

Dear Parent/Carer,

Now that the new academic year is underway, I wanted to write to you to give you a little information about how the curriculum in Y9 is organised.

All pupils in Y9 begin a range of subjects at GCSE level. This is to provide additional time for the courses and maximise the potential for success. The subjects all pupils study at GCSE are:

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science (two) and RE.

In addition, pupils have selected four more through the options and will study each for five hours over the fortnight timetable.

When reports are sent out, the children will have subjects reporting in GCSE Levels 9-1 or Pass/merit/distinction for BTEC.

English, Maths and Science will each determine their own setting while options will be mixed ability according to those who have opted to study the course.

In order to keep the curriculum broad and balanced, pupils will also continue to study ICT and four hours of core PE across the fortnight during Y9. In Y10, ICT will cease as a core subject and PE will reduce to two hours.

Our programme of study for Personal, Social, Health and Careers education (PSHCE) will be covered during each half term through 'drop down' days where we cover a range of topics from Health & Well-being, Relationships, Living in the Wider World as well as Citizenship topics such as Enterprise, democracy and financial management.

PSHE:

- equips pupils with knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and responsible lives.
- supports pupils to be positive in their learning, make effective career choices and smooth transition to the next stage of life and in managing finances effectively and employability skills.
- enables pupils to reflect on own values and attitudes, and explore how to deal with other people's values now and in the future, take responsibility and prepares them for adult life.

We look forward to every student in Year 9 making the most of the opportunities and support available as they continue their journey with us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs P Hartley
Deputy Headteacher