

Dear Parent/Carer,

Here at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School we are very proud of our curriculum; our subject experts have designed a well sequenced, interesting and knowledge-rich curriculum for our students. More details are available on our school website under the 'Curriculum and Learning' tab. You will also find links to your child's learning manager page where we are building up a bank of additional resources and information relevant to your child's stage of learning.

The table below outlines what is being studied during Half Term 4 in Year 10 in each subject and how students are assessed and given feedback to support their progress.

Subject	Content this half term	Assessments
English language	Creative Prose writing and Non Fiction writing	Formative and summative assessment
English literature	Macbeth and Anthology poetry	Formative and summative assessment
Creative Digital Media Production (BTEC L2)	Component 2- Creating digital media products	Summative assessment (Pearson Set Assignment)
GCSE Computer Science	We will continue Unit 2 - Binary and Hexadecimal and will move onto Unit 3 that looks at how the machine works and the nature of operating systems	All units have an end of unit assessment - which mirrors the final exam with a question per unit.
Technology	Metal craft practical work. Unit 3 PG online Materials and their working properties.	
BTEC Tech Award in Digital Information Technologies	The Assessment of the Data Information System will be completed - and will form a part of the final grade for the course. It is completed under timed and controlled conditions.	The unit is assessed internally and externally.
GCSE Business	Theme 1: topics 1.3 putting a business idea into practice and 1.4 making the business effective	Internal assessments
Enterprise and Marketing	Topic area 5: factors to consider when starting up and running an enterprise	Internal assessments
Physics	This term students will be looking at atomic structure. This will explore the nature of radioactive materials.	End of topic testing, and in-class formative assessments.
Chemistry	This term students will be looking at Quantitative Chemistry.	End of topic testing
Biology	This term students will be looking at infection and response (infectious diseases and immunity)	End of topic testing
Psychology	Depending on the class and teaching splits, the lessons will be based on the Sleep and Dreaming topic and/or Research Methods Skills	Mid and End of topic assessments

Health and Social Care Level 2 BTEC Tech award	Component 1: Human Lifespan Development	Non-exam internal assessment set by Pearson, marked by the centre and moderated by Pearson. (PSA)
Maths	Simultaneous Equations, Non-Calculator Methods inc. Rounding, Estimation, Error Intervals, Four Operations with Integers, Decimals and Fractions, Working with Surds, Angles and Bearings	End of Topic Tests and Progress Monitoring Tests
French	Continuing Jobs, career choices & ambitions (theme 3) Opinions & reasons on: GCSE options, full-time and part-time jobs, career plans Grammar: perfect tense verbs, conditional voice, comparative & superlative structures, infinitive structures, forming questions Retrieval: hobbies, festivals, school	Ongoing formative assessments including an extended written piece on theme 3.
German	Continuing Jobs, career choices & ambitions (theme 3) Opinions & reasons on: GCSE options, full-time and part-time jobs, career plans Grammar: perfect tense verbs, conditional voice, comparative & superlative structures, infinitive structures, forming questions Retrieval: hobbies, festivals, school	Ongoing formative assessments including an extended written piece on theme 3.
Spanish	Continuing: Jobs, career choices & ambitions (theme 3) Opinions & reasons on: GCSE options, full-time and part-time jobs, career plans Grammar: perfect tense verbs, conditional voice, comparative & superlative structures, infinitive structures, forming questions Retrieval: hobbies, festivals, school	Ongoing formative assessments including an extended written piece on theme 3.
Art/craft/design	Day of the Dead coursework project - continuation and development of work around this theme.	Formative and summative assessment
Drama	Devising Drama - Component 2 - students are working in groups to create a performance from a chosen stimulus in preparation for filming in the Summer term. Students will create a devising log alongside the practical process which will be worth 30% of their overall grade and the performance itself worth 10%.	Ongoing feedback will be provided at intervals on their devising logs. Ongoing teacher assessment of their performance during the creation process.
Music	The students will be looking at their third set work, Release by Afro Celt Sound System, preparing a solo performance and also a composition using Ableton	The class have regular starter assessment and also end of unit GCSE style assessments on each set work.
History	Elizabethan England: From Tudor Society to the Armada	8 mark exam style questions
Geography	Continuation of our Physical Landscapes topic; but looking into Coastal Environment, their landforms and how we can protect Coastlines from erosion and flooding. We will then look at The Changing Economy of the World which looks at the contrasts across the world in terms of development.	The class have regular assessments at the end of each unit and regular exam question practice throughout the units. Ongoing regular feedback

		during lessons and on starter recall tasks.
GCSE RS	Completing the nature of God and	End of topic exam Mid point exam questions Recall checks every lesson
GCSE PE	Completion of Component 2 on Commercialisation, sportsmanship, gamesmanship and Deviance in Sport - GCSE paper2 We will begin Component 1 topic areas Health, Exercise, Fitness and performance. We will continue to develop knowledge and application of skills to answer exam style questions but also use this unit to prepare for the Personal Exercise Programme (PEP) coursework as students require the knowledge of methods of training and fitness before we can begin. This will be completed in the Summer Term.	Formative and Summative assessments. End of Unit Tests Regular Homework questions set and the use of the GCSE PE workbook.
GCSE Food Studies	The Functional and chemical properties of food. - students explore how ingredients work to create a variety of dishes. Students have the opportunity to learn about the science behind cooking.	

In the coming weeks, you can support your child in a number of ways:

- ★ Check that your child is keeping up with their homework, this will be set through the Google Classroom and will include a clear deadline.
- ★ Use the Google Classroom to check that your child has what they need in their book, you can sit together and go through the lessons to see that they finished the work
- ★ Speak to your child about what they are doing – this could be through asking them what they have done and what knowledge they can remember from the lesson.
- ★ Encourage your child to read for pleasure and ensure they always have their book with them in school for our 5 minutes reading time at the start of every lesson.
- ★ Ensure that they have regular breaks from homework and get a good night's sleep – work in chunks of time, turn off mobile phones and devices at least one hour in advance of going to bed
- ★ Encourage hobbies and interests which are not technology based
- ★ Let children be bored; this is when creativity occurs and reveals their talents

We hope you find this information useful and your child is enjoying learning with us at HCCS.

Kind regards,
Helena Connolly
Progress Lead: Disadvantaged Students
Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School