

Year 9 Parent Information Evening

18th September 2017



The Year 9 Team

Pete Cornell
 Learning Intervention Manager

Lisa Holdsworth
 Student Support Co-ordinator

Kevin Sykes
 Assistant Headteacher



Form Tutors

- S Mr D Webb
- A Mrs J Pender
- N Mrs H Hill/Ms A O'Connor
- D Mr A Jennings
- B Mrs E Stevenson
- E Mrs V Henshaw
- C Miss K McGrath



Working as a team...

- Trying to create a sense of Yr 9 being a team
- This means each form is part of that team
- Tutor/Pastoral team also integral
- 3 examples given
- 4 themes:
- Talent/Teachability/Dealing with Failure/Will
- One common factor Everyone 'buys in'



The key to success

- Attendance
- Attitude to learning
- Active Participation



Attendance

- Target 97%
- Last two years one of the best in Cheshire East
- Link between attendance and attainment – best ever exam results at GCSE
- 123 students last year had 100% attendance



Attitude 2 Learning

| 1 | A2L | Excellence | Achievement point |
|---|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2 | A2L | Good | |
| 3 | A2L | Lack of effort / not enough work | Up to 30 minute dept detention |
| 4 | Behaviour | Low to mid level | 45 minute detention |
| 5 | Behaviour | Serious disruption | 90 minute WSD (as a minimum) |



Active Participation

#GetInvolved

The Senate

2 Senators per year group

Appointed after applying to join the Senate

Responsibilities:

Consulted about key things that happen in school

Inform school decision making

Chair the meetings of their year groups' representatives







Curriculum Change:

 A new grading scale that uses the numbers 1–9 to identify levels of performance (with 9 being the top level)

Higher level of challenge than previously



In simple terms

- 1 G
- 4 C 'Standard pass'
- 5 C 'Strong' or 'Good' pass
- 7 − A
- 9 Top 2/3% of the country receive.

Sixth Form entry requirements September 2018 – minimum 5x grade 5's (some subjects requiring grade 6)



Content changes

- In each of the subjects the content has changed slightly
- The focus on more about facts, figures, formulas



How we are responding to the changes

- Cumulative assessments to assess student progress plus end of year examinations.
- Continued work to raise literacy levels to the very highest across the school.
- Work outside of the classroom even more important to reinforce learning in the classroom.
- Increased emphasis on independent study skills.
- Organisational skills are key to successful examination experience... continued parental support essential



Key dates

- Review 1 late November
- Review 2 mid march
- Review 3 early July
 (end of year exam weeks w/b 18th June 2018)
- Year 9 Parent Forum –Wednesday 22nd
 November 2017 6.30pm
- Parents evening Evening Thursday 30th November 2017 – 4pm



Basic 8 Expectations

- 1. Arrive on time to school, registration and lessons
- 2. Be PREPPED
- 3. Be courteous to staff, students and visitors
- 4. Wear uniform correctly
- 5. Out of Class need a pass!
- 6. Sensible behaviour in corridors and toilets
- 7. No eating/chewing/drinking in lessons and corridors
- 8. Sensible behaviour in the refectories and outside areas

Code of conduct 8

'The way we do things around here'

- 1. Listen to members of staff and follow instructions politely and calmly
- 2. Always PREPPED and ready to learn in every lesson
- 3. Walk in single file, not running or shouting, and maintaining a peaceful atmosphere in corridors
- 4. Going straight to lessons and holding doors open for others when the corridors are busy
- 5. Never damaging school property, defacing the building, dropping litter or spitting
- 6. Never insulting, undermining or swearing at anyone
- 7. Leaving school and making your way home in an orderly, responsible way
- 8. Remembering you are always an ambassador for Sandbach School





Year 9 Information Evening

GCSE English



GCSE English Language & GCSE English Literature

- No Higher or Foundation tiers. All examination papers are the same for all of the boys.
- Linear GCSE, with assessment to be taken at the end of Year 11.
- The GCSEs are totally separate qualifications and as such are taught by separate teachers; totalling 4 hours of teaching/ week.



GCSE English Language

There are two examination papers to prepare for:

- Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing (1 hour 45 mins). 50% of GCSE.
- Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives (1 hour 45 mins). 50% of GCSE.
- Students are also assessed for their spoken language (presenting) in Year 10



GCSE English Literature

There are two examination papers to prepare for:

- Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel. (Romeo & Juliet / The Sign of The Four) 1 hr 45 mins. 40% of the GCSE.
- Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry ('An Inspector Calls', 'Power and Conflict' poems, unseen poetry.
- All texts are provided. Examinations are closed book.



How you can support your son:

- Encourage reading- little and often; fiction and nonfiction- the examination for Language deal with unseen texts from each category so exposure is crucial!
- 2. Consider using Audio versions/ YouTube resources
- 3. Purchase good revision guides (we recommend and have copies to sell of Hodder English Language Workbook priced at £6ea ISBN: 978-147-1-83394-6 though for Literature, CGP guides to individual texts are best)
- Monitor and support with SMHW (Show My Homework)



Year 9 Information Evening

GCSE Mathematics



GCSE Mathematics

- Linear GCSE, with assessment to be taken at the end of Year 11.
- Two tiers of entry; Higher and Foundation
- Three exam papers; 1.5 hours each, 2
 Calculator and 1 Non Calculator.
- The content of the examinations has varied slightly and there is a lot more problem solving!
- Further Mathematics GCSE will be offered to stretch the most able. This is an additional GCSE.



How you can support your son

- 1. Please ensure that your son is PREPPED. He must have the necessary equipment to be successful in his Maths. A calculator should be brought to every lesson!
- 2. Purchase revision guides, we will be selling them later on this term.
- 3. Encourage resilience. Your son will need to persevere more than ever to answer the more challenging, problem solving questions.
- 4. Encourage your son to use mymaths to help with homework and to consolidate his learning of new topics. It is a fantastic revision tool!



Year 9 Information Evening

GCSE Science



GCSE Qualifications

- There are two routes through GCSE Science:
 - 1. Combined Science worth 2 GCSEs
 - 2. Separate Sciences worth 3 GCSEs
- Both routes are taught all three sciences by specialist teachers.
- Combined Science has less content than separate sciences



Combined Science

- Taught by three specialist teachers
- Worth 2 GCSEs
- Will be awarded as a 'combined grade'
 - Grades available 9-9, 9-8, 8-8, 8-7, 7-7, 7-6, 6-6 etc all the way to 1-1
- Students on this route will end up with the normal 9 GCSEs in total



Separate Science

- Taught by three specialist teachers
- Extra content to Combined Science is more challenging
- Worth 3 GCSEs
- Will be awarded as three independent grades for each science
- Students on this route will end up with an extra 10th GCSE in total



General information

- No internal assessments (ISAs)
- Grades are based 100% on external examinations at the end of course in year 11
- Higher Tier and Foundation Tier available.
- Students working at grade 5 (or 5-5) and above are expected to sit the HT*
- Students working at grade 4 (or 5-4) and below are expected to sit the FT*

^{*} Students around grade 4/5 will be individually looked at for the best tier for them



Combined or Separate?

- All students from the beginning of Year 9 have been taught science lessons that allow them to progress on to separate science or combined route.
- At the end of Year 10, the science department will decide who will do which route.
- The factors affecting the decision are:
 - Students passion for science and interest in A-Level Sciences (students who do not do separate sciences can still go on to A-Level)
 - Student's ability in science particularly
 - Student's attitude to work and behaviour



The Selection Process

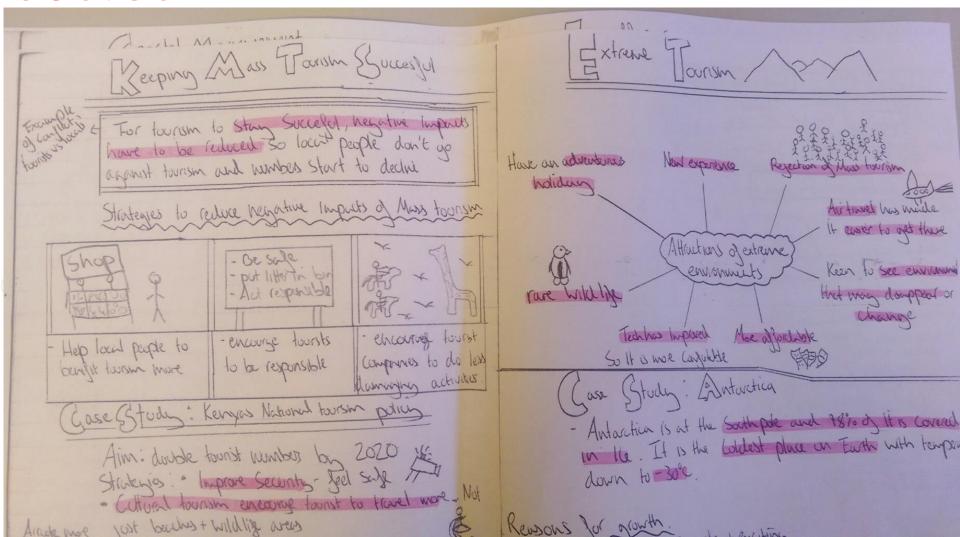
- Review 1 and 2 assessments will be graded and analysed
- Students will be asked to indicate their preference to which route they would like, including any possible intentions of A-Level Sciences in the future
- Attitude to learning will be considered.
- A preliminary decision will be made and parents informed.
- Issues raised from the decision will be discussed and cleared



Our Key messages to our parents and students

- All our students are capable of improving their learning
- Effective learning happens when students think hard, work hard and learn from their mistakes – 'easy' learning is not permanent learning
- We are focusing our teaching on activities that will help our students to think hard, work hard and learn from their mistakes

Great learners – create revision notes throughout the course



Coping with Stress: them and you!

- ✓ Talk about it.
- ✓ Take time out.
- ✓ Exercise.
- ✓ Think Positive.
- ✓ Relax.
- ✓ Eat Well.
- ✓ Sleep Well.
 - Mr Cornell, Ms Holdsworth, Mr Sykes, subject teachers and form tutors are all available to support your son.







How can we work together to achieve the best for your son?

- Unashamedly aspirational
- Praise effort
- Praise good deeds
- Be prepared to say NO
- Reinforce the school's ethos
- Encourage participation in Xtra
- Know where they are outside of school and who they are with!



On going communication between staff and home

- Please ensure that you update us if you change your email/mobile phone number
- Mr Cornell email:
- Pcornell@sandbachschool.org
- Mrs Holdsworth:
- Lholdsworth@sandbachschool.org



WE HAVE A NEW TWITTER!!! @Yr9Sandbach





Thank you for your attendance this evening and your continued support.