

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 3 in Year 8 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	Exploring Shakespeare and Victorian England context comprehension	Formative assessment of comprehension and analysis skills
Maths	UNITS: Multiplicative Change; Multiplying and Dividing Fractions; Brackets, Equations and Inequalities Knowledge covered: direct proportion, conversion graphs, exchange rates, multiplying and dividing fractions, expanding and factorising, solving equations and inequalities	Interim 2 Assessment: 5/2/24 Ongoing progress monitoring tasks and end of topic tests.
Science	Completing the units on Genes (2), and Forces (2) and Reactions	Ongoing progress monitoring tasks and end of topic tests.
MFL	French: opinion phrases and adjectives to describe jobs, job responsibilities, work places, future plans, daily routine structures - third person and future tense verb structures, conditional voice, comparative and superlatives, reflexive verbs verbs - to work, to be, to go German: opinion phrases and adjectives to describe school subjects and teachers, school facilities, transport structures - comparative and superlative structures, future tense verb structures verbs - to study, to have, "there is" Spanish: weather descriptions, countries & nationalities, holiday activities, transport, past and present opinion phrases and adjectives to describe holidays structures - past and present tense verb structures verbs - to be, to go, to do	Ongoing formative assessments and end of topic tests.
Technology	Students will undertake a range of CAD, practical and design exercises in order to develop their DT skills.	Some homework tasks set in line with the topic undertaken where appropriate.
Music	Blues Music	Composition, Performance and Listening Assessment
Art	Using a starting point of the contextual study of artist/craft/designer Clare Youngs, students will produce a series of responses using their knowledge of: mark making/drawing/designing learnt in	ongoing formative & summative assessment

	previous projects. This exploration of mixed media leads into building on prior knowledge of paper collage skills explored in yr7.	
Drama	Our Day Out - Students will explore scripted performance techniques, developing their performance repertoire and skillset, working together in a group using these skills to devise a performance from a scene each lesson. They will also explore the social context of the play.	Group assessed scripted performance
PE	Students have been covering this half term with their rotation on their sport / character skill carousel. Students will have completed by the end of this half term depending on their group 4 of the following - Netball - Collaboration Football - Evaluation Badminton - Taking Responsibility Dance - Innovation and Evaluation Rugby - Collaboration	Assessment booklets - complete an evaluation on each character skill. Demonstration of the character skill in class through verbal discussions / Q/A and
History	Slavery or Work through time	Knowledge tests, Write an Account question, Source based questions
Geography	Landscapes of the World	1. A DME on managing the coastline. 2. Knowledge assessment at the end of the unit
RS	Christianity and Hope	Explain how Christianity gives people hope

In addition to subject-based assessments, in this half term we also conduct some baseline transition tests in literacy and numeracy.

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