

15 January 2014

Dear Parents / Carers

Year 9 Curriculum – Information for Current Year 8

We are writing to inform you about the Year 9 curriculum for 2014/15. The end of the compulsory SAT tests and the reduction in National Curriculum content allow the school much greater freedom in designing the curriculum. This means that Year 9 students will continue to benefit from an exciting opportunity to choose some of their subjects next year.

As in year 7 and 8 all students will study the following:

English	Geography	Religious Education
Maths	History	Personal Development
Science	Modern Foreign Language	PE

They will also take a range of subjects, including Art, Drama, DT, Food, Music and IT. These will be delivered using a rotating carousel structure.

In addition students will study **three** subject preferences of their choice. Details of these subjects can be found in the preferences booklet.

We believe this will allow students to spend more time on subjects which really excite them, whilst ensuring that the curriculum is still covered to the highest standard. The nature of the preferences will allow students to develop a wide range of skills, including those in numeracy, literacy and science.

It is important to note that the subjects students opt for will not limit their GCSE choices, apart from in one case. This is the second Modern Foreign Language. It will not be possible for a student to start a GCSE in a second language if they have not studied it in Year 9. It is, of course, very important that students consider each course carefully before expressing their preferences.

There will be an information evening for parents / carers in the Performing Arts Centre (PAC) at **7pm on Wednesday 29th January 2014.**

The purpose of this event is to provide more detailed information about the preferences to help you guide your child with their decision.

The evening will start with a presentation by the Principal and other senior staff in the PAC. After the presentation you will have the chance to visit the subject stalls in Lower School. These stalls will be an opportunity to speak to staff about the preferences and see some examples of student work.

As with all important decisions in life, students will make the best choices when they have accurate information. We believe that this event is important in giving you the tools with which to guide them. Therefore we would encourage you to attend if you can.

Yours sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures. On the left is the signature of Mrs K Tandy, which is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line underneath. On the right is the signature of Miss R Rana, also in a cursive style.

Mrs K Tandy
Head of Lower School

Miss R Rana
Deputy Head of Lower School

Telephone direct dial 01480 420522

Email lowerschool@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk