

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 will be studied during Half Term 1 in Year 7 in each subject and how students are assessed and given feedback to support their progress.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Content this half term</u>	<u>Assessments</u>
English	Fiction reading: Identity and Survival Fiction writing: Flash fiction	Ongoing formative assessment
Maths	Sequences Algebraic Notation	End of Topics and Y7 Baseline Assessment
Science	1. Introduction to working scientifically, and working safely. 2. Biology - Organisms (1). Movement topic looks at the skeletal system and its components. The cells topic looks at the structure of animal and plant cells and studies a range of cell types. 3. Chemistry - Matter (1). This is broken down into two sub topics, Particle Model, and Separating mixtures. Students will study the structure of matter and how it relates to its properties, as well as learning some key practical skills. 4. Physics - Forces (1). There are 2 sub topics, Speed, and Gravity. Students will calculate speed, relative motion, and resultant forces. The Gravity sub topic introduces the ideas of weight and mass, including contact and non-contact forces.	Ongoing formative assessments and end of topic tests.
MFL	Classroom language, phonics, metalanguage. Opinion phrases, present tense verbs and adjectives Spanish: Hobbies topic	Ongoing formative assessments and end of topic tests.
Computer Science	How to log into and access the range of systems (including Google classroom) and complete an external set of CAT tests. Unit 1: use of computers, internet safety and the environment.	EBook for Unit 1
Technology	Health and Safety in the workshop. Basic practical skills.	Completion of practical activities.
Music	Music Introduction/ Graphic Scores/ First Composition	Group assessment and individual assessment tasks
Art	The Formal Elements: consolidating & extending student prior knowledge & skills about each formal element.	ongoing formative & summative assessment
Drama	Greek Theatre	Group performance at the end of the scheme
PE	Techniques, tactics & composition across a variety of sports.	Every 4 weeks on

	Knowledge and understanding of health & fitness. Introduction to character exam action and its value in sport.	different aspects of physical literacy.
History	History of Migration in the UK (from Romans to Eastern Europeans)	Battle of Hastings (1066) and an Overview of Migration
Geography	Russia and the Middle East	Formative assessment on Russia and the Middle East
RS	"Lost": Creating a society when you are stranded on a deserted island (Ethics & Morals)	Who should rule the island? Knowledge assessment of the whole course.

In addition to subject-based assessments, in this half term we also conduct some baseline transition tests so we can make sure they get off to the best start here at HCCS.

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. We understand that year 7s are still getting used to this format but over the next few weeks we will start to increase the expectations around homework.
- ★ 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