

Year 7

Information and guidance event 2023





The School Prayer

In the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen Heavenly Father, be with us as we live, learn, and grow together. Inspire in us a spirit of respect, understanding, affection, and humour, so that all can know that they are valued, loved, and cherished. With Mary as our guide, encourage us to be more like Jesus, today and every day. Amen. St John Bosco, pray for us. Growing together, rooted in faith. Playground Church School Home





- The spirit of our school
- Life in Year 7
- Rewards and behaviour policy
- Challenges facing students (and parents!)
- Curriculum and assessment



Catholic, Salesian Ethos



Fr. Saju John – School Chaplain

"The school is not the end; it is rather the instrumental means for improving our way of life."

Don Bosco





RUAH: the spirit of our school

• **R** for Respect: (Home)

Each person in our school community deserves respect. God is within us therefore we all need to be listened to, treated fairly and challenged to live up to our full potential.

• U for Understanding: (School)

We all need to take responsibility. Our actions need to be clear and have reason behind them.

• A for affection: (Church)

Our school is filled with affection, warmth and forgiveness.

• **H** for Humour: (Playground)

Don Bosco's spirituality thrives on holiness that is being happy. Relaxing, playing and having fun is of utmost importance in our school.



Life in Year 7

The School Day

- 8:40 Registration
- 9:05 Period 1
- 10:40 Break
- 11:00 Period 2
- 12:35 Lunch Year 7, 9 and 11 Tutor time Year 8, 10 and Sixth Form
- 13:05 Lunch Year 8, 10 and Sixth Form Tutor time Year 7, 9 and 11
- 13:35 Period 3
- 15:10 Home time



Attendance









Making every lesson count.....

- If your child can be at school, your child should be at school
- Being punctual plays a vital role
- If your child is off school make sure to contact the school reception.



Key staff – School Leadership

- Mrs A O'Callaghan Headteacher
- Mr E Kirk Deputy Headteacher
- Mr M Fitzsimons Deputy Headteacher
- Mrs K Wilkinson Assistant Headteacher
- Mr C Bingley Assistant Headteacher



Key staff – Year 7 Team

- Mr F Smith Head of Year
- Mrs J O'Grady Assistant Head of Year
- Ms H Anderson Assistant Head of Year
- Mrs L Pickup SEN transition
- Mrs K Wilkinson Assistant Headteacher (Director of KS3)
- Mr C Tye Assistant Headteacher (Inclusion)



Year 7 Form Tutors

- Alpha Mr Woods
- Beta Miss Rushton
- Gamma Mrs Mitha
- Delta Mrs Hughes and Ms Waring
- Zeta Mr Hodson

Kappa - Mr Grundy

Theta – Mrs Hawksworth

Sigma – Mr Joyce

Lambda – Mrs Crosby and Mr Eccleshare

Omega - Mrs Miller



Form Time

Monday Curriculum for life Tuesday Curriculum for life Wednesday Chapel assembly Thursday Reading and literacy **Friday** Collective worship Other opportunities to get involved in Student leadership • Participating in clubs

• Charity work



Student Leadership

WHAT IS A STUDENT LEADER?

The role of a student leader is to work with other pupils, staff and the local community to improve the school environment whilst developing leadership skills.

A student leader should be a visible role model for the rest of the school community as they are key figures around school.





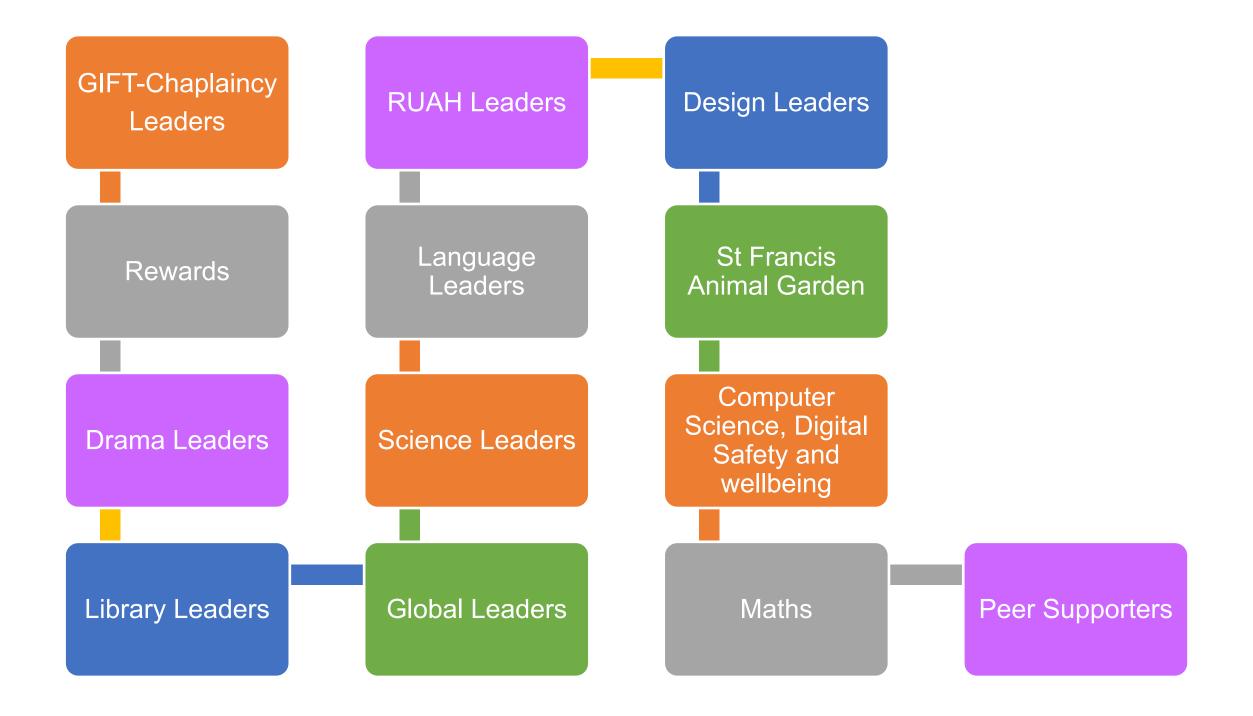


Year Captains

Leadership Groups Leadership group: Year Captains

- Staff Lead: Head of Year
- **Examples of activities**:
- Organise and run whole year inter form competitions
- Create student voices to understand the needs and wants of the year
- Create and lead assemblies
- Create student led revision classes and timetables
- Help HOY with updating all information boards
- Present to Governors at meetings

STUDENT LEADERSHIP CHECKLIST An Open Mind A Good Attitude Determination Selflessness Patience Gratitude





 Fill out the google form that has been emailed to all students

Information about each group is also available on that email



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Extra-curricular activities

Netball Practice Monday 3:10pm – 4:30pm YARD

Meet at the sports hall to change **FULL PE kit and trainers Bring water**

> **Rugby Practice** Thursday 3:10pm – 4:30pm FIELDS



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Meet at the sports hall to change FULL PE kit & boots **Bring water**

Check the website and social media for the updated sports clubs at the start of each half term @tscpedance

4.3 Thornleigh Y7 & 8 Football Practice Thursday 3:10pm - 4:30pm ASTROTURF

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Meet at the sports hall to change FULL PE kit, shin pads and trainers/boots Bring water

> All years Girls' football practice **Sports Hall Tuesday lunch time**

Spanish Y7 Spanish club Wednesday lunchtime (week A) in Room 47

12.40pm until 1pm

Music Choir Wednesday lunchtime in Room 19 12.40pm until 1:15pm

KS3 Bands Monday after school in Room 18 3.10pm until 4:10pm Monday and Thursday lunchtime in Room 18, 12.35pm until 1:05pm

Legally Blonde Musical

Thursday after school in the main hall 3.15pm until 4:45pm

Drama Y7 Drama club Tuesday lunchtime in Room 20 12.45pm until 1:20pm

SCHOOL CHARITIES

it is about making a difference.

GROWING TOGETHER, ROOTED IN FAITH







Caritas Salford – is reflective of the fact that we're the domestic social action charity of the Catholic Diocese of Salford.

Our reach though, spans not just Salford, but right across the diocese, taking in most of Greater Manchester and parts of Lancashire too.

We're really proud to be able to work in the heart of communities across our area.

https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/

We will create a school gateway payment for parents

We are the official aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. With your help, we reach out to people living in hard-to-reach places, in war zones and those who are discriminated against.

We believe that if one of us is hurt, hungry or abandoned, we all are hurt, hungry and abandoned.

No one should be beyond the love and support they need to live a dignified life.

https://cafod.org.uk/

Cafod Family Fast Day - Friday 6th October Please send some monies for donation. Parents and carers can donate through the school gateway.

GROWING TOGETHER, ROOTED IN FAITH

Other Charities that we support

- Urban Outreach Dinner on Jesus
- Bolton Hospice
- Mary's Meal
- SVP
- Aid to the Church in Need
- Salesians of Don Bosco
- Emergency Appeal
- Food Bank
- and many more...

Community Mass Wednesday 25th October, 6pm Chapel

All are welcome. Registration google form will be emailed.

GROWING TOGETHER, ROOTED IN FAITH



Reward and behaviour system

How to earn and keep praise points

<u>Classroom</u>

- Arrive on time
- Be settled and focus
- Listen to instructions and be cooperative
- Work without disrupting learning or distracting others
- Participate willingly in learning activities
- Complete classwork
- Complete homework to the highest standard

Character

- Respect everyone in the school community
- Be prepared and fully equipped for learning
- Have the highest standards of uniform and appearance
- Use manners, be polite and kind to everyone
- Take care of other students and be encouraging



Community

- Attend school everyday and arrive on time before 8:40am
- Travel safely to and from school
- Mobile phones must be switched off and kept inside school bags
- Look after the environment
- Act safely and responsibly
- Be a role model in the wider community

Key Expectations

I. Travel safely and responsibly to and from school

2. Mobile phones switched off and in bags before arriving at school and until leaving school gate

3. Wear uniform correctly at all times (including plain black coat, shoes and yellow lanyard)

4. Be organised. Have a timetable visible in the kitchen and in bedrooms. Pack bags the night before school and bring all the correct equipment needed for the next day

5. Use Class charts to manage homework and complete all homework to best standard

6. Participate willingly in lessons and push themselves to reach their potential

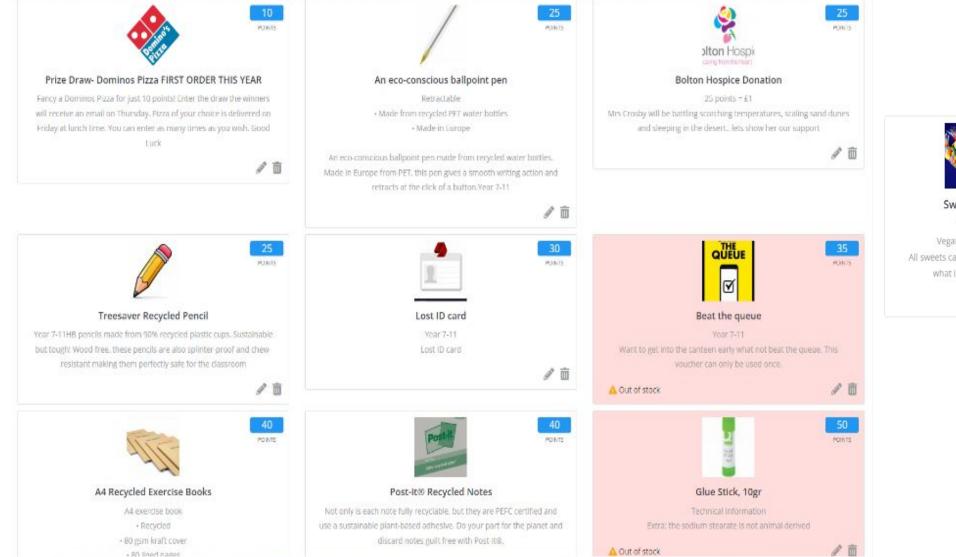
7. Get involved in school life – Clubs, Sports, Drama, Music, Councils and Assemblies

8. Treat all members of our school community with respect at all times (RUAH)

9. No piercings, jewellery, fake nails, extreme haircuts (grade 3+) or shaved lines. All hair must be one natural colour. <u>FULL GUIDANCE</u>



The reward shop







Drinking Bottle - 750ml (Blue)

Sweet Cones Year 7-11 Vegan Sweet Cones All sweets can vary and not always what is in the picture.







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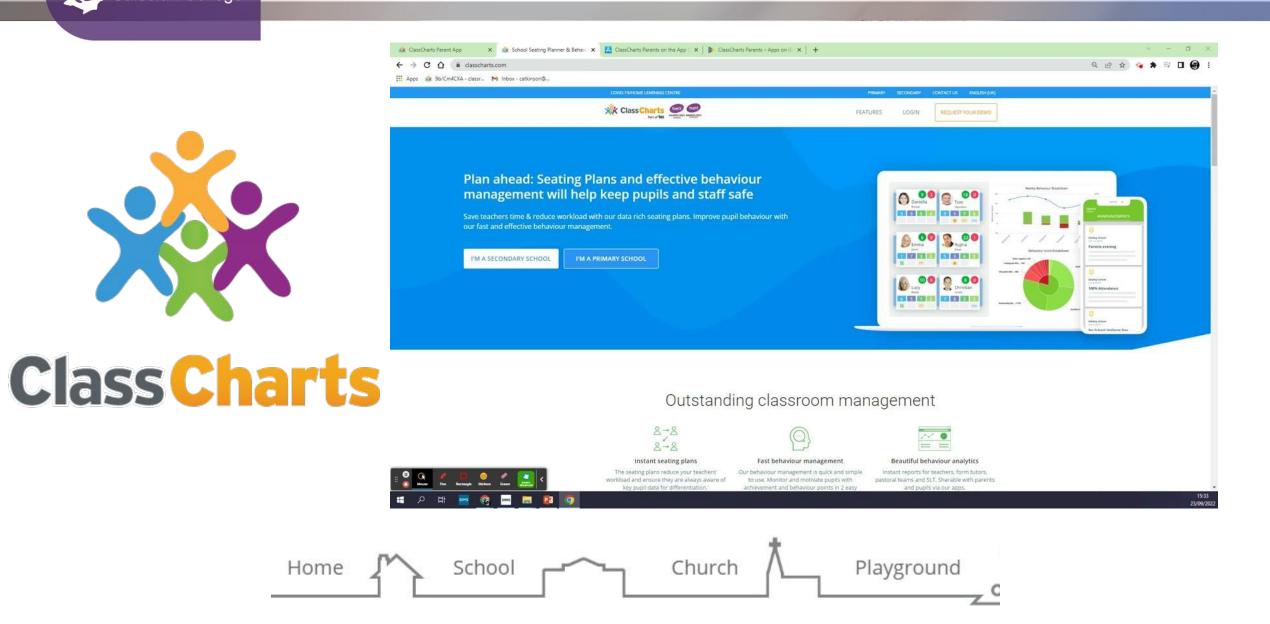


Each bottle comes with a blue twist-on lid, with a push-pull spout and space to add names, for easy identification. 750ml capacity.

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ClassCharts





Challenges facing students

Friendship issues and relationships

Social media (online safety)

The safety of our children (road safety and external influences)

Mental wellbeing and anxiety



Curriculum for Life

Half Term One	Half Term Two	Half Term Three	Half Term Four	Half Term Five	Half Term Six
Community My place at Thornleigh	Well-Being My Healthy Life	Global Citizenship Me & the world	Character Developing myself	RSE Myself & Others	Futures: Building my future

The programme is delivered in tutorial period twice per week.

The programme is delivered by form tutors, who know their students well.

For the Relationships and Sex Education unit we follow the Catholic programme 'Life to the Full.' For this there is a 'parent portal' which provides a summary of each lesson, links to specific content, and suggestions for further engagement at home.

The username for this Parent Portal is: thornleigh-bl1

The password is: young-whistle

More detail is included on the school website.





Curriculum for Life

Parent Session

'How To Talk To Your Child About Pornography' 11th January 2024 6pm

It is designed to help parents talk to children about pornography, a topic that can be challenging and sensitive, but also a very important one to discuss. The session will be delivered as a live stream here at school, and is for parents and carers who have children in KS3.

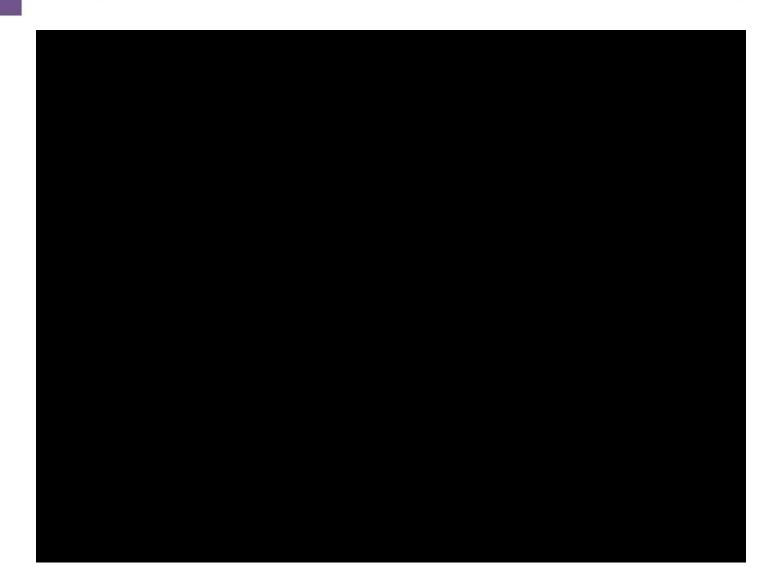
This session aims to:

- Explain why it is necessary to address the topic of pornography with your child
- Demonstrate how the Life to the Full Secondary programmes cover the topic of pornography in a Catholic context
- Give practical suggestions to help talk to your own child about pornography in a respectful and age-appropriate way











Safety of our children

Safety week – w/c 25th September

- Road safety
- Vaping
- Anti-social behaviour
- Stranger danger

Safety information evening for parents in November (information to follow)

World Mental Health

Mental health

Day October 10th 2023

Looking after the mental health of our children

Bekindtomymind

Reasons to talk.....

Mental health problems are more common than you think.

In the UK around 1 in 6 children and young people have problems with their mental health or emotional wellbeing at some stage Sometimes our bodies stop working and we can

become ill. In the same way we can have problems

with our minds that affect our mental health.

Mental health describes our emotional, psychological and social wellbeing. It affects our thinking, moods and behaviours.

Everyone has mental health, and it is normal for mental health to change during times of stress.

Positive mental health does not mean always being happy, but feeling **empowered to talk** about, **cope** with and **overcome** the things we might encounter in life. That way, we recover from our downturns and learn to take care of our minds in the same way we do our bodies.

Directory of some of the services available in Bolton:

Beat - <u>help@beateatingdisorders.org.uk</u> BGIOK - being gay is ok - <u>https://bgiok.org.uk/contact/</u> Headspace Bolton - Fridays at Octagon - <u>headspeacebolton@hotmail.co.uk</u> Kooth - text based counselling - <u>https://www.kooth.com/</u> The Parallel Young People's Health Service - drop ins available https://www.boltonft.nhs.uk/locations/the-parallel-young-peoples-health-centre/







Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families

We all have mental health





Bolton Mental Health Support Team (MHST)

Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) are designed to provide Early Intervention and Prevention support to children and young people with mild to moderate mental health difficulties and generally support the emotional wellbeing culture of schools.

Each team is made up of Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs), Mental Health and Wellbeing Practitioners and Mental Health Practitioners (senior clinicians, higher-level therapists)

Bolton MHST has recently been established and is in its training and development year.







NHS Foundation Trust

3 Core Functions of Bolton MHST

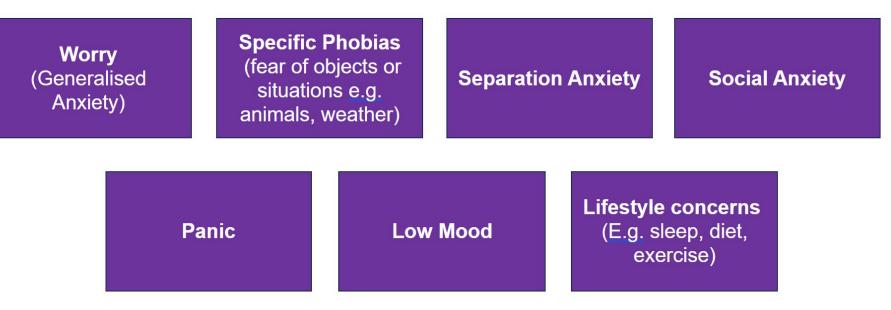
To deliver <u>evidence-based</u> <u>interventions</u> for mild-to-moderate mental health issues To support the senior mental health lead (where established) in each school to introduce or develop their <u>whole school</u> <u>approach</u> To give timely <u>advice</u> to school and college staff, and <u>liaise with</u> <u>external specialist</u> <u>services</u> to help children and young people to get the right support and stay in education







What are the main problem presentations we can support with?



If you feel like your child could benefit from some support around these difficulties, please speak to their Head of Year or the School Mental Health Lead (Michelle McKinnon). We typically offer an assessment and 6-8 sessions of Brief Intervention.





Curriculum and Assessment







The goal of our equitable and inclusive curriculum is to provide students with what they need to thrive in, make a positive contribution to and shape their future world. Through our curriculum, our students should;

- 1. Live, learn and grow together by adopting **Catholic Salesian values**
- 2. Master essential knowledge as set out by subject curriculums
- 3. Grow **competencies and attitudes** that lead to wellbeing and deep learning

Each subject applies this goal to planning their own curriculum maps and schemes of learning.

The content of these plans are then brought to life in classrooms by our teachers who effectively use our school teaching framework to organise learning.





Curriculum

Subject	Teaching Groups	Periods / Fortnight	
RE	2 mixed ability bands 6 sets within each band	3	
English 2 mixed ability bands 6 sets within each ba		5	
Maths	2 mixed ability bands: 6 sets within each band	5	
Science	cience 2 mixed ability bands: 6 sets within each band		
Spanish		2	
Geography	Taught in same class for	2	
History	all subjects 2 mixed ability bands:	2	
Music	6 sets within each band	1	
Art		1	
Design Technology Home Technology	2 mixed ability bands: 6 classes within each band	1	
Computing	Half year per subject Taught in Maths classes	1	
Physical Education	2 mixed ability bands: 6 sets within each band	2	

- \star 95 minute lessons
- Our teacher professional learning programme is focussed on;
 - I. Building student independence
- 2. Student literacy

Leading to deeper learning experiences in classrooms.





- ★ During lessons I) questioning, short tasks, performances, quizzes etc...
- During lessons 2) key assessment pieces of essential knowledge and competencies
- ★ End of topic / term / year key assessment pieces of a range of knowledge and competencies



Assessment

Attainment judgements for each subject which tell you the extent to which your child has mastered the curriculum in each subject up to the point of reporting. Judgements are based on assessment information that has been gathered by your child's teachers up to this point. A brief description of each judgement is featured in the report. You can learn about the expectations for each learning

Foundation	Students have a surface level understanding of the core skills required for mastery of the subject. For example, they can recall and reproduce single facts.
Developing	Students have a surface level understanding of the knowledge and core skills required for mastery of the subject. For example, they have many ideas about basic skills and concepts.
Secure	Students have a deepening understanding of the factual knowledge and advanced skills required for mastery of the subject. For example, they can link and relate ideas and are developing strategies for thinking and reasoning.
Excelling	Students have a deep understanding of the conceptual knowledge and advanced skills required for mastery of the subject. For example, they can extend thinking and apply ideas to multiple curriculum themes.



Assessment

- ★ Assessment at KS3 is not a 'work towards' model. For example, students don't all start at 'Foundation' and work towards achieving 'Excelling'. Instead, students are allocated a learning threshold (Foundation, Developing, Secure, Excelling) to work at, or above, during Key Stage 3.
- ★ Therefore, your child is working at the expected standard if their allocated threshold in a subject is 'Foundation' and they are judged to be working at 'Foundation'. So please do not worry about that.
- ★ We allocate students their learning threshold (F, D, S, E) in these subjects, based on KS2 assessment results and GL Assessments conducted in Year 7:
 - Group 1: English, RE, History, Geography and Spanish
 - Group 2: Maths, Science, Computer Science
- ★ For all other subjects (Art, Design and Home Technology, Drama, Music and PE), the teacher decides the allocated learning threshold in Year 7.

Very few, if any, students should be working below their allocated learning threshold. If this is the case, we would expect that you have been contacted by the class teacher and a plan has been put in place.



Homework

Mode-A Homework at KS3	Number of homework's	Duration of each piece of homework
English / Maths / Science / RE	Up to 2 per cycle	10-30 mins
All other subjects with more than one lesson per cycle	1 per cycle	10-30 mins
All other subjects with only one lesson per cycle	1-3 per half term	10-30 mins

- ★ Completion instructions should be shared during lessons so your child understands the purpose of the homework. Class teachers will enter homework instructions onto Class Charts. Your child needs to check this!
- ★ Homework should be manageable, for example 2 days between it being set and handed in.
- ★ Your child should be provided with all materials to support and resources required to undertake tasks at home.
- ★ Your involvement is desirable, but it should not be essential so homework should not be too difficult. Your child should be able to do the homework on their own.