

CURRICULUM BOOKLET 2024-25



OUR SCHOOL VALUES

Aspire ACHIEVE Thrive

YEAR 8 THE TERM AHEAD
for students, parents and carers

THE TERM AHEAD



As we come to the end of our first half term, we wanted to share some reflections on this year so far, but also look forward to the term ahead. This is our new curriculum newsletter for parents which details what your child can expect in the term ahead, as well as what they will be studying in lessons. We know that parental engagement can have a positive impact on a child's progress, outcomes and success, both in terms of their academic achievements but also their personal development. We hope this newsletter enables parents to know a little more about what their child is doing each day in school; to promote engaging conversations at home about topics they are learning about; to help revision on the run up to assessments; and to provide a stronger link between school and home.

Your child's tutor is always your first point of contact, so we have included their details within this booklet, as well as the clubs that are available and a reminder of the homework timetable and some examples of excellent homework.

These curriculum newsletters will be sent out to parents/carers before the end of each term, outlining the coverage for the term ahead. The next booklet will be sent in December and cover the whole of the Spring Term; then again in March to cover the Summer Term.

We've had a fantastic start to the academic year and we're looking forward to continuing this after October half term.

I hope you all have a lovely half term.

Mr Oakes
Head of School

Looking back on the term so far, we have much to celebrate! Our Year 8 boys' rugby team is off to a strong start, and the Year 8 girls' netball team have secured impressive victories. Participation in Sparx homework has been fantastic, and many Year 8 students are set to shine in the upcoming school production of Annie. We're proud of all their achievements and look forward to seeing their continued success in the months ahead!

As we head towards the festive season, Year 8 students can look forward to an exciting term filled with engaging lessons, house competitions, and opportunities to represent their school in sports and clubs. We encourage all students to stay dedicated to their studies, continue working hard, and get involved in the many extracurricular activities that are available.

Mr Nevin
Head of Year 8

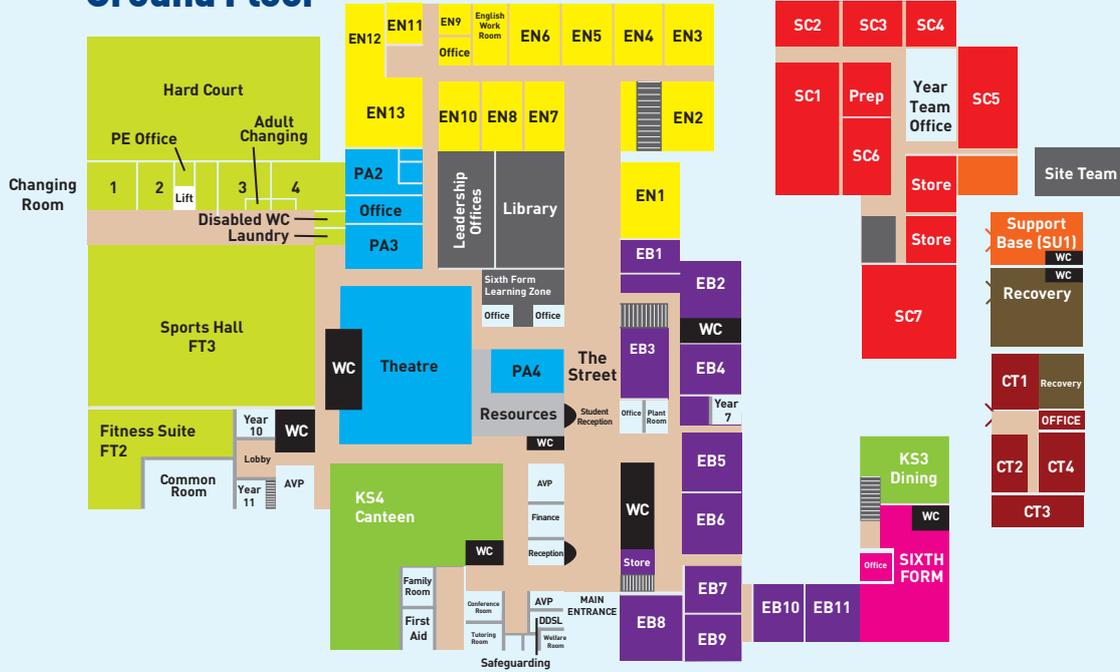
KEY DATES

Monday 11th November
SDCC Remembrance Service

Friday 15th November
Children in Need

Friday 20th December
End of Term

Ground Floor



SDCC MAP

First Floor



Second Floor



Please feel free to contact your child's tutor at any time by phone or email if you have any queries, whether this be pastoral, academic or a general enquiry.

Tutor: to email, use staff initial and surname @sdcc-smhc.net for example mhussey@sdcc-smhc.net

YEAR 8 TUTORS

Head of Year: Mr Nevin					
Tutor Group	Tutor	Room	Tutor Group	Tutor	Room
81	E Tremellat	SC1	87	L Kelly	SC8
82	N Carnat	SC2	88	R Bond	SC9
83	A Bullard	SC3	89	S MacKenzie	SC10
84	S Campion	SC4	810	A Moss	SC12
85	K Harvey	SC5	811	S Romaine/L Heap	SC11
86	C Harewood	SC7	812	M Bate	SC13



Tutor Time Reading Programme YEAR 8

Students complete 20 minutes of reading each morning, giving them an experience of a wide range of texts

TITLE

AUTHOR

Adventures of a Young Naturalist	David Attenborough
Animal Farm	George Orwell
Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted daughter	Adeline Yen Mah
Children of blood and Bone	Tomi Adeyemi
I Am Malala	Malala Yousafzai
Life of Pi	Yann Martel
Looking for JJ	Anne Cassidy
Maggot Moon	Sally Gardner
Mud, Sweat and Tears	Bear Grylls
One	Sarah Crossan
Noughts and Crosses	Malorie Blackman
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time	Mark Hadden
The Giver	Lois Lowry
The Hiding Place	Corrie ten Bloom
The Hobbit	J.R.R. Tolkien
The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe	C.S. Lewis
The Ruby in the Smoke	Phillip Pullman
The Woman in Black	Susan Hill
Wed Wabbit	Lissa Evans

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

SDCC Year 8 Curriculum	HALF TERM 2
Maths	Students become confident working with proportionality and ratio, whilst being able to apply fractions and percentages to developed problems
English Language & Literature	Unit 4: Fear of the Unknown To consider how and why the gothic genre allowed writers to explore our greatest fears. Students will delve into the depths of famous gothic writers and poets with a view of understanding how our fears have developed throughout time.
Science	Students learn about more complex chemical reactions such as metals and oxygen, acids and water. They will look at how metals are extracted from their ores. Students then move on to learn about health and disease in humans.
French	My town Describing my town and where I live, talking about what I can and cannot do
Geography	Sustainable oceans Ocean ecosystems, food webs, oceans and climate change, Plymouth Sound - a marine national park, seagrass, overfishing and plastic in the ocean. Students engage in local learning as they learn about the natural habitat on our doorstep. Sustainability is a core concept of this topic as students consider threats to the oceans and sustainable solutions. This unit includes an option to visit the National Marine Aquarium.
History	Turning points WW1 and WW2 - this unit looks at the significant events of WW1 and WW2 which had an impact on the outcome of the war. It introduces the idea of importance

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Art	<p>Students start to explore the work of artists, using Claes Oldenburg as inspiration to produce colourful 3D clay cupcakes and Michael Craig Martin to produce colourful graphic still life images.</p>
Computing	<p>Introduction to Python Programming This unit introduces learners to text-based programming with Python. The lessons form a journey that starts with simple programs involving input and output, and gradually moves on through arithmetic operations, randomness, selection, and iteration. Emphasis is placed on tackling common misconceptions and elucidating the mechanics of program execution.</p>
Drama	<p>Aberfan: Exploring Historical context of the Aberfan Disaster as experienced by the children and staff at Pantglas Infants and Junior School. Skill development - spontaneous improvisation, duologues, whole class tableaux, scripting.</p>
Food Technology/Catering	<p>To continue to learn about commodities, where they come from, how they are reared and how they can be used. They will also learn how to create timeplans for other people to use to produce a dish with contingencies for possible issues that may arise</p>
Modern Britain	<p>Democracy - Understanding what is a democracy and what is a dictatorship. Learning that we live in a democracy and the role of parliament. Students can learn about the role of a Member of Parliament and their duties and responsibilities. To understand the purpose of political parties and how its vital that everyone has a choice and opinion when it comes to voting in a general election.</p>
Music	<p>Keyboard skills 2 - Students continue their keyboard work into Year 8, looking at chord progression and structures. They look at the chords C, A, F and G and consider how the order might effect the way they sound. Students will play chords to a selection of pop songs and work on their timing and rhythmical skills.</p>

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

<p>PE and Health</p>	<p>Examples of a cool-down Develop passing/shot varieties Develop agility to quickly change direction</p>
<p>PSE/RSE</p>	<p>Equality and Diversity Explored: Equality Act and Protected Characteristics, LGBTQ+ What is it?, Rights Across the World, Superhero CVs!</p>
<p>Textiles</p>	<p>Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (Part 2): Students continue their project by embellishing their Batik designs with beads, sequins and buttons. They will develop their pattern cutting knowledge as well as developing sewing machine skills to make their outcome.</p> <p><i>(The project will run for one term and then groups will rotate to a new technology subject)</i></p>
<p>Media</p>	<p>Film Promotion. Media production using Adobe Creative Cloud. Creating promotional websites. Introduction to video editing. Film Sound.</p>
<p>Spanish</p>	<p>Describing my family: Students will learn to describe themselves and their family including describing hair colour and eye colour. They will then learn to use adjectives correctly to describe their personality and finally they will develop the skills to talk about their family relationships.</p>

HOME LEARNING - KS3

EVERY MOMENT
MATTERS

	Online HW	Written HW
Monday	Sparx Maths	Geography
Tuesday	Sparx Science	History
Wednesday	Sparx Reader	Languages/Literacy
Thursday	Sparx Catch Up	Modern Britain
Friday	Sparx Catch Up	Computing

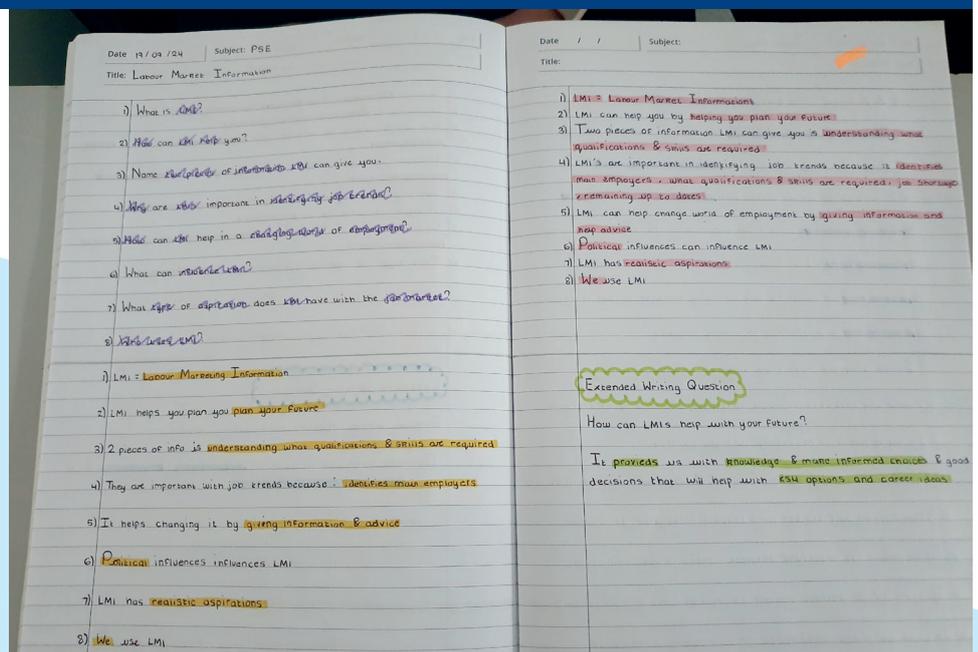
WE ARE
#TEAM SDCC

Support is available:

Students are supported with their written homework each morning during their tutor sessions, but additional support for homework can be found in En1 before school starts.

Support for online Homework takes place each break-time in En4, and after school for each of the Core subjects.

KS3 HOMEWORK EXAMPLE



CLUBS

AUTUMN 2024



EVERYDAY

FOOTBALL

Who? All years | *Where?* Astro
When? Before School

CAMPUS RADIO

Who? All years | *Where?* TBC
When? Break A & B

MONDAY

ROCK CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* PA 2
When? 3-4pm

SIGN LANGUAGE

Who? All years | *Where?* GF01
When? Break A

PRODUCTION DANCE

Who? All years | *Where?* PA1
When? 3.10-5pm

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY

BADMINTON CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* Sports hall
When? Break A

MONDAY, TUESDAY & FRIDAY

BASKETBALL/NETBALL

Who? All years | *Where?* Sports hall
When? Break B

TUESDAY

SDCC SINGERS

Who? All years | *Where?* PA4
When? 3-4pm

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC CLUB

Who? KS4 Musicians
(on BTEC course) | *Where?* PA2
When? 3-4pm

COOKING CLUB

Who? Years 7 & 8 | *Where?* Fn1
When? 3-4pm

RUGBY

Who? All years | *Where?* Astro/Central Park
When? 3.10-4pm

NETBALL

Who? Years 7 & 8 | *Where?* Sports Hall/
Netball Courts
When? 3.10-4pm

FOOTBALL

Who? Year 9 | *Where?* Astro
When? 3.10-4pm

TEXTILES: DIY FASHION

Who? All years | *Where?* VA2
When? 3.10-4pm

DIGITAL AMBASSADORS

Who? All years | *Where?* CT2
When? 3.10-4pm

MONEY MATTERS

Who? Years 8-13 | *Where?* EB12
When? 3.10-4pm

ECO COUNCIL

Who? Years 7-13 | *Where?* EB15
When? Break B

PRODUCTION ACTING

Who? All years | *Where?* Theatre
When? 3.10-5pm

MODERN BRITAIN

DEBATING CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* EB10
When? 3.10-4pm

THE CONTEMPORARY MUSIC CLUB

Who? Years 9-11 | *Where?* PA2
When? 3.15-4.15pm

POKEMON

Who? All years | *Where?* CT1
When? Break B

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

FITNESS

Who? Years 7 & 8 | *Where?* FT1
When? 3.10-4pm

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

HOMEWORK

Who? Years 7, 8 & 9 | *Where?* Study Zone
When? 3.10-4pm

FITNESS SUITE

Who? Years 9 & 10 | *Where?* Fitness Suite
When? 3.10-4pm

WEDNESDAY

NEEDLE POINT

Who? All years | *Where?* Ma9
When? 3-4pm

NETBALL

Who? All years | *Where?* Netball Courts
When? 3.10-4pm

BASKETBALL

Who? Years 7, 8 & 9 | *Where?* Sports Hall
When? 3.10-4pm

FOOTBALL

Who? Years 7 | *Where?* Astro
When? 3.10-4pm

ART AND CLAY CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* VA3
When? 3.10-4pm

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* VA1
When? 3.10-4pm

PRODUCTION SINGERS

Who? All years | *Where?* PA2
When? 3.10-4.30pm

PARAGON MATHS

Who? Years 7 & 8 Week A
Years 9 & 10 Week B | *Where?* MA5
When? 3.10-4pm

MINDFULNESS CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* EB4
When? Break B

THURSDAY

KEYBOARD CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* PA2
When? 3-4pm

GIRLS FOOTBALL

Who? Years 7, 8 & 9 | *Where?* Astro
When? 3.10-4pm

STEAM

Who? All years | *Where?* CT1
When? 3.10-4pm

PRODUCTION ACTING

Who? All years | *Where?* Theatre
When? 3.10-5pm

PRODUCTION DIGITAL MARKETING

Who? All years | *Where?* CT3
When? 3.10-4pm

MEDIA CLUB

Who? Years 7-10 | *Where?* VA5
When? 3.10-4pm

LGBTQIA+ CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* EN2
When? Break B

FOOTBALL

Who? Years 8 | *Where?* Sports hall
When? 3.10-4pm

FRIDAY

FURTHER MATHS

Who? Year 11 set 1s only | *Where?* TBC
When? 3-4pm

BOOK CLUB

Who? KS3 | *Where?* Library
When? Break A

Aspire **ACHIEVE** Thrive

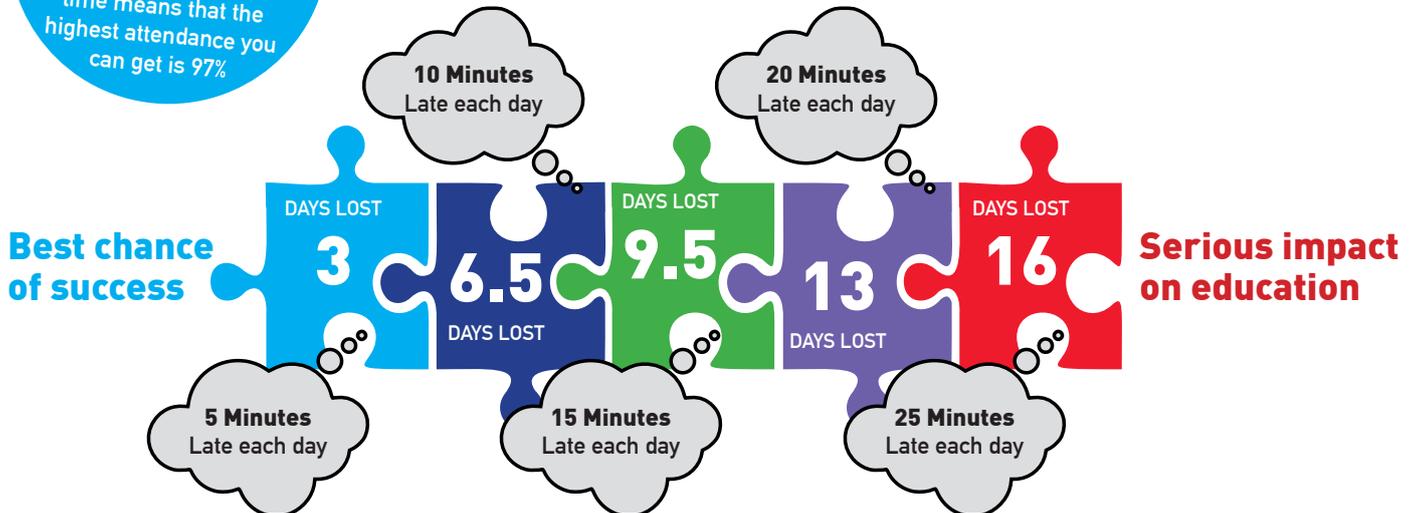
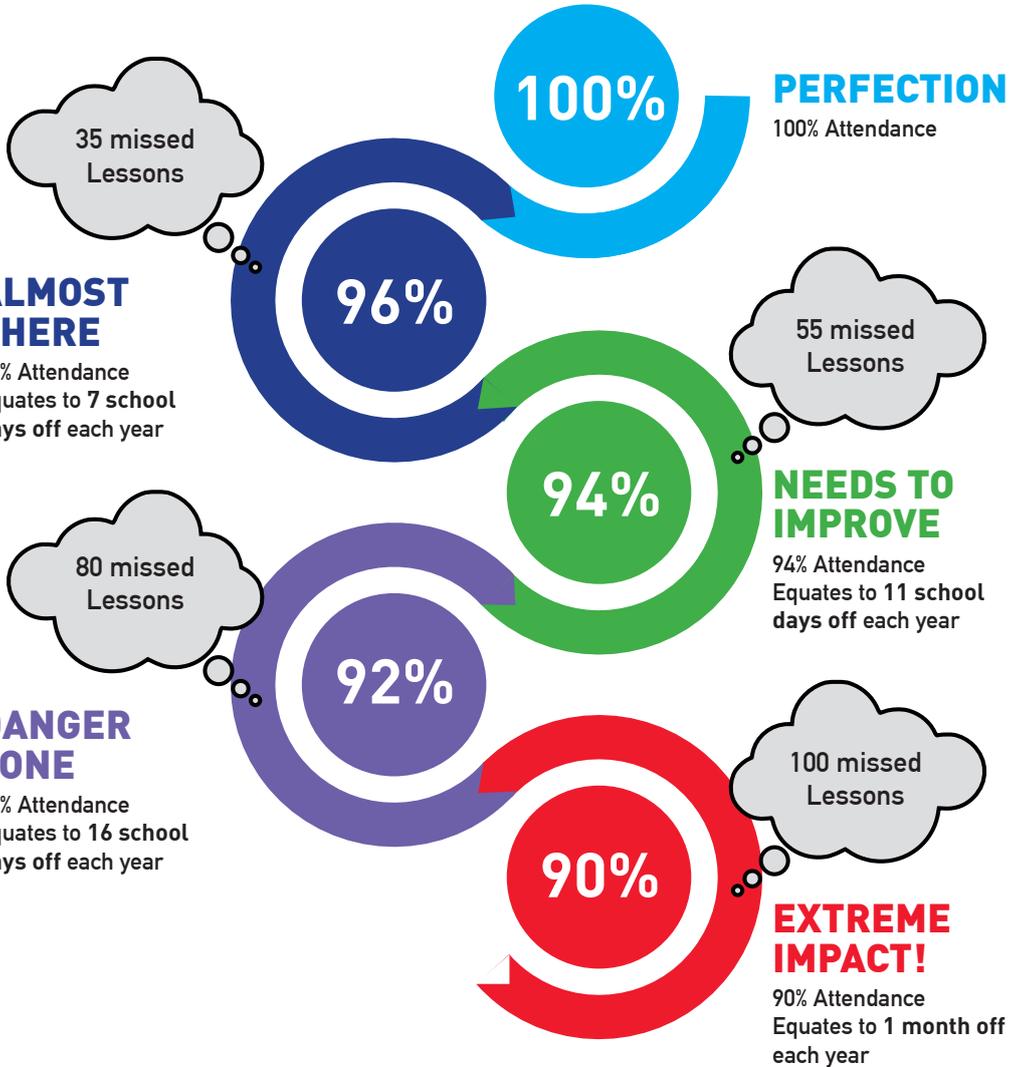
Attendance Matters

#EVERYDAYCOUNTS

Medical Appointments
When possible book them outside of school hours

90% Attendance
or less can reduce your chances of good outcomes by half

Family Holidays
You have 175 days a year where you are not in school. A one-week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can get is 97%



Average learning hours per day is 5 hours.
If you are 15 minutes late each day you will have missed 2 full weeks of school in 1 year!