

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Curriculum Information for Half Term 3 (6th January to 13th February)

Happy New Year!

The information in this letter outlines Curriculum, Assessment, and Extra-curricular activities for this first Spring term, as students continue to push forwards with their learning. With Options Evening, and then choices, quickly approaching – any opportunity to discuss the curriculum on offer will be of benefit.

Through our curriculum, we provide a wide range of learning experiences both inside and outside of the classroom, aimed at fostering a love of learning and providing opportunities to experience success and fulfilment. Leaders and teachers at HEA and United Learning plan the content, and the sequence of learning, very carefully to aid efficiency and create meaningful connections. We hope that you find the information helpful and a starting point to enable positive discussions at home about subject content and the opportunities that are available within school.

Below is the content that Year 9 students should expect to be taught during half-term 3 of this academic year:

Subject	What will my Year 9 child learn in this subject during Term 3?	
English	Complete ' <i>Lord of the Flies</i> '. Begin study of ' <i>King Lear</i> '.	
Maths	Forming Expressions and Substitution, Direct and Inverse Proportion, Probability	
Science	Particle model of matter; Atomic structure and the periodic table	
RE	Issues of Equality: Disability, Race and Gender	
Geography	Climate change: Causes, effects and responses	
History	The causes, events and consequences of the Second World War	
MFL	Describing places and where you live in the past and present time frames in German, French or Spanish	
Art	Still life drawing, composition, proportion shading and painting	
Computer Science	Data Science: Exploring how data is collected, analyzed, and visualized to gain insights	
Drama	Theatre Practitioners	
Food Tech	To be able to cost out a recipe as well as making hoisin noodles.	
Music	What makes a good song? - Students will explore the different elements that go into song writing with a view to covering a performance and later, writing their own songs.	
PE	Boys Developing core skills, tactics and leadership through football Developing core skills and effective communication through table tennis	Girls Developing core skills, tactics and leadership through netball Developing core skills and effective communication through table tennis/badminton
Textiles	Recycle and reinvent, making a reversible bucket hat, construction processes.	
Product Design	Final manufacturing steps for the tablet holder including dip coating and riveting the feet	

Home-Learning Reminder

Further information regarding Home Learning can be found in the Curriculum letter from half-term 1. We utilise Knowledge Organisers alongside online platforms to set student homework, and access to the following sites is key:

MS Teams – Using their school email address and password.

Sparx – Using the ‘Log in with Microsoft’ button. *Used for Literacy, Maths and Science.*

Seneca - Using the ‘Log in with Microsoft’ button. *Used for Humanities and Languages.*

Arbor – Parents/Carers are able to track both positive and negative points within school on the Arbor app, as well as attendance and the school timetable.

If you have any queries regarding accessing any of the above platforms, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s tutor.

Assessment

Assessment, both summative and formative, form a crucial part of education at HEA – knowing what our students know at any given time is crucial in supporting them further. Whilst students receive ongoing feedback during elements of independent work each lesson, a summative point of formal assessment is useful in gathering information on how the curriculum has landed for all.

During each big term, students should expect at least one formal assessment in each subject – these are then used as the main evidence-point for report writing, and feed back into any re-teaching of common misconceptions. To avoid one specific part of the term becoming heavily weighted towards assessment, our assessments are placed at the best point in the curriculum journey for that subject.

All assessment overviews appear on our school website here - [Assessment](#)

Subject leaders will ensure that revision topics, where appropriate, are made clear on Microsoft Teams, but a broader overview is available in our departmental overviews - [Curriculum](#)

Absence and the Curriculum

We understand that it is unavoidable at times for a student to be absent from school, for varying reasons. We are keen, however, to ensure that access to the curriculum, and continued learning, is made available to those who are absent. Completing portions of work, whilst at home, can be vitally important in ensuring fewer gaps in learning upon return – making the return to school far smoother for the young person.

Our full curriculum (outside of practical elements) is available to all students on Microsoft Teams, within a year group folder. This is split by half-term, or titled, to aid students in identifying which lesson they may have missed. Whilst this is not as purposeful as accessing the lesson with support from the teacher, exposure to the content can ensure greater engagement upon return.

Alongside this, our online home learning portals (Sparx/Seneca) also offer access to 'independent learning' sections for students to access outside of homework.

Extracurricular Activities

Week A			
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
NT Script-Writing MA2 Lunch – PM Form All welcome	Sparx Reader Club EN9 Lunch	You-Nique Group RE2 Lunch All welcome	KS5 Book Club Library Lunch Year 12 and 13
Sewing and Craft Club DT6 Lunch Year 8	Year 8/10/11 Netball Netball Courts 15:30 – 16:30 Year 8, 10 and 11	KS3 Dance Club H1 Lunch KS3	Year 7/8/9 Girls Rugby Lower Field 15:30 – 16:30 Year 7, 8 and 9 girls
Year 7/9 Netball Netball Courts 15:30 – 16:30 Year 7 and 9	Year 9 Boys Football AGP 15:30 – 16:30 Year 9	Thunk Club (Philosophy) H12 Lunch KS4 and KS5	Year 10/11 Boys Football AGP 15:30 – 16:30
Essay Club EN7 15:30 – 16:30 Year 11	School Production Main Hall 13:30 – 17:00 All welcome	Girls Football AGP 15:30 – 16:30 All years	
Year 7/8 Boys Football AGP 15:30 – 16:30 Year 7 and 8		Craft Club Library Lunch All years	
School Production Main Hall 15:30 – 17:00			

Week B			
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
NT Script-Writing H1 Lunch – PM Form All welcome	Sparx Reader Club EN9 Lunch	You-Nique Group RE2 Lunch All welcome	Year 7/8/9 Girls Rugby Lower Field 15:30 – 16:30 Year 7, 8 and 9 girls
Essay Club EN7 15:30 – 16:30 Year 11	Year 8/10/11 Netball Netball Courts 15:30 – 16:30 Year 8, 10 and 11	KS3 Dance Club H1 Lunch KS3	Year 10/11 Boys Football AGP 15:30 – 16:30
Year 7/9 Netball Netball Courts 15:30 – 16:30 Year 7 and 9	School Production Main Hall 15:30 – 17:00	Craft Club Library Lunch All years	Manga Club Library Lunch All years
Year 7/8 Boys Football AGP 15:30 – 16:30 Year 7 and 8		Thunk Club (Philosophy) H12 Lunch KS4 and KS5	
School Production Main Hall 15:30 – 17:00		Girls Football AGP 15:30 – 16:30 All years	

Yours sincerely,

Mr Davis
Vice Principal – Quality of Education