



14 June 2016

Dear Parent

NEW CURRICULUM

I am writing to inform you about changes to the curriculum which pupils will experience as they move from Year 8 into Year 9 at Blessed Trinity. The changes, which are outlined below, involve the following subject areas: Technology and Computing; Modern Foreign Languages and Science.

Technology and Computing

In Year 9 pupils study a course in one of our Technologies or a course in Computer Coding for the entire year. This is a change to pupils' experience in Years 7 and 8, where they have rotated between different branches of Technology during the year. All pupils will continue to have lessons in IT; the Computer Coding course provides an additional opportunity for pupils with an interest in this area to develop their expertise. **Pupils will be asked to choose their preferred Technology/Computing Option by 27 June 2016.**

Modern Foreign Languages

Changes affect pupils in sets 1, 2 or 3 for Languages who currently study both French and Spanish. In Year 9 pupils in these sets will choose only one of these languages to study in depth. Pupils in sets 4 and 5 will continue to study French throughout Year 9. At Blessed Trinity, pupils in sets 1 and 2 are required to study a Language at GCSE level and pupils from other sets often choose a Language as a GCSE Option too. The Languages course in Year 9, for all pupils, is therefore designed to give a taste of what GCSE study in this subject area would entail. **Pupils in sets 1, 2 or 3 will be asked to choose their preferred Language Option by 27 June 2016.**

Science

Pupils will be starting their GCSE Science course in Year 9. To support this, we will increase the number of Science groups to 6 in each half year group; Science sets will be organised separately from other subjects. Pupils in sets 1 and 2 for Science will follow the Triple Science pathway; pupils in all other sets will follow the Combined Science pathway.

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Pupils will be receiving information and guidance on the decisions they need to make at school over the coming weeks. To provide you with further information and guidance about the changes to the curriculum as pupils move from Year 8 into Year 9, we wish to invite you to a **Parent Information Evening at 6pm on Tuesday 21 June 2016.**

We look forward to seeing you on 21 June, if you choose to attend the Parent Information Evening, and to working with you to enable your son/daughter to make excellent progress throughout their next 3 years at school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. M. Varey', with a stylized, flowing end.

Richard Varey
Headteacher