



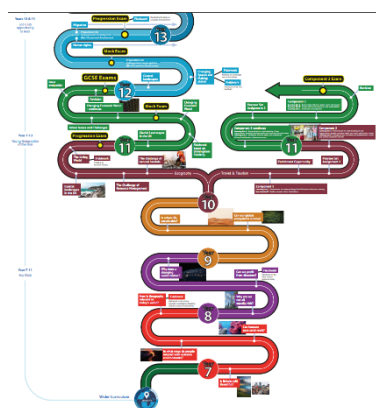
3 October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Deputy Headteacher's Update – Curriculum and Assessment

A month into the school year it has been a real pleasure to see students settled into the wide variety of curriculum subjects we have on offer at each Key Stage. There have already been so many highlights, and I have enjoyed visiting lessons focused on everything from 3D towns in Year 7 Maths, to Bhangra keyboard duets in Year 8 Music and giant flame tests in Year 11 Physics.

If you want to know more about what your child has been doing this term and what is yet to come, please remember to visit the [curriculum pages](#) in the Learn section of our website. Here you will see the curriculum learning journeys and more detailed curriculum overviews for all subjects in each year group.



Year 7 Curriculum Overview			
Rationale: The Year 7 curriculum is designed to give students an introduction to the principles of Computer Science. Students will experience a range of modules which will help them to develop their understanding of computer systems, number systems, programming and how to stay safe when accessing information online.			
Term/Length of Time	Outline	Assessment/Teacher Feedback Opportunities	Homework and Literacy resources
Autumn 1	Using a Computer Students will familiarise themselves with the school network and learn how to use computers and the computer room safely and effectively. Students learn how to use OneNote for lessons. Students will understand how to be safe and responsible on the internet: fake websites, safe searching, copyright, staying safe online, cyber bullying, predators, sexting, etc., including how to report dangers.	MS Forms based end of unit assessment. Mixture of Open and Closed questions with an additional focus on keywords/literacy	Minimum homework expectation - to be set on G4S Completion of revision activity using Seneca Learning Optional homework tasks and Literacy resources Creation of revision resource (e.g. mind map) to be submitted alongside compulsory activity Complete some Bronze Award badges on the OFA Award to showcase your digital literacy and employability skills. Once complete you can move to Silver and then Gold certificates. Access BBC Bitesize and research more into this topic. Complete an activity on Hour of Code Watch an episode of BBC Click on the BBC iPlayer Additional Reading for Budding Computer Scientists: Choose a book from this recommended reading list some of which can be found in the department or the library
Autumn 2	What is a Computer? Students understand the differences between input and output devices including the IPO model. Students are able to recognise the key components	MS Forms based end of unit assessment. Mixture of Open and Closed questions with an additional focus on keywords/literacy	Minimum homework expectation - to be set on G4S Completion of revision activity using Seneca Learning Optional homework tasks and Literacy resources Creation of revision resource (e.g. mind map) to be submitted alongside compulsory activity

Thank you also to all the students who supported in curriculum areas at our Open Evening last Wednesday, we had a phenomenal turn out and the students were real ambassadors for the subject areas and the wider school.

Homework

I can see from Go4Schools that there are a large variety of homework tasks been set this term that are relevant to each curriculum area. From an international schools' project in Year 7 English, to vocabulary learning in French and German, to revision on World War I medicine in Year 10 History and much more. It is also fantastic to see and hear great participation in a wide range of extra-curricular clubs from football to dance, and pop choir to writing club.

This term has also seen the launch of the SPARX Maths platform for Year 8 Maths, which is proving to be very popular.

All homework will be set via Go4Schools, in line with the [homework guidance](#). If you need any help with accessing Go4Schools please visit the [Go4Schools information page](#) on our website.

Target Setting

Throughout their journey with us we ensure we set aspirational academic targets for all students. To support with this, we use external target setting companies who help us to ensure our targets challenge students to make progress in every subject in line with the top 20% of students nationally who have the same starting point.

The starting points they use are Key Stage 2 or Key Stage 4 outcomes as appropriate. We also take into account what we know about our students and if a student exceeds even these aspirational targets either in the previous year or within a year then we will look to challenge them further, to ensure everyone achieves their potential.

These targets will take a range of forms depending on the year group and types of courses your child is studying. More information on our target band and grading systems can be found in the [assessment and reporting guides](#) for each year group on our website.

From Monday 6 October, targets will have been updated where necessary and be visible on the progress tab of Go4Schools for all students in Years 8, 9,10,11 and 13.

Year 12 targets will be available from Monday 13 October.

Year 7 targets will be released towards the end of the autumn term.

I look forward to seeing the many more exciting learning opportunities we will have on offer this term.

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable weekend

Yours sincerely

Ms. Michelle Foy
Deputy Headteacher