official timetable.

## Cross-Curricular Themes: Literacy, Numeracy, and Digital Fluency

The National Curriculum in England requires core skills that must be developed across all subjects to ensure a coherent learning experience. Crownwell School integrates these directly into its online pedagogy.

### Language and Literacy across the Curriculum

English is both a subject and the medium for teaching the whole curriculum. Teachers are responsible for developing pupils' spoken language, reading, writing, and vocabulary systematically. This ensures that students can articulate scientific concepts precisely and use mathematical language accurately to present justifications.

### Mathematical Fluency across the Curriculum

Confidence in numeracy and other mathematical skills is a precondition for success in most subjects. Teachers encourage pupils to develop numeracy and mathematical reasoning in all fields, from calculating energy requirements in science to analyzing historical data in humanities.

## **Digital Literacy and Citizenship**

As an online institution, digital literacy is a fundamental component of the Crownwell experience. Students are taught to use technology purposefully, creating and organizing digital content while learning how to stay safe and respectful online. This preparation ensures that students are not only academically proficient but also responsible participants in a digital world.

## **A Model for Future Global Leadership**

The curriculum at Crownwell School represents a profound synthesis of traditional British academic rigor and modern technological flexibility. By adhering strictly to the National Curriculum for England while offering specialized, tiered learning pathways, the institution provides a "comprehensive learning ecosystem" that prepares students for the challenges of university and beyond.

From foundational Numeracy and Literacy in Primary School to the university-style seminar debates and specialized A-Level pathways of the Sixth Form, including subjects like Further Mathematics and Economics, every stage is designed to nurture a genuine love for learning while providing the structure needed for academic success.

The integration of specialized foundation subjects and daily enrichment, alongside personal mentorship and future-ready skills, ensures that students graduate as resilient, well-rounded global citizens equipped to lead in an increasingly complex world. This framework stands as a testament to the school's vision of redefining global education, making the best of British education accessible to every child, everywhere.