Y9 Parent Information Helping my child to succeed at KS3



Let your light shine



Key Staff

Curriculum Mrs M Salmon

(Senior Assistant Headteacher Curriculum)

Mrs K Dunn

(Assistant Headteacher Intervention)

Mr S Clark

(Assistant Headteacher Teaching, Learning & Assessment)

Miss B Salmon

(SENDCo)

Mrs S Chappell (Head of 6th Form) Pastoral Mr A McHale (Senior Assistant

Headteacher Pastoral)

Mr J Green (Assistant Headteacher Pastoral)

Mr A Davis (Assistant Headteacher)

Heads of House

Mr Thompson (Whitby) Mr Hurst (Durham) Mrs Mansuetto (Finchale) Mrs Duncan (Lindisfarne)

Pastoral Team



Let your light shine

Mr McHale (SAHT) Mr Green (AHT) Mr Davis (AHT)

Heads of House

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Head of St Cuthbert/Durham Mr Hurst (Mrs Williams)

Head of St Godric/Finchale Mrs Mansueto (Mr Hall)

Head of St Hilda/Whitby Mr Thompson (Miss Cairns)

Head of St Aidan/Lindisfarne Mrs Duncan (Mr Watson)

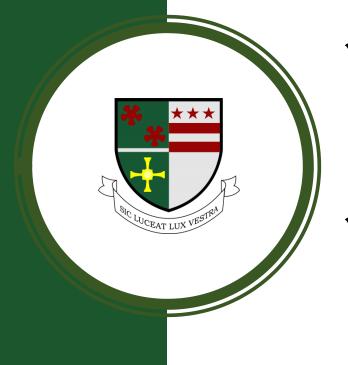
Year 7 Pastoral Lead – Mrs Gittins

SENDCo – Miss B Salmon



Seeking advice and communication

✓Your child's Head of House.



 ✓ Our School counsellor is Mrs Chisolm and appointments are available via a referral from the Pastoral Team.

Mrs Chingles: attendance officer. Please
 remember to telephone the school if your child is absent.

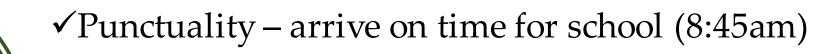
✓Communicate with subject staff / tutors (where applicable) via the student planner.

How we will communicate with you...

- ✓ We may contact you about events and issues by letter.
- ✓ Heads of House and Heads of Department may telephone you to discuss an issue.
- ✓ Staff may communicate through your child's planner.
- \checkmark We send text messages to keep you up to date.
- ✓ We send notifications via the MY ED App.
- \checkmark The school website is regularly updated.

Supporting our Pastoral Priorities

✓Excellent attendance



✓ Correct uniform

✓ Respect for staff and the school environment

✓ Maximising lesson time

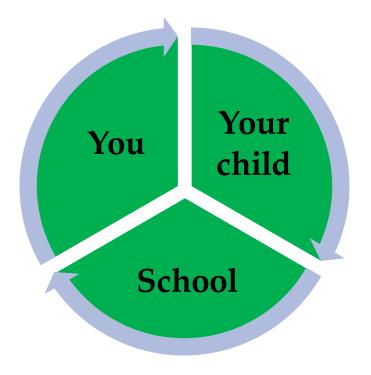
✓ Gold standard class and homework

Partnership

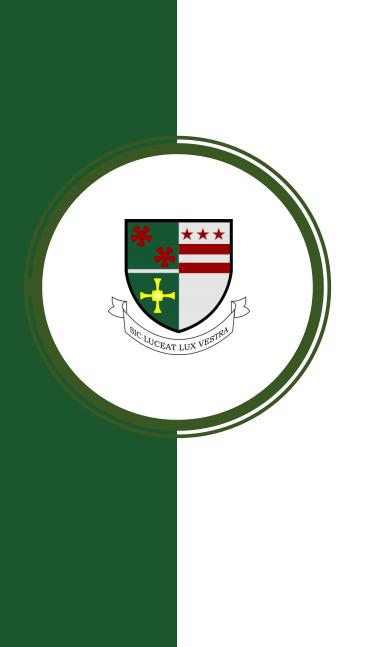
 ✓ You are the expert on your own child and always will be their most important teacher.

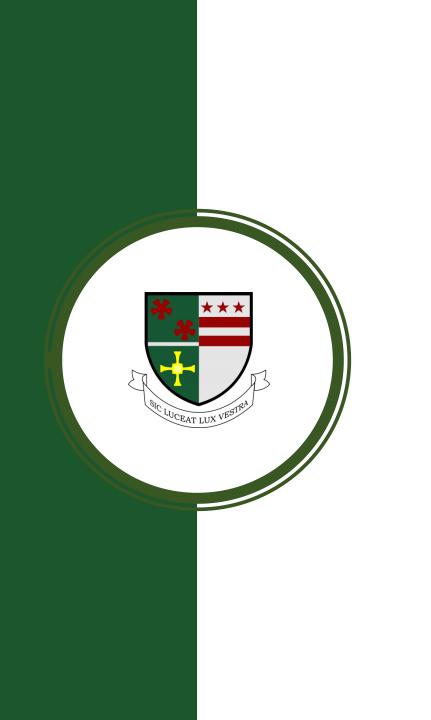
Your support, encouragement

 and interest can make a
 spectacular difference to your
 child's motivation and ability to
 cope with demands of
 Secondary School.



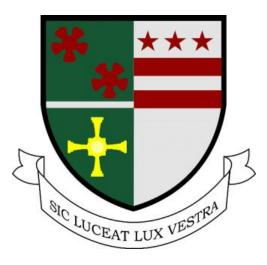
Acceptable levels of attendance at St. Robert of Newminster School 👼 98 - 100% Excellent 96 -98% \checkmark Good 93 -95% Stage **Cause for concern** 1 90 - 93% Stage Unsatisfactory 2 Below Stage 90% Persistent Absence -3 Unacceptable







Ready to Learn



Let your light shine

<u>What can I do to ensure my</u> <u>child is ready to learn?</u>

- ✓ Check your child's planner weekly and sign it.
- ✓ Ensure your child is equipped for each and every lesson.
- ✓ Check your child is completing homework, encourage good presentation of work in books.
- ✓ Ensure your child attends school every day and that they are always on time.
- ✓ Ensure your child's uniform is correct.
- ✓ Show an interest ask them to explain what they are enjoying at school

Curriculum & Assessment



Let your light shine

Curriculum Structure

- English (7hrs over a fortnight)
- Maths (3hrs)
- Science (3hrs)
- RE (5hrs over a fortnight)
- Spanish (2hrs +1hr 2nd lang)
- PE (2hrs)
- History (2hr)
- Geography (2hr)
- Art (1hr)
- DT (1hr)
- IT (1hr)
- Performing Arts (1hr)
- PSHE / RSE (1hr)

Assessment of Progress:

- 2 assessment points
- 1 Grade report
- 1 Full report

School Website:

Parent → Curriculum Overview

Curriculum and Assessment Overviews

Subject: English

NOTE: These are not exhaustive lists	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3		
Year 7 Key concepts/skills	Key question: How do writers craft their language for different audiences and purposes? Reading focus: Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo Writing Focus: Powerful Words: Persuasive writing stimulus	Key question: How do writers of different text types structure their work for most impact? Reading focus: The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling Writing Focus: Imaginary Worlds: Creative writing and animal poetry stimulus	Key question: How do writers respond to the social issues of their day? Reading focus: A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare Writing Focus: Points of View: Inform writing stimulus		
Assessment	Reading and Writing assessments held in class. I hour each.	Reading and Writing assessments held in class. I hour each.	Reading assessment held in exam hall. Writing assessment held in class. I hour each.		
Year 8 Key concepts/skills	Key question: How do writers construct and then develop their characters ? Reading focus: Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens Writing Focus: Points of View: Informative writing article	Key question: How do writers craft their language and structure their texts to engage the reader? Reading focus: The Tempest by William Shakespeare Writing Focus: Powerful Words: Writing to argue	Key question: How and why do writers adopt different genres in their texts? Reading focus: Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror by Chris Priestley Writing Focus: Imaginary Worlds: Creative writing on the gothic		
Assessment	Reading and Writing assessments held in class. I hour each.	Reading and Writing assessments held in class. I hour each.	Reading assessment held in exam hall. Writing assessment held in class. I hour each.		
Year 9 Key concepts/skills	, q		Key question: How do playwrights utilise the dramatic form? Reading focus: Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare Writing Focus: Powerful Words: Writing to argue		
Assessment	Reading and Writing assessments held in class. I hour each.	Reading and Writing assessments held in class. I hour each.	Reading assessment held in exam hall. Writing assessment held in class. I hour each.		

Subject: Religious Education

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3		
Year 7 Key concepts Skills AO1: Knowledge and understanding AO2: Analysis and evaluation	School community Hierarchy of the Church Sacraments Rites of Initiation Using the Bible Miracles of Jesus Was Jesus human? Nativity Jesus in Art	Forgiveness Prodigal Son Reconciliation Forms of punishment Lent	What do Jewish people believe? Abraham and Moses Torah Kosher Jewish Festivals		
Assessment	Assessment based on Unit 1: Belonging Assessment held in-class, 45 minutes Teacher assessed	Assessment based on Unit 2: Identity of Jesus Assessment held in-class, 45 minutes Teacher assessed	Interleaved assessment covering the first three Units Completed in exam hall 45 minutes Teacher assessed		
Year 8 Key concepts Skills AO1: Knowledge and understanding AO2: Analysis and evaluation	Rite of Confirmation Pentecost and Holy Spirit Gifts of the Holy Spirit Religious orders and vocation Cost of discipleship Jesus' treatment of: Other cultures The elderly and disabled Women	Events of Holy Week Significance of Holy Week Significance of the Eucharist Different Christian attitudes to the Eucharist	What do Muslims believe? Muhammad (PBUH) Five Pillars of Islam Qur'an and Hadith Role of Women Jihad		
Assessment	Assessment based on Unit 1: Confirmation Assessment held in-class, 45 minutes Teacher assessed	Assessment based on Unit 2: Jesus and Others, Eucharist Assessment held in-class, 45 minutes Teacher assessed	Interleaved assessment covering the first three Units Completed in exam hall 45 minutes Teacher assessed		
Year 9 Key concepts Skills AO1: Knowledge and understanding AO2: Analysis and evaluation	Life as a journey Lourdes Hajj Jerusalem Views on creation Design and causation Sanctity of life Abortion	Body and soul Human trafficking Euthanasia The Commandments The meaning of life Religious views on marriage and family	Problem of evil Christian responses to suffering Joseph and Job Christian response to suffering		
Assessment	Assessment based on Unit 1: Pilgrimage Assessment held in-class, 45 minutes Teacher assessed	Assessment based on Un it 2: Creation Assessment held in- class, 45 minutes Teacher assessed	Interleaved assessment covering the first three Units Completed in exam hall 45 minutes Teacher assessed		

Internal Assessments

Each assessment will evaluate whether your child is making expected progress within our curriculum.

Subject	Current Attainment	Engagement	Homework
English	Working at expected level	1	1
Maths	Working beyond expected level	1	1
Science	Working at expected level	1	1
Art	Working at expected level	1	1
Music	Working at expected level	1	1
History	Working beyond expected level	1	1
Geography	Working at expected level	1	1
DT	Working at expected level	1	1
RE	Working beyond expected level	1	1
PE	Working at expected level	1	NA
ICT	Working at expected level	1	2
French	Working beyond expected level	1	1

Sample report



Internal Assessments

Attainment: Beyond, Expected, Developing

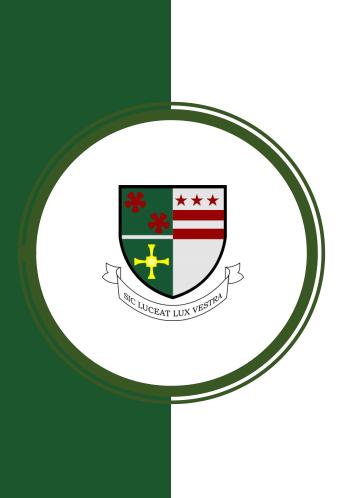
Grade	Engagement	Homework
1	is a hardworking pupil, who shows a keen interest.	Completes all homework on time. Frequently produces work of exemplary quality.
2	is usually positive, interested and hardworking	Completes all homework on time. Frequently produces homework to a good standard.
3	has generally shown a positive attitude but would benefit from more consistent commitment	Homework completion is inconsistent. There is evidence of work being rushed, lacking development and not reaching the standard of which the pupil is capable.
4	some concerns over attitude, work rate or behaviour	Homework is rarely completed on time or to the standard of which the pupil is capable.

Communication

When	Detail				
Term 1 Wb 13th November Wb 11th December	Teachers assess progress Full written report to parents/carers				
Term 2 Wb 22nd January	Year 9 options evening presentation				
Wb 29th January	Parents'/Carers' Evening				
Term 3 Wb 29th April Wb 3rd June	Teachers assess progress Grade report to parents				



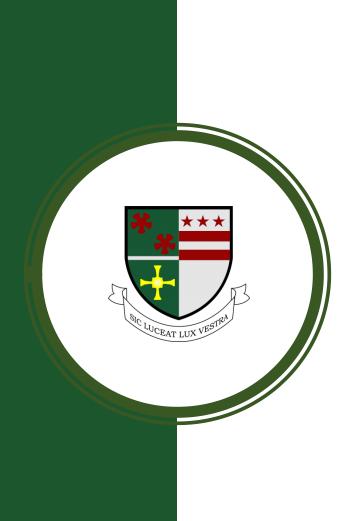
Assessment



Change in assessment at GCSE from grades to numbers.

Current Y9 (examined in 2026)

All subjects will be assessed using numbers



5 = Strong Pass

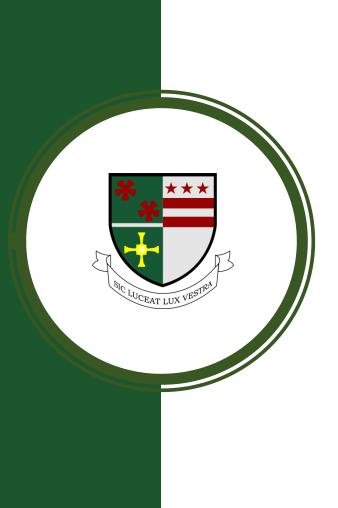
4 = Standard Pass

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	В
5	
4	С
3	D
2	E
2	F
1	G
U	U

Comparing old GCSE letter grades to new number grades

Let your light shine

Through Christ, in partnership and with service and witness at the core of all we do, our school will be a centre of excellence. We will educate the whole person so that everyone fulfils their academic potential, aspires highly and is optimistically ambitious.



Aspirational Target Grades

✓ Based on KS2 end point i.e. end of Y6

✓ 'Optimistically ambitious' top 25% nationally

✓ Grade potential to aim towards

<u>Outcomes</u>

✓ 9-1 grades: 5 strong pass; 4 standard pass✓ D*-P

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A ⁻
7	A
6	В
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
	F
1	G
U	U

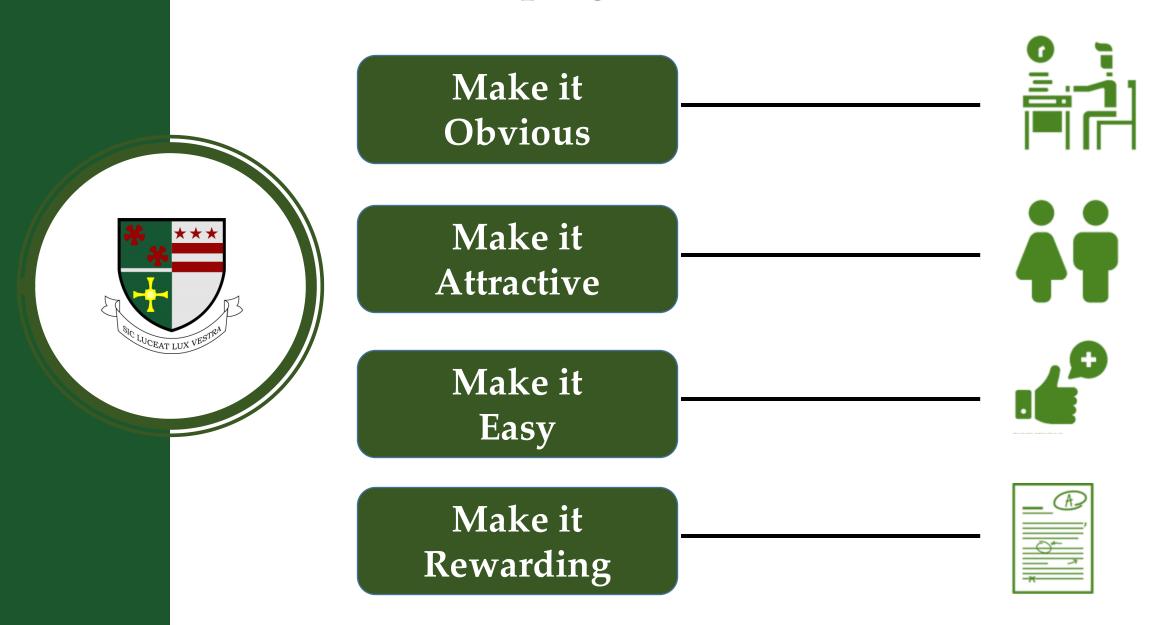
Comparing old GCSE letter grades to new number grades

Preparing for Assessments



Let your light shine

Developing effective revision habits



Developing effective revision techniques

1. Spacingand Interleaving

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2. Deliberate Practice



4.Retrieval Practice 3. Flash Cards





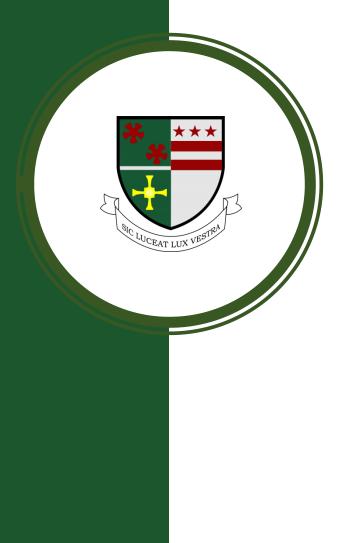
Class Groupings



Let your light shine

Year 9 Class Groupings

✓ Grouped on ability



✓In year progress against targets and end of year progress in Y8 assessments used to set Year 9 groups

- ✓ Progress evaluated throughout the year
- Class groupings reviewed regularly in year 9 and reset again going into Y10 based on in year progress and end of year progress in Y9 exams and GCSE option choices

Class Group Structure

Class Groupings	English, Geography, History, Art, IT, RE			
Maths	Set by ability based on Y8			
Science	Set by ability based on Y8			
MFL	Set by ability based on Y8 and 2 nd			
	language			
DT	Smaller groups on rotation			
Drama/Music	Smaller groups on rotation			
PE	Grouped slightly different to class			
	groups			

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Homework



Let your light shine

What does homework look like?

- **Prepare -** tasks required to prepare, successfully, for the next lesson or beyond.
- **Consolidate** tasks which helps to reinforce the challenging nature of the work done in class.
- Extend tasks designed to challenge pupils to find out more and gather new information to deepen their knowledge, understanding and skills.

How much homework is set?

Key Stage 3:

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Homework is set **once a week** if the pupil is taught **two** or more lessons a week in that subject.

Homework is **set fortnightly** if the pupil is taught **one** lesson a week in that subject.

Key Stage 3:

✓ Year 7: 30 minutes per subject.
✓ Year 8: 30 to 45 minutes per subject.
✓ Year 9: 45 minutes per subject.

Planner & Organisation

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PE New	set, boot in for northing	1	10	ACTORER OCTUBER & OUTOBER	DUE DATE DONE
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All subjects to be written in the planner:

✓ P-Prepare✓ C-Consolidate

✓ E-Extend

Due date to be included None set to be written in if no homework is set Add a 'Tick' when done Neat and tidy

Our homework expectations...

✓ Clearly write the homework in their planners.

✓ Include when the homework is to be handed in.

✓ Pupils must complete their homework on time and to a high standard.

✓Pupils must re-draft homework if it is not to a high standard.

Create the right conditions to work







Eat

Set up a study healthy food space

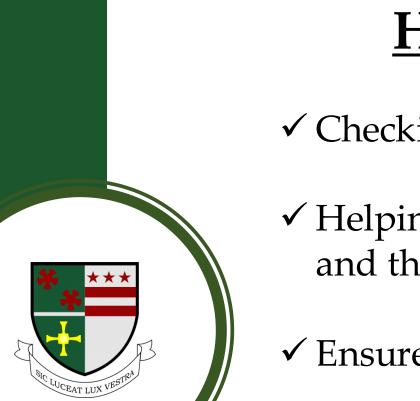




Take regular breaks

Sleep well.

Take regular exercise



How can parents help?

✓ Checking the pupil planner daily

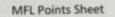
- ✓ Helping organisation by discussing their work and their deadlines
- ✓ Ensure they have a quiet space to work
- ✓ Encourage them to commit specific time to homework/revision
- ✓ Ensure that they are removed from distractions



Students selfnominate to show their work to staff and are awarded with stationery and achievement points







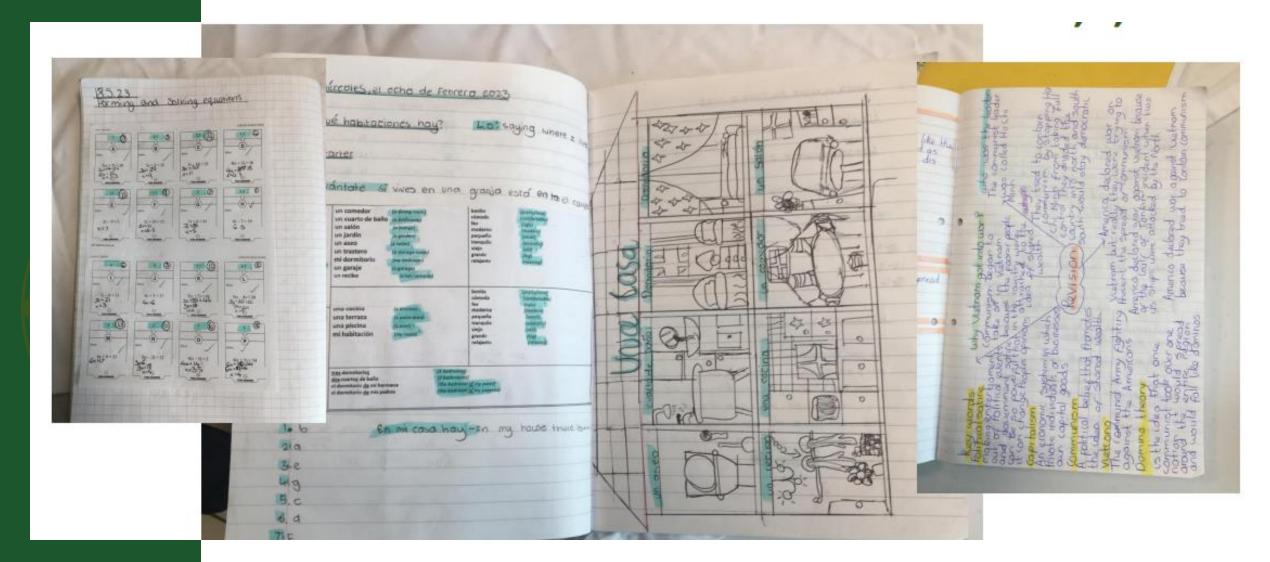
Your teacher will award points for good work, answering a difficult question, trying something new, making a lot of effort or being brave in class. Every time you get a point, put a tick in the rest box. Work your way along the row. When you have finished the row, tell your teacher, who will sign it and award you an achievement point!

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Signature and date
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Thank You



Let your light shine