

Dear Parent/Carer,

Here at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School we are very proud of our curriculum; our subject experts have designed a well sequenced, interesting and knowledge-rich curriculum for our students. More details are available on our school website under the 'Curriculum and Learning' tab. You will also find links to your child's learning manager page where we are building up a bank of additional resources and information relevant to your child's stage of learning.

The table below outlines what is being studied during Half Term 1 in Year 10 in each subject and how students are assessed and given feedback to support their progress.

| <b>Subject</b>                                      | <b>Content this half term</b>   | <b>Assessments</b>   |
|---|---|--|
| English language                                    | Fiction comprehension and Creative writing  | Ongoing formative assessment   |
| English literature                                  | An Inspector Calls<br>Anthology poetry  | Ongoing formative and summative assessment   |
| Creative Digital Media Production (BTEC L2)         | Component 2: Technical and creative skills in media   | Ongoing formative assessment   |
| GCSE Computer Science                               | Programming and Algorithms  | The first interim will be based on the quality of the EBook and their response to the Programming Challenges Book.                         |
| Technology  | CAD, H&S, Unit 1 theory looking at papers and boards.   | Fortnightly homework tests. Completion of practical pieces.  |
| BTEC Tech Award in Digital Information Technologies | Component 1: Exploring User Interface Design Principles and Project Planning Techniques, Learning Aim A: Understand interface design for individuals and organisations.<br>Students will understand the use of different types of user interface and how they vary across different uses, devices and purposes.<br>They will then progress to learn how design principles provide both appropriate and effective user interaction with hardware devices, this will in turn support them in designing an efficient user interface. | Ongoing formative assessment in lessons and summative assessment using the Sample Pearson Set Assignment students have been provided with. |
| GCSE Business                                       | 1.1 Enterprise and entrepreneurship<br>1.2 Spotting a business opportunity<br>1.3 Putting a business idea into practice<br>1.4 Making the business effective<br>1.5 Understanding external influences on business   | Unit tests/end of year assessment  |
| Enterprise and Marketing                            | 1. characteristics, risk and reward for businesses enterprise<br>2. market research to target a specific customer<br>3. what makes a product financially viable   | Lesson based assessments and unit tests  |

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|  | 4. creating a marketing mix to support a product<br>5. factors for consideration when starting up and running a business enterprise  |  |
| Physics  | Main topic is Conservation of Energy. This covers the fundamental of energy stores, work done, and changes in energy. Students also learn how to do calculations involving gravitational and kinetic energy, power, efficiency, and specific heat capacity.  | Ongoing formative assessment and end of topic tests.   |
| Chemistry                                      | Chemistry - Atomic Structure. The arrangement of elements in the modern periodic table can be explained in terms of atomic structure which provides evidence for the model of a nuclear atom with electrons in energy levels   | Ongoing formative assessments, plus end of topic tests.  |
| Biology  | Unit 2 - Principles of organisation. Cells as the building blocks of all living organisms, and how tissues and organs perform specific functions. The human digestive system is studied, along with food tests and enzyme function.  | Ongoing formative assessments, plus end of topic tests.  |
| Combined (Double) science                      | Biology - Principles of organisation. Cells as the building blocks of all living organisms, and how tissues and organs perform specific functions. The human digestive system is studied, along with food tests and enzyme function<br>Chemistry - Atomic Structure. The arrangement of elements in the modern periodic table can be explained in terms of atomic structure which provides evidence for the model of a nuclear atom with electrons in energy levels<br>Physics - Conservation of energy. Energy as a quantity that transfers by doing work. Calculating energy stores in gravitational potential and kinetic, as well as efficiency. | Ongoing formative assessments and end of topic tests.  |
| Psychology                                     | Social Influence and Research Methods  | Mid and end of topic assessments for each topic for preparation for 2 exams at the end of Year 11      |
| Health and Social Care Level 2 BTEC Tech award | Human Lifespan and Development   | 2x Pearson Set Assignments   |
| Maths  | Percentages and Interest<br>Maths and Money<br>Indices and Roots<br><br>10X4 ELC (Entry Level Certificate)<br>- Component 7: Geometry<br>- Component 8: Statistics   | End of Topics and Interim 1 Assessment<br><br>End of Component Assessments and Interim 1               |
| French   | Theme 3: My studies and life at school<br>Opinions & reasons on: school subjects, teachers, rules & school facilities<br>Grammar: present tense verbs, comparative and superlative structures, imperfect tense verbs, adverbs of time  | Ongoing formative assessments including an extended written piece on theme 3.<br>End of year 9 reading |

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|                   |  | baseline assessment<br>Vocab test in week 5  |
| German            | Theme 3: My studies and life at school<br>Opinions & reasons on: school subjects, teachers, rules & school facilities<br>Grammar: present tense verbs, comparative and superlative structures, cases, modal verbs, relative clauses, future tense verbs                                      | Ongoing formative assessments including an extended written piece on theme 3.<br>End of year 9 reading baseline assessment<br>Vocab test in week 5 |
| Spanish           | Theme 3: My studies and life at school<br>Opinions & reasons on: school subjects, teachers, rules & school facilities<br>Grammar: present tense verbs, comparative and superlative structures, imperfect tense verbs, adverbs of time  | Ongoing formative assessments including an extended written piece on theme 3.<br>End of year 9 reading baseline assessment<br>Vocab test in week 5 |
| Art/craft/design  | Introduction to course - Students begin to gain knowledge about the requirements of the AQA mark scheme & how to evidence each AO. The coursework theme is GEOMETRIC - a mini project involving the following skills: drawing/paper collage/research skills/annotation/painting/photography. | ongoing formative & summative assessment   |
| Drama             | Blood Brothers - GCSE Drama play text for the Component 1 written exam   | Practical performance and written tasks including exam question practice   |
| History           | Health & the People: Medieval; Renaissance; 19th Century and Modern developments in Medicine and Public Health   | Explain the significance; Hippocrates, John Hunter and a comparison of Medieval and Renaissance Surgery  |
| Geography         | Living World: Ecosystems - Rainforest  | Ecosystems - factual knowledge   |
| GCSE RS           | Christian Beliefs and Teachings: Nature of God   | ongoing formative & summative assessment   |
| GCSE PE           | Component 1 Anatomy & physiology   | A range of homeworks & unit test   |
| GCSE Food Studies | Introduction to the course, nutrients and butchery skills  | An end of topic test at the end.   |

**In the coming weeks, you can support your child in a number of ways:**

- ★ Check that your child is keeping up with their homework, this will be set through the Google Classroom and will include a clear deadline.
- ★ Use the Google Classroom to check that your child has what they need in their book, you can sit together and go through the lessons to see that they finished the work
- ★ Speak to your child about what they are doing – this could be through asking them what they have done and what knowledge they can remember from the lesson.
- ★ Encourage your child to read for pleasure and ensure they always have their book with them in school for our 5 minutes reading time at the start of every lesson.

- ★ Ensure that they have regular breaks from homework and get a good night's sleep – work in chunks of time, turn off mobile phones and devices at least one hour in advance of going to bed
- ★ Encourage hobbies and interests which are not technology based
- ★ Let children be bored; this is when creativity occurs and reveals their talents

We hope you find this information useful and your child is enjoying learning with us at HCCS.

Kind regards,  
Helena Connolly  
Progress Lead: Disadvantaged Students  
Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School