

Date 23.09.20



Dear Parent/Carers

Curriculum Letter - Year 9

Our curriculum is at the heart of our provision to ensure equality of opportunity for all our students. It is our intent that all students will develop the necessary academic habits in order to achieve the highest qualifications and so reach their true potential. In short our vision is to ensure we reach two main goals, to support our students to get their dream job and to become respectful, model citizens.

What is Curriculum?

Curriculum is the totality of a student's experiences in school, this includes form time, PSHE, break and lunch, assembly, clubs, intervention, interactions with teachers but above all it is what is taught in lessons.

Our Curriculum Structure

Key Stage Three – Years 7-9

Our curriculum at key stage three is designed to provide students with the required learning, skills and knowledge to be able to progress towards higher level learning courses including GCSE and BTEC. We also build upon what has been learnt in Primary school. KS3 is all about providing our students with a wide variety of different subjects and experiences that promote a positive attitude towards learning and provide a foundational knowledge in each subject area. At the end of this year students will choose their options before studying these subjects in year 10.

What are we learning?

Each half term we will provide an overview on what is being taught in each subject area so that you can support your child to keep focussed upon their learning. Please see below:

Year 9 – Learning Overview Half Term 1 September - October

Subject	Topic	Subject	Topic	Subject	Topic	Subject	Topic
English	Soliloquies and Hamlet	Maths	Coordinates, Graphs & proportion	Science	Atomic theories, periodic table development, metals and materials	PE	Trampolining/ Netball/ Athletics
Music	Brit-Pop	Spanish	My family	Food	Eat-well Guide	Art	Pop Art
Design Technology	Amplifier Project	History	WW1	Geography	Extremely Restless – Earthquakes and tsunami	RS	Influential religious people
Reading	Theories & Experiments of Humanity	PSHCE	Peer influence, substance use and gangs.	Assembly	World mental health day, black history month.	Computing	E-Safety

*a more detailed breakdown can be found on the school website by clicking [here](#).



Principal - Marie Dillon

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How well is your child doing? Assessment

Throughout the academic year we will assess your child's learning. We use a variety of sources of evidence to decide how well your child is learning including book work, mini-assessments, home learning and mock examinations. At three points in the year we will share information about their learning and attitude to learning, the first assessments begin 5th October 2020. We are also completing reading age assessments this half term.

Home Learning

We have a home learning rota in place, each week we will hand out a knowledge organiser and the following week there will be an in-class test based upon this. To see our home learning rota and more help and advice on how to help your child at home please click [here](#).

If you want your child to really advance their learning we recommend the following websites. Use the 'Learning Overview' table in conjunction with the below to see what topics your child can study.

[Oak National Academy](#)

[BBC Bitesize](#)

Curriculum Updates

Throughout lockdown we worked hard to maintain learning and moved our teaching online and this has benefitted our students in staying on track. In order to prevent students falling behind we have adapted our curriculum to allow students to recover any lost learning and learn in a COVID-secure way. We have adjusted assessment points so that meaningful learning can take place before testing learning and some subjects have re-ordered the topics they teach.

I am also excited to announce that as of next half term we are moving to an online home learning platform called Show My Home Work. This is an app based programme that will allow you to track and follow how well your child is engaging with home learning. More to follow on this in the next letter.

I hope you found this curriculum overview useful keeping you up-t-date with what your child is learning this half term. I will write to you again in November with a further update on what we are learning in school.

In the meantime please follow our Twitter, Instagram and Facebook pages to keep updated with school life.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P F McEvoy

Deputy Principal



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