

# Curriculum Update

At TCS our curriculum is designed to inspire and challenge, enabling all students to become the best version of themselves. Each half term we will be sharing a curriculum update newsletter with you which aims to provide an insight into what our students will be learning about in the classroom. Our newsletter will serve as a bridge between the classroom and home, and we hope that this will enable you to continue conversations that students have begun in the classroom to deepen and extend their learning. A strong partnership between school and home significantly contributes to a child's academic progress helping them to develop and grow.



**Work Hard**



**Be Kind**



**Join In**

This year we have made some changes to our curriculum so that it better meets the needs of our young people. Students in Year 7 to 9 now all follow the same diet of lessons ensuring that we can cover the curriculum in more depth and create more meaningful learning opportunities.

In particular, we have increased the number of hours that students study Science as this subject provides the foundation for understanding the world around us. Early exposure to science also helps to increase students' awareness of a diverse range of career options which they may choose to follow in the future.

We have also made the decision that students in Key Stage 3 will now only study one modern foreign language (assigned on entry to TCS) instead of two as had historically been the case. This will enable students to make more significant progress in one area rather than spreading their efforts too thinly and trying to grasp the nuances of two languages.

Having used Sparx Maths as part of our home learning approach for a number of years we have now invested fully into the Sparx Classroom programme, equipping all of our maths classrooms with Chrome Books so that students can work at their own pace through the maths curriculum. Personalised algorithms support and challenge all students to join in and push themselves to do their best. We are really excited to see the impact this has on our students'

In Key Stage 4 we have removed our pathways approach and all students now have the opportunity to indicate their subject preferences from the whole suite of available options.

We have been fortunate to have been joined by new staff in our Business and Catering departments and they are busy writing new curriculums in these areas. We are looking forward to how these develop over the next few months.

All of our Year 11 students now have a weekly writing tutorial on a Friday morning during lesson time to upskill their knowledge for the English Language paper and practise applying these exam skills. After half term there will also be an opportunity to join a weekly enrichment seminar for English after school on a Monday.

Students in Key Stage 5 continue to follow varied and personalised curriculums. We are absolutely delighted to be able to offer A Level Chemistry again and are looking forward to developing our scientific community at TCS. Likewise, our E Sports curriculum continues to grow and we now have students following both L2 and L3 courses in this area which is an exciting new venture for us. For those students with a passion for languages we now also provide an opportunity to work towards an international DELE course in Spanish so that they can continue to deepen their understanding of a language alongside their other subjects.

If you would like to find out more about the curriculum for any of our subjects, please visit our website <https://www.teignmouthsecondary.co.uk/the-tcs-curriculum/>

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We have been working hard on our Personal Development Provision at TCS to ensure that it is firmly rooted in and reflects our vision to unlock the best version of you by working hard and never giving up; being kind and caring for each other and joining in to develop and grow. Have a look at how we will be supporting and challenging students to be confident, resilient and independent next half term.

|                  | PSHE Lessons   | Assemblies  | Events  | Careers   |
|------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Year 7 Autumn 2  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making and maintaining friendships</li> <li>Identifying and challenging bullying</li> <li>Communicating online.</li> </ul>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The science behind learning: how our brains work, the value of retrieval, the role of practice, growth mindset and resilience.</li> <li>Celebrating peace and acceptance: Armistice, elimination of prejudice</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christmas carol Concert</li> <li>Winter gala concert – Exeter Cathedral</li> <li>E Sports Year group Tournament</li> <li>Rugby South Devon Cup</li> <li>English Schools' Football Association Cup</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Careers' Week – Guest Speakers.</li> </ul> |
| Year 8 Autumn 2  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination</li> <li>Promoting diversity and equality</li> <li>LGBTQ+ inclusivity.</li> </ul>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The science behind learning: how our brains work, the value of retrieval, the role of practice, growth mindset and resilience.</li> <li>Celebrating peace and acceptance: Armistice, elimination of prejudice</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northcott Theatre trip</li> <li>Christmas carol concert</li> <li>Winter gala concert – Exeter Cathedral</li> <li>E Sports Year group Tournament</li> <li>Rugby South Devon Cup</li> <li>English Schools' Football Association Cup</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Careers' Week – Guest Speakers.</li> </ul> |
| Year 9 Autumn 2  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Friendship challenges</li> <li>Healthy &amp; unhealthy relationships</li> <li>Consent</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The science behind learning: how our brains work, the value of retrieval, the role of practice, growth mindset and resilience.</li> <li>Celebrating peace and acceptance: Armistice, elimination of prejudice</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christmas carol concert</li> <li>Winter gala concert – Exeter Cathedral</li> <li>Rugby South Devon Cup</li> <li>English Schools' Football Association Cup</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Careers' Week – Guest Speakers.</li> </ul> |
| Year 10 Autumn 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relationship expectations &amp; nature of committed relationships</li> <li>Impact of pornography</li> <li>Online relationships</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The science behind learning: how our brains work, the value of retrieval, the role of practice, growth mindset and resilience.</li> <li>Celebrating peace and acceptance: Armistice, elimination of prejudice</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential London Trip – Dance</li> <li>Christmas carol concert</li> <li>Winter gala concert – Exeter Cathedral</li> <li>Rugby South Devon Cup</li> <li>English Schools' Football Association Cup</li> <li>Ten Tors Training and Event</li> </ul>   |   |
| Year 11 Autumn 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relationship values</li> <li>Maintaining sexual health</li> <li>Managing relationship challenges and endings</li> </ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The science behind learning: how our brains work, the value of retrieval, the role of practice, growth mindset and resilience.</li> <li>Celebrating peace and acceptance: Armistice, elimination of prejudice</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post 16 Options Evening</li> <li>Marjon University taster sessions:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faculty of Sport</li> <li>Health Sciences</li> </ul> </li> <li>Christmas carol concert</li> <li>Winter gala concert – Exeter Cathedral</li> <li>English Schools' Football Association Cup</li> <li>Ten Tors Training and Event</li> </ul> |   |

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| Year 12 Autumn 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Love Languages</li> <li>Media and pornography on sexual expectations</li> <li>Taking responsibility for your sexual health</li> <li>Life chance Trust – extractions, targeted student support</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tutorial – 6 weeks stepping up to Post 16 Study Skills</li> <li>Charity Event launch – Alice Cross</li> <li>Linked In speaker – Social media footprint</li> <li>Christmas End of term Awards</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrichment block 2 Choices:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Charity committee</li> <li>Volunteering</li> <li>Healthy lifestyles</li> </ul> </li> <li>Learn to Live Conference – Road safety</li> <li>Ten Tors Training and Event</li> <li>Adam Williams – External Speaker (Stress management strategies ahead of exams)</li> <li>Christmas Social trip – Student voice</li> <li>Sixth form leadership – Next Steps evening</li> <li>Falmouth University Taster trip                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital Media</li> <li>Esports</li> </ul> </li> <li>Boneyard Retro Arcade trip</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>University Trip Cardiff/Bath</li> <li>Employability Enrichment block</li> </ul>   |
| Year 13 Autumn 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living independently</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UCAS Personal Statements</li> <li>Academic reading</li> <li>1 on 1 academic interventions</li> <li>Uplearn Programme</li> <li>Charity Event launch – Alice Cross</li> <li>Linked In speaker – Social media footprint</li> <li>Christmas End of term Awards</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guest speaker - Exam stress and revision</li> <li>Make South West exhibition: Bovey Tracey                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christmas Social</li> </ul> </li> <li>Falmouth University Taster trip                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital Media</li> <li>Esports</li> </ul> </li> <li>Boneyard Retro Arcade trip</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UCAS fortnightly drop in programme – SF team</li> <li>Plymouth University – Student ambassador personal support during study sessions</li> <li>SF teachers write references for UCAS applications</li> <li>Unifrog programme</li> </ul> |

