



Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



3rd September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Curriculum Information Term 1 (3rd September to 23rd October)

As part of our commitment to provide a good quality of education for the young people at Wadham School this letter shares information to help and support parents, carers and student. This letter outlines:

- Curriculum. (Academic and Personal)
- Academic Grouping.
- Teaching and Learning Principles (Positive Social Norms)
- Specific year group learning content for Term 1.
- Absence and Home-Learning.
- Extra-curricular activities.

Mrs Hutter will be sending all parents and carers a letter with details of Knowledge Organisers and Homework Grids.

Curriculum

Through our curriculum, we provide a wide range of learning experiences both inside and outside of the classroom to encourage a love of learning and give the opportunity to experience success and fulfilment. The information below is a starting point to enable positive discussions at home about subject content. Leaders and teachers at Wadham School plan the curriculum and the sequence of learning very carefully. This gives all students the opportunity to work hard and progress in their academic studies to reach their full potential.

Academic Curriculum (Hours per two-week cycle)

Subject	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Core – English	8	8	8	8	8
Core – Maths	7	7	7	8	8
Core - Science	7	7	7	10	10
Art	2	2	2	Option	Option
Business	n/a	n/a	n/a	Option	Option
Computing	1	1	1	n/a	n/a
Child Development	n/a	n/a	n/a	Option	Option



Design	2	2	2	Option	Option
Drama	1	1	1	Future Option	Option
Film Studies	n/a	n/a	n/a	Future Option	Option
Food	2	2	2	Option	Option
French	2	Choice 4	Choice 4	Future Option	Option
German	2			Option	Option
Geography	3	3	3	Option	Option
GSCE PE	n/a	n/a	n/a	Option	Option
History	3	3	3	Option	Option
ICT	n/a	n/a	n/a	Option	Future Option
Music	1	1	1	Future Option	Future Option
Photography	n/a	n/a	n/a	Option	Option
Religious Studies	n/a	n/a	n/a	Option	Option
Statistics	n/a	n/a	n/a	Future Option	Option

Personal Development (Hours per two-week cycle)

All students are taught subjects which form the 'Personal Development' Curriculum. Our intent is that these subjects provide a variety of relevant and enjoyable activities enabling all students to develop their intellectual, moral, social, physical, spiritual and personal qualities to the full. The subjects that form the 'Personal Development' Curriculum are outlined below with the hours of teaching per two-week cycle.

Subject	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Personal Development (PD)	2	2	2	2	2
Beliefs and Worldviews (BWV)	2	2	2	2	2
Physical Education (PE)	5	5	5	4	4
Enrichment (ER)				1	1

Academic Grouping

At Wadham School, grouping for most subjects is based on ability, expected progress, attitude to learning and engagement. A student's classwork, homework, exercise book, ability to process and answer questions and performance in assessments all support our process of grouping students.

All students are given equal and fair opportunity to demonstrate their ability. Students are grouped with other students of similar ability who are learning and progressing at the same rate.

Classroom teachers and department leaders continually assess the progress of students throughout the school year and at strategically placed points information is used to indicate grouping. A student's group will be indicated on their timetable. We expect that being placed in the correct group will help the learning and progress of a

student. **Key Principle:** Students deserve to be moved to a higher set if they have good attendance, work hard, take responsibility for their learning, demonstrate improvement in outcomes, potential is seen and there is confidence that the student will be able to access learning in a higher set.

We encourage students to talk to their teachers about how they can progress so that they may be in a position to move sets. Parents and Carers are also encouraged to talk to their child/children about their progress and communicate with the relevant teacher, Head of Department or Head of Year if there are any concerns. Contact details of all staff can be found in the Communications Booklet.

Group Information

Year 7

Grouping is linear. Set 1-5. No sides of the year splitting the cohort.

Subject linked groups:

Science, Art, PE, Food, DT, Music, Drama (Timetable code 7GS/Number)

English, BWV, Geography, French (Timetable code 7GE/Number)

Maths, Computing, History, PD, German (Timetable code 7GM/Number)

Year 8 (and 9)

Each year group is split into two cohorts called the 'G' side and the 'R' side.

Subject linked groups:

Science, BWV, PD and PE (Timetable code 8GS/Number or 8RS/Number)

English, Geography, Music (Timetable code 8GE/Number or 8RE/Number)

Maths, Computing, History, Drama, (Timetable code 8GM/Number or 8RM/Number)

Languages, Food, Art, DT (Timetable code 8G/Letter or 8R/Letter)

In KS4 students will have the opportunity to progress to set RS1. Students in RS1 will follow the 'Separate Science' GCSE course.

Year 10 (and 11)

Each year group is split into two cohorts called the 'G' side and the 'R' side.

Subject linked groups:

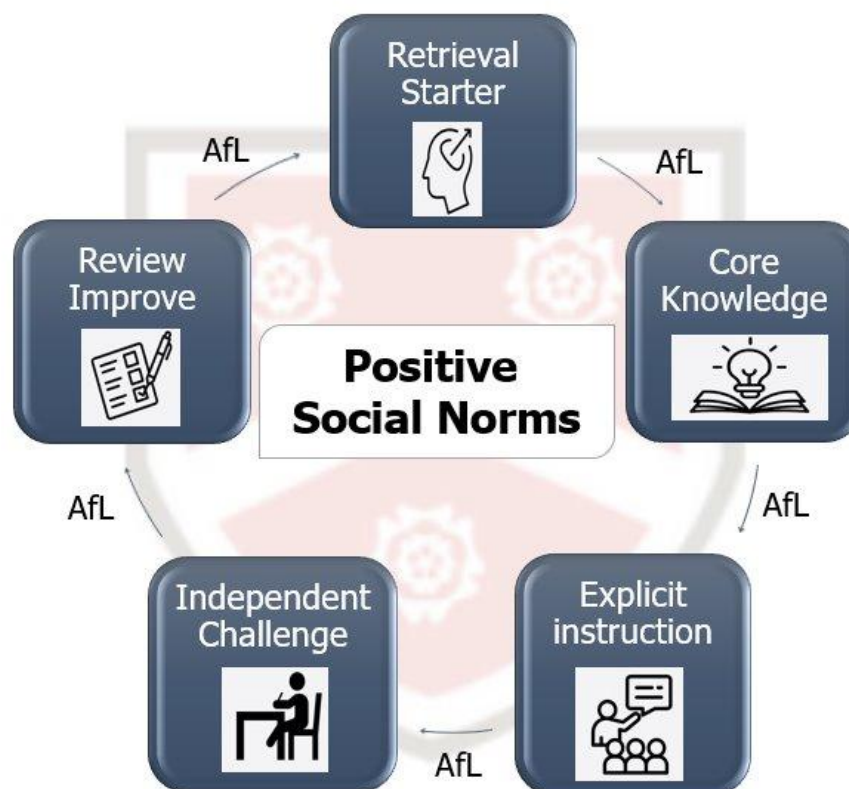
Science, English (Timetable code 10GS/Number or 10RS/Number)

Maths, BWV, PD (Timetable code 10GM/Number or 10RM/Number)

Option Subjects (Timetable code 10A, 10B, 10C)

Teaching and Learning

Positive Social Norms are at the heart of our teaching.
The learning journey in every lesson is consistent.



You can find details of the full curriculum on the school website.

Subject	What will my Year 9 child learn in this subject Term 1?
Art	Science in Art.
Beliefs and Worldviews	Buddhism Beliefs and Practices: The Origin of Buddhism -Four Noble Truths - Eightfold Path - Enlightenment – Festivals
Computing	Animations.
Design and Technology	Design movements. Market push/Market pull.
Drama	An introduction to key practitioners.
English	The Dystopian Genre.
Food	Hygiene and Safety and The Eatwell Guide.
French	'En ville' (In town) [1]: Weather, describing where you live, places you go at weekends, ordering in a cafe.
Geography	Our restless earth – Volcanoes- students will learn the concepts and theories of plate tectonics before looking at a case study in Central Africa.
German	'Meine Stadt' (My town) [1]: Weather, describing where you live, places you go at weekends, ordering in a cafe.

History	World War One – causes, trenches, key battles, weapons + how did medicine develop during the war to cope with the huge number of casualties?
Maths	Straight line graphs; Forming & solving equations; 3D shapes.
Music	Film music- performance.
Personal Development	Healthy and unhealthy friendships, assertiveness, substance misuse, and gang exploitation
Physical Education	Rugby, Badminton, Hockey, Table Tennis.
Science	Safety and maths, genetics and evolution, making materials.

* Please note: We review and evaluate our learning plans regularly and therefore some changes may be made termly.

Absence and Home-Learning

We understand that it is unavoidable at times for a young person to be absent from school. However, we are keen that the learning and progress of a young person is not hindered by absence. In the majority of cases learning can be completed at home whilst absent from school. This will mean gaps in learning will be less of a concern when a young person returns to school as soon as possible after an absence.

The expectation is that students work at home and present their work to their class teacher when they return to school, either online or on paper.

Guide to learning at home:

The information outlined in the Term 1 Curriculum Letter and Knowledge Organiser will help students identify the learning being completed in lessons at school this term. Online homework will also be accessible.

Core Subject Learning Resources:

English

Complete independent work using Seneca. Complete work and learn curriculum topic(s) identified on the learning plans on the school website.
www.senecalearning.com.

Maths (KS3)

Students who are absent when they are timetabled a Maths lesson should log in to SPARX, go to 'Independent Learning' and complete codes for their current topic.

Students can find which codes to do in their Knowledge Organisers. Sparx will support Maths learning with videos, explanations, written work and questions with answers.

Students also have compulsory homework set on Sparx. Students should make sure this homework is complete and work on the additional XP Boost and Target questions which are updated every week.

Students can also use the wide range of Maths learning websites available online to revisit topics that they have recently covered in lessons or topics that were identified on the curriculum letter or on the knowledge organisers.

Science

In KS3 students who are absent for a timetabled science lesson should use their knowledge organiser to identify the topic that they are studying at present and then look at the relevant section on BBC bitesize to support this learning. Students can complete a range of quizzes and interactive learning activities. A list of topics, with links, will be shared with students via teams.

In KS4 students who are absent for a timetabled science lesson should use their knowledge organiser to identify the topic that they are studying and then look at the relevant section in the online text book: [ActiveHub | Home](#)

Log in: student school email address.

Password: Password123

Students in KS4 may also wish to use BBC bitesize to support their learning. The exam board that they study is Edexcel.

Extra-curricular activities – Term 1.

Year 10/11 Past Paper Maths Club Wednesdays 8:00am-8:30am Room A06

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime (1.20-1.55)	Years 7/8/9 Cross Country (Must wear kit) Years 10/11 Cross Country (Must wear kit)	Pride Club Years 10/11 Further Maths E03 Year 10/11 History Learning and Review. Year 7/8/9 Table Tennis Years 10/11 Badminton	Years 7/8/9 Badminton Years 10/11 Table Tennis Indoor Activities Club (EG. Board Games/Colourin g) E01	Years 7/8/9 Science Club D07 Brain Games and Sparx Club B05	Years 7/8/9 Basketball Years 10/11 Basketball

		Key Stage 3 Art Club A02			
Lunchtime in the Library			Year 7 Book Club	Year 8 Book Club	All Years Lego Club

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Afterschool (3-4pm)	Badminton (All years) *£1.50/session via ipay.	Years 10/11 GCSE French and German A11 Year 11 Science D01 Years 7/8 Mixed Hockey Years 9/10/11 Mixed Hockey Years 10/11 GCSE PE Support Year 7 Axiom Maths E01 (Listed students)	All years The Quill A12 Year 8/9 Trampolining (16 places available. Sign up in advance in PE Office) Years 9/10/11 Boy's Rugby Year 10/11 History Learning and Review session. Advanced Badminton *invite only* *Cost TBC* Year 11 Maths E01/E03 Year 11 Design E02	Year 10/11 English Exam Preparation C22 Years 10/11 Art and Photography School Choir A09 Years 7/8 Girl's Football Years 9/10/11 Girl's Football Years 7/8 Boy's Rugby Religion & Philosophy B25 (Week B only)	Year 10/11 Badminton *£1.50/session via ipay. All years Debate Club C24

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr. S. White'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'M' and 'W'.

Mr S White
Deputy Headteacher
Curriculum and Outcomes