



LONG CLOSE SCHOOL

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8 September 2017

Dear Parents,

### **Year 9 Curriculum for the Autumn Term**

Please find below a list of the various topics which your children will be covering this term. I hope this information will be useful to you.

**English:** During the first half term the students will be reading William Shakespeare's tragedy 'Hamlet'. Pupils will consolidate their learning of what tragedy connotes in drama as well as in literature. Furthermore, the study of 'Hamlet' will develop their skills needed in preparation for their study of 'Macbeth' in years 10 and 11. During this unit there will also be opportunities to develop Speaking and listening skills through discussions and role-play based activities.

After half-term pupils will be introduced to 19<sup>th</sup> century settings. Pupils will learn to understand the morality and ethics of the 19<sup>th</sup> century culture. Similarly, pupils will have an awareness of how historical context and tradition can affect the views of gender stereotypes in society.

Both units will be assessed against GCSE criteria, as this will best prepare pupils for the expectations and skills needed at GCSE.

**Mathematics:** Students follow the KS3 Programme of Study using Level Up as the core text and supporting material from the web based Maths Enhancement Programme.

- Algebra: Sequences, functions and mappings
- Number: Extending the number system to include calculations involving powers and roots, using fractions and revising arithmetic skills
- Data: Probability
- SSM: Properties and construction of plane shapes. Area and perimeter to include the circle and volume

Where possible maths tasks are devised to support real life problems and students should be encouraged to use their growing skills in everyday life.

**Science:** Edexcel GCSE (9-1) combined science Biology topics CB1 Key concepts, CB2 Cells and control, CB3 Genetics

**Spanish** : holidays, preterite and imperfect tense, accommodation

**Geography:** This term the students will be studying the topic of the Living World, including developing an understanding of different ecosystems around the world. We will study both tropical rainforests and hot deserts in more detail, considering aspects such as biodiversity, adaptations, deforestation and desertification.

**History:** The First World War 1914-1918 – An investigation into why the war broke out and what life was like for soldiers on the front lines.

**RS:** Religion & Ethics: Matters of Life and Death: The Sanctity of Life, Abortion, Euthanasia, the After-life.

**ICT:** Data and software protection, spotting scams, control, modelling, presenting and desktop publishing.

**Art and design:** Pupils will study the 20<sup>th</sup> century art movement known as 'Dada', whilst exploring methods of photo montage.

**Design technology:** Pupils will design and make a 'Bag for Life'. They will use a variety of decorative processes including fabric printing and batik.

**PE:** Continuation with pupils' health and fitness program.

**Music:** Topics studied this term include Popular Song and Film Music/Soundtracks. Pupils improve their musical understanding through the study of diverse musical examples and do a variety of activities including listening, composing and performing.

**Games:** Boys Games: Football Girls: Netball and rugby

If you have any queries about the coming term please do not hesitate to contact me. For your reference my e-mail address is [gavin.larcombe@longcloseschool.co.uk](mailto:gavin.larcombe@longcloseschool.co.uk), alternatively you are always welcome to call in at our classroom before or after school or write a note in the diary. Please may I request that parents check and sign diaries weekly.

Yours sincerely

*Mr G Larcombe*

**Mr G Larcombe**  
**Year 9 Form Tutor**