



An Active Learning Trust School



Our ref: TBO/SK
10 February 2022

Re: Year 7/8/9 Curriculum Newsletters

Dear Parent/ Carer

Please find attached the Spring curriculum newsletter for your child, which should enable you to be more informed of what your child is learning. We are hoping that it will offer a platform to become more involved in your child's learning, reinforcing key knowledge and understanding through conversations at home. It will also provide greater clarification to you on what knowledge and skills your child is aiming to be secure on within each subject.

Each subject will have an outline what your child has covered so far this year and what they will cover this term. It will also outline a success criteria, giving an indication of what students will be expected to know and do by the end of the topic. To assist with this process, we have asked subjects to provide some questions or discussion prompts that you could use at home to interact with your child over their learning. The questions will also give you some guidance on how your child is progressing.

Moving forward, we want to ensure that every student is making significant progress in their learning over time. This means understanding how what they are learning relates to what they have learnt before. The reason for this is that research suggests students are more likely to remember new information if it is related to knowledge students have previously learnt. To support this process, we want our students to have a greater clarity on what progression and success looks like for each topic in their subjects. This will further support them to map how what they are learning relates to each other. Teachers have carefully planned your child's curriculum in carefully sequenced topics and success criteria, with aim of enabling your child to learn more, know more and do more over time within that subject.

For progress and attainment purposes, students meeting the expectations outlined in the success criteria will be securing the knowledge and skills needed to sufficiently access and progress in the curriculum moving forward. This will be represented within the 'Attainment' section on your parent SIMS app as **S** for 'Securing'. Understandably, given the lost learning many students would have experienced due to the pandemic, there may be some students who will have important or significant gaps in their knowledge within a subject. This will be indicated on the SIMS app as **D** for 'Developing' in the Attainment section. Given the importance of every student have a knowledge

base to add new knowledge to, teachers and departments will be deploying strategies to close the gaps in these situations to ensure the child can access and understand the curriculum further on. In the few circumstances where **M** for 'Mastering' is showing in the 'Attainment' section of the SIMs app, your child has demonstrated a comprehensively detailed knowledge and understanding of the curriculum demands in that subject.

We hope that this information and the curriculum newsletter will help you to support your child's learning. We are always keen to receive feedback and would appreciate any comments – positive or constructive – to improve communication on your child's learning.

Yours faithfully

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HUB' with a horizontal line above it and a flourish below.

Mr Boyce
Assistant Principal