



6 September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are thrilled to welcome both you and your children back to what promises to be an exciting and productive new school year. Year 9 is a pivotal time in your child's educational journey, with many opportunities for growth, learning, and development as well as the year in which they make their all-important GCSE option choices. As they navigate this important stage, we are committed to providing the support and guidance they need to succeed at school and outside.

## Learning Journeys

All our Learning Journeys, which contain curriculum information for all subjects, are available on our website within the Learn and Curriculum tab, linked here [Learning Journeys](#) within each subject.

In Year 9 within PSHE, students will be covering a variety of topics in Health & Wellbeing (Peer Influence, Why do Young People Game), Living in the Wider World (Transferable Skills, Digital Literacy) and Relationships (Black History Month and Anti Bullying) for example

## Uniform

As we settle into the new school year, we'd like to remind parents to regularly check that your child is wearing the correct school uniform on a daily basis. Ensuring that your child is dressed according to our guidelines helps maintain the standards we strive for as a school community. You'll find detailed information on acceptable uniform items [here on the school website](#)

## Equipment

We kindly remind all parents to ensure that their child has the correct equipment for school each day. Having the right tools is crucial for effective learning and participation in lessons. Please check that your child is equipped with all necessary items, including pens, pencils, a ruler, calculator, and any subject-specific materials. A well-prepared student is a successful student, and your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

## Careers in Year 9

In the summer newsletter, we requested some feedback on our careers provision. This is to support a bid to achieve the National Quality in Careers Award. We really would welcome your support in completing this short survey, which will provide evidence for this bid. The survey can be found [here](#).

Last year, when your child was in Year 8, they were introduced to the world of careers through their Tutor Time and PHSE curriculum. Some of the careers based learning they have discovered about are:

- Employability skills and the importance of good communication (Grow through life.)
- The importance of challenging stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination (Balance life and work.)
- How to respond positively to feedback, and develop self-worth and confidence (Grow through life.)
- The importance of having goals and aspirations in school and beyond (Manage Career.)
- The different types of employment (Create opportunities and Explore possibilities.)

Year 8 also had the opportunity to become more aware of the Post 16 options and the range of different types of careers through:

- A Post 16 careers event that focused on Apprenticeships and T Levels hosted by an external provider from one of our local colleges.
- A World of Work event hosted by the NHS.
- [Their subject curricula where subject teachers have shared information and real-life stories of a range of careers and routes to those careers that link to their subject.](#)

### Online Safety

You can find the latest Online Safety newsletter on our website, which includes information regarding the newest feature Snapchat have announced recently to help protect 13-17-year-olds. You can view the [Online Safety September Newsletter here](#).

A reminder your child's tutor should be your first point of contact if you have any questions and contact details of your child's tutor can be found in the [Meet the Team](#) section of our website.

Other key pages to use on our website include [Go4Schools \(G4S\)](#), [Parentpay](#) and [Free School Meals](#) for those that may be eligible.

We look forward to working closely with you to ensure that this year is both rewarding and enriching for all our students. Here's to a fantastic year ahead! It has been such a joy to see our Year 9 students back at school today and we are filled with optimism for the journey ahead. With your continued partnership, we are confident that this year will be filled with positive experiences and successes. Together, let's make this a truly outstanding year for all our students.

Thank you.

Mr Alan Boyes  
Year 9 Lead