

Guideline for Grade 10 -12 Elective subjects offered at The King's School West Rand.

Accounting focuses on measuring performance, processing and communicating financial information about economic sectors. This discipline ensures that principles such as ethical behaviour, transparency and accountability are adhered to. It deals with the logical, systematic and accurate selection and recording of financial information and transactions, as well as the compilation, analysis, interpretation and communication of financial statements and managerial reports for use by interested parties.

The accounting knowledge, skills and values that focus on the financial accounting, managerial accounting and auditing fields, will prepare learners for a variety of career opportunities.

Business Studies deals with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values critical for informed, productive, ethical and responsible participation in the formal and informal economic sectors. The subject encompasses business principles, theory and practice that underpin the development of entrepreneurial initiatives, sustainable enterprises and economic growth.

Geography is the study of human and physical environments. It is a subject that combines topics related to physical and human processes over time and space. With the use of Geography, we can better understand our complex world. There are many branches of study in Geography. In Physical Geography we examine the natural processes and features including the atmosphere, landforms and ecosystems. In Human Geography, we investigate the activities and impact of people on earth. The concept that unifies Geography is space. All geographical phenomena have a spatial dimension and operate in a continuously changing environment.

History is the study of change and development in society over time. The study of History enables us to understand how past human action affects the present and influences our future, and it allows us to evaluate these effects. So, History is about learning how to think about the past, which affects the present, in a disciplined way. History is a process of enquiry. Therefore, it is about asking questions of the past: What happened? When did it happen? Why did it happen then? What were the short-term and long-term results? It involves thinking critically about the stories people tell us about the past, as well as the stories that we tell ourselves.

Life Sciences is the scientific study of living things from molecular level to their interaction with one another and their environments. To be accepted as a science, certain methods for broadening existing knowledge, or discovering new things, are generally used. These methods must lend themselves to replication and a systematic approach to scientific enquiry. The methods include formulating hypotheses and carrying out investigations and experiments as objectively as possible to test the hypotheses. The methods and results are analysed, evaluated and debated before they are accepted as valid.

Mathematics is a language that makes use of symbols and notations for describing numerical, geometric and graphical relationships. It is a human activity that involves observing, representing and investigating patterns and qualitative relationships in physical and social phenomena and between mathematical objects themselves. It develops mental processes that enhance logical and critical thinking, accuracy and problem solving that will contribute in decision-making. Mathematical problem-solving enables us to understand the world around us, and most of all, to teach us to think creatively.

Mathematical Literacy will allow individuals to make sense of, participate in and contribute to the twenty-first century world – a world characterised by numbers, numerically based arguments and data represented and misrepresented in a number of different ways. Such competencies includes the ability to reason, make decisions, solve problems, manage resources, interpret information, schedule events and use and apply technology. Learners will be exposed to both mathematical content and real-life contexts to develop these competencies. Mathematical Literacy will enable learners to become self-managing people, contributing workers and participating citizens. The subject will provide opportunities to analyse problems and devise ways to work mathematically in solving such problems.

Physical Science investigates physical and chemical phenomena. This is done through scientific inquiry, application of scientific models, theories and laws in order to explain and predict events in the physical environment. The subject also deals with society's need to understand how the physical environment works in order to benefit from it and responsibly care for it. Learners will be equipped with skills like designing an investigation, hypothesising, controlling variables, inferring, observing and comparing, problem solving and drawing and evaluating conclusions.

Visual Arts covers a broad field of creative practice that involves the hand, the eye, the intellect and the imagination in conceptualising and creating two-dimensional and three-dimensional artworks, objects and environments which reflect the aesthetic, conceptual and expressive concerns of individuals or groups. Learners acquire the capacity to make practical and aesthetic decisions in the development of a coherent body of work. Learners who opt to continue with the subject must be aware that the practical aspect is time-consuming and a good consistent work ethic is of the utmost importance.

Source:

Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements, Department of Basic Education, Republic of South Africa. 2011.