

Curriculum Update Summer

We are incredibly proud of the way our Year 11 and Sixth Form students have approached this summer's examination season. Throughout the examination period, students have demonstrated exceptional maturity, resilience and determination.

Their punctuality, commitment and effort have been excellent. While results day may still be a few months away, they have already shown the qualities needed to place themselves in a strong position for success. We look forward to celebrating their achievements with them in August.



Work Hard



Be Kind



Join In

When people think about a curriculum, they often think about the topics students' study in each subject. However, an effective curriculum is much more than a list of content. A great deal of thought goes into how learning is sequenced so that knowledge and skills build over time. At TCS, we carefully consider what students need to know first, what prior knowledge they can draw upon, and how new learning connects to what has come before.

This sequencing is important because learning is not a series of isolated events. The curriculum is designed so that each lesson, unit and year group builds upon previous learning, allowing students to develop deeper understanding and greater confidence. This helps ensure that learning is retained over time and can be successfully applied in different contexts.

Attendance plays a vital role in this process. Because learning is carefully sequenced, missing lessons can make it more difficult for students to access future learning. Excellent attendance allows students to benefit from the full curriculum, maintain continuity in their learning and achieve the best possible outcomes. We remain grateful for the continued support of families in ensuring that students attend school regularly and arrive ready to learn each day.

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/>

As our current Year 11 students prepare to move on to the next stage of their education, we now pass the mantle to our current Year 10 students as they begin their transition into their final year of study.

We start this transition early during the summer term. Students will complete their PPEs (mock examinations), providing valuable experience of formal examinations and helping them identify areas for further development.

An important part of this transition is the move from form groups to study groups. This change allows us to provide more targeted support and bespoke preparation in English, Mathematics and Science. Students will benefit from dedicated daily opportunities for revision, intervention and examination preparation, ensuring they are as well prepared as possible for the challenges and opportunities of Year 11.

We are currently in the final stages of preparing our timetable for the next academic year. This is always a carefully considered process. As part of this approach students will be placed in a range of new teaching groups. These provide students with opportunities to work alongside a wider range of peers, develop new friendships, strengthen collaboration skills and benefit from different classroom dynamics. We recognise that any change can take time to adjust to, and we ask parents to support us by encouraging students to approach their new classes positively and to give themselves time to settle. A great deal of thought, planning and professional judgement goes into the construction of teaching groups, and our experience shows that students adapt quickly and thrive in their new learning environments.



Teignmouth Community School



Have a look at what is coming up in the next few months for **Year 7**.

	PSHE Lessons	Assemblies	Events	Careers
	Mental health - Digital resilience - Unhealthy Coping Strategies - Healthy Coping Staretgies	Best Version of you? A reflection on this year.	- Graduation - British Esports Championship finals - Awards’ Evening - Day of Sport - Devon Music Mix trip - SEND Moors festival - SEND Beach Festival	

Subject	Unit of Work
English	The Gothic Why are we studying this? This will build on the work relating to classicism and romanticism that year 7 has already completed this year, through their study of Faustus by Christpher Marlowe and the poetry of Romantic Poets such as Wordsworth, Keats and Coleridge Taylor.
Maths	Proportion Fractions, decimals and percentages Probability Why are we studying this? These are the building block skills required to access the statistical elements of the curriculum moving into future years.
Science	Respiration and photosynthesis Why are we studying this? In this section we will explore how plants harness the sun’s energy in photosynthesis in order to make food (glucose) and oxygen. Then how the human body transports and uses the products of photosynthesis to release energy in reactions called aerobic and anaerobic respiration.
History	The Tudors This unit begins with an exploration of the Wars of the Roses to understand how England came to have Tudor monarchs. We then look at the Tudor monarchs in depth, beginning with Henry VIII and continuing with the reigns of his children, Edward, Mary and Elizabeth. Why are they studying this? Students continue their chronological journey through history, building on the knowledge of the Medieval period acquired in the last term. Students will be able to further develop their understanding of the power and the role of the monarch and how this evolved and shaped the nation.
Geography	From moor to sea: What happens when the land meets the sea? Students will apply key geographical theory to our local place, exploring how our landscape changes from land to sea. Students will begin by developing an understanding of the climate of upland areas, exploring how rivers change as we travel towards the sea and investigating how coastal processes have shaped Dawlish Warren. Why are we studying this? The unit of work allows the students to move from the global to the local scale by investigating the processes and landforms at our coasts and rivers. Students will be introduced to UK landscapes and provided with opportunities for geographical and decision-making skills.



Subject	Unit of Work
MFL	Family and pets (present tense) Why are we studying this? Students have been learning a range of topics to be able to talk about themselves this year. The summer term focuses on family members and pets to be able to describe those closest to us and the relationships we have with them. This topic builds on the personal description they covered in the Autumn term to extend their knowledge and be able to talk about someone else as well as themselves.
PE	Athletics, Rounders and Cricket Why are we studying this? In the summer term all students study Athletics and cover a range of running, jumping and throwing events. As well as practicing these events to develop techniques we develop a lot of physical literacy understanding about the components of fitness. Team sports for this term are Cricket and Rounders where students will develop the specific striking and fielding skills for these sports.
Art	Colour Theory with Cubism Why are we studying this? In order to progress, students need a sound knowledge of colour theory; how artists use colour, how to mix colour and the colour groups. They mix and apply colour in a range of innovative techniques.
Design and Technology	Food Module: Healthy eating; Design Technology: Making a torch and making a mechanical toy Why are we studying this? Students rotate around a range of modules in Technology spending a term in the Food area learning about the basics of healthy eating whilst learning to combine ingredients for a range of dishes using the rubbing in method. In the other areas of technology students are learning about basic electronics and computer aided design as well as learning about basic hand tools and safety as these skills all form a foundation of knowledge that builds from KS2.
IT	Programming essentials using Microbit Why are we learning this unit? Using the micro:bit and Make Code environment, allows the students to transition from block coding to text based programming. Additionally, it challenges students academically, which subsequently prepares them for the challenges of KS3, allowing them to adjust gradually and build confidence.
Drama	Musical Theatre Why are we studying this? Year 7 will be looking at combining acting skills, movement and music in a Musical Theatre scheme of learning. They will be using the popular stage show 'Oliver' to explore characterisation, choreography and musicality. Studying musical theatre creates versatile, confident "triple threat" performers. It is a rigorous discipline that builds emotional intelligence and deepens storytelling abilities.
Music	I've Got Rhythm Why are we learning this unit? Students will explore the exciting world of Samba-inspired rhythms through live drum performance. They will develop their understanding of pulse, syncopation, ensemble playing, and rhythmic patterns by learning and performing on a range of percussion instruments. through rehearsal and performance, they will gain an understanding of how rhythm drives music and express their creativity and teamwork through energetic live Samba drumming.





Have a look at what is coming up in the next few months for **Year 8**.

	PSHE Lessons	Assemblies	Events	Careers
	First Aid - Bleeding - Asthma and Allergies - Choking and Head Injuries	Best Version of you? A reflection on this year.	- Awards' Evening - Day of Sport - Devon Music Mix trip - British Esports Championship finals - SEND Moors festival - SEND Beach Festival	

Subject	Unit of Work
English	Multi-Cultural Perspectives Why are we studying this? Following the work on the literature of London through time and the study of Animal Farm, Year 8 will begin to look at how activists from different backgrounds, cultures and time periods have articulated their ideas through poetry.
Maths	Inequalities, brackets, algebraic fractions and recurring decimals Why are we studying this? Now that fundamental aspects of algebra have been covered throughout year 7 and 8 students are ready to manipulate harder expressions so that they can access the more advanced algebraic skills in year 9, 10 and 11.
Science	Ecology Why are we studying this? Ecology helps students understand how living things interact with each other and their environment, including food chains, ecosystems, and adaptations. It also raises awareness of environmental issues like climate change and pollution, encouraging students to think critically about human impact and the importance of protecting biodiversity. This knowledge supports future careers in biology, conservation, and sustainability.
History	Year 8: WWI Students have recently been studying the role and expectations of women in Victorian England. From this, they have explored the methods used by the Suffragists and Suffragettes to gain women the vote. Students are now beginning the causes that sparked World War One in 1914. Why are we studying this? Students continue to explore the key concept of 'empire' that has been studied during the Spring Term, as well as other important historical concepts such as cause and consequences. This knowledge will also prepare students for History in Year 9 as they will cover 20th century historical events in more depth, such as World War Two in 1939.
Geography	Year 8: What is Brazil like? This unit provides the opportunity to explore a particular area of the world in more detail. It will examine the human and physical geography of Brazil investigating such areas as climate and population with a particular focus on the importance of Brazil now, and in the future. Why are we studying this? This unit of work is designed to get students 'thinking like a geographer', pulling across a number of themes they have studied across the year. This unit reflects many of the skills that are required at GCSE due to its synoptic nature.





MFL	At home (+ future tense) Why are we studying this? Students have been learning a range of topics to be able to talk about their local area and where they live this year. This unit builds on from the Spring term which covered their local area to enabling students to use a variety of structures to describe their home. This topic also expands on their grammar's knowledge, by deepening students' understanding and use of the near future tense.
Art	POP Art Why are we studying this? Learning how pop art took cultural brands and made them art. Looking at artists who used commercialism to build 3D models of art
IT	IPython Programming Why are we learning this unit? 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.
Drama	Physical Theatre Why are we studying this? Studying physical theatre in drama trains performers to use the body as a primary storytelling tool. As students work on tasks and exercises together, they build stronger bonds with one another. They learn to trust and support each other, which is highly transferable to the real world. Physical theatre encourages students to make meaning out of the physical expressions they see around them, which can help them notice how others are feeling and be more empathetic.
Music	4 Chords Why are we learning this unit? In this unit, students will explore how popular music is created using the four-chord progression that forms the foundation of many well-known songs. They will develop skills in singing, playing, composing, and performing while learning how chords, melody, rhythm, and structure work together in songwriting. they will gain an understanding of modern song structure and develop their creativity, confidence, and collaborative performance skills.
Design and Tech	Food Module: Computer Aided Design and Programming module: Windmills with an engineering and sustainable energy focus. Why are we studying this? In the Food rotation, students are developing more complex skills by making bread doughs and pasta from scratch. They also learn about macro and micro-nutrients needed for a healthy diet. In the other rotations students build on their computer aided design skills and then 3d print their own phone stand. Students will also develop their knowledge of micro controllers resulting in a group design for a charitable product. More complex skills in engineering are also taught looking at using bearings, understanding material properties and creating screw threads for a windmill project. These skills all form a foundation of knowledge for KS4 as well as life skills.
PE	Short Tennis, Athletics and Rounders / Cricket



Have a look at what is coming up in the next few months for **Year 9**.

	PSHE Lessons	Assemblies	Events	Careers
	Personal safety - Exploring Attitudes to Drugs - Drugs: The Law and Managing Risk - Drugs and their Effects: Alcohol and Cannabis	Best Version of you? A reflection on this year.	- Awards’ Evening - Day of Sport - British Esports Championship finals - SEND Moors festival - SEND Beach Festival - Sport leader induction	

Subject	Unit of Work
English	Speaking & Listening Why are we studying this? In preparation for the beginning of GCSE examination content in September, Year 9 will begin their study for the Speaking and Listening Endorsement, using rhetorical skills to produce a presentation on a topic of their choice in front of an audience.
Maths	Similarity and congruence, handling data and statistical diagrams and vectors Why are we studying this? Handling data topics have been introduced in the summer terms of year 7 and 8. Students are now ready to not only cover further methods of representing data but also begin the process of analysis required for KS4.
Science	Cardiovascular system Why are we studying this? We will be learning about the heart, blood, blood vessels, metabolism, and respiration to understand how the body functions and stays healthy. These systems show how energy is produced, nutrients are transported, and waste is removed. This knowledge supports informed lifestyle choices and prepares us for careers in healthcare, fitness, and science by linking biology to real life.
History	How has crime and punishment changed in Britain Students have been exploring different types of crimes, punishments and policing methods that were prevalent in the Medieval Period. Why are we studying this? Students are building upon the skills and knowledge that they acquired in the during the Spring Term as this scheme of work also follows a thematic and chronological approach.
Geography	Year 9: What are TRF like? Students will explore the adaptations of species, the TRF structure, the role of humans in exploiting and threatening Tropical rainforests, alongside ways in which this can be managed. Why are we studying this? The final topic in Year 9 focuses on ‘The Living World’ and starts to prepare the students for their GCSE. Through examining their involvement in the palm oil trade students are encouraged to understand the role they play in deforestation and habitat loss. This topic will ensure students are both motivated and engaged, even if they are not pursuing Geography at GCSE.



Unit of Work

MFL

Food and festivals (+ past tense)

Why are we studying this?

Students have been learning a range of topics and vocabulary to be able to use Spanish and French abroad. This topic builds on the topic of holidays which they covered in the Spring term and focuses on food and cultural knowledge of the target language countries. This language is pertinent for students to use abroad in 'real life'. In terms of grammar, this topic builds on students' knowledge of the present and future tenses from year 8 and focuses on being able to express actions and opinions in the past tense to show variety and be able to talk in 3 timeframes.

Art

Street Art

Why are we studying this? Students are learning about contemporary artists and how they communicate controversial themes in their own unique way. Students are introduced to photoshop so that they can learn about manipulating their own images and creating complex art pieces in the style of a prominent artist using an alternative medium. The skills and knowledge taught form the foundation off skills for GCSE Photography or GCSE Art and Design.

IT

Python Programming

Why are we learning this unit?

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.

Drama

Film Making

Why are we studying this?

In this collaborative Music and Drama unit, students will explore how music can enhance storytelling and atmosphere in film. Working alongside Music, they will create an original silent, short-film based on their Hip-Hop soundtrack. Students will develop skills in camera work and cinematography, directing and editing whilst also utilising their acting skills.

Music

Hip Hop Hollywood

Why are we learning this unit?

In this collaborative Music and Drama unit, students will explore how music can enhance storytelling and atmosphere in film. Working alongside Drama, they will create an original hip hop soundtrack for a silent film scene, using rhythm, texture, dynamics, and musical effects to communicate mood, emotion, and character. Students will develop skills in beat-making, composition, performance, and teamwork while learning how music is used to support visual media.

D&T

Students rotate around one Technology area per term: Food Module: Engineering module– manufacturing a screw- driver and casting; Timber module:- creating a wooden bird feeder

Why are we studying this? This year forms the foundation of knowledge of KS4: In Food students recap on dietary needs and food hygiene whilst gaining knowledge in sustainable foods and making their own choices based on factors like allergens, availability, food miles and health. Students cook more complex dishes based on the rubbing in and dough methods previously learnt. Engineering students operate the lathe and heat treat metal in order to manufacture a screwdriver from a drawing, they learn about accuracy and working independently to use machinery. In DT Timbers students build on their computer aided design knowledge as well as the skills they have previously developed using hand tools to create a wooden bird feeder based on the Art Deco period. These are all skills needed for KS4 that build directly on the foundation of skills taught in Year 7 and Year 8. The skills and knowledge base also give skills for life.

PE

Athletics, Volleyball, Softball and Rounders

Why are we studying this? In the summer term students are doing Athletics and developing the skills learned in year 7 and 8 to improve their athletic performance. Students will also be introduced to volleyball looking at skills and tactics of the game. Team sports for this term are Softball and Rounders where students will develop their striking and fielding skills and tactics from year 8

Curriculum Summer 1



**Work
Hard**



Be Kind



Join In

You can find out more about each curriculum area by visiting the subject pages on our school website where you will find our Road Maps. These offer a brief visual guide to our curriculum showing the learning sequence that students will follow in each year group. Further information can be found in the detailed Curriculums Plans which outline the core aims, content and skills that students are taught.

<https://www.teignmouthsecondary.co.uk/the-tcs-curriculum/>

Staying involved in your child's learning, regardless of their age or the subject, shows you care and helps you stay connected to their school experience. Your involvement can boost their self-esteem and confidence, which are key to their success.

This half term, our Year 10 students will take part in their work experience placements. Work experience is an important opportunity for students to spend time in a real workplace, developing their understanding of different careers and gaining first-hand experience of the world of work. Work experience also plays an important role in supporting our careers education programme. Through meaningful encounters with employers and workplaces, students can begin to explore potential career pathways, challenge stereotypes and make more informed decisions about their future study and employment options. For many of our students, it can be the first opportunity to experience a professional working environment and to start thinking more clearly about their aspirations beyond school.

We are extremely grateful to the employers and organisations who continue to support our students by offering placements and sharing their expertise. Their support helps provide valuable experiences that can have a lasting impact on our young people's confidence, ambition and future choices. We look forward to hearing about the experiences our students have during the week and the skills and insights they bring back with them.

Although work experience may still feel a long way off for younger students, conversations at home can play an important role in helping children begin to think about their interests, strengths and future aspirations. Parents may wish to ask questions such as:

- What subjects do you enjoy most at school and why?
- Do you prefer working with people, ideas, technology, animals or being creative?
- What jobs or careers have you heard about that sound interesting?
- Would you enjoy working indoors, outdoors or a mixture of both?
- Do you like solving problems, helping others, making things or performing?
- What skills do you think are important in different jobs?
- If you could spend a day with any professional, who would it be and why?
- What kind of workplace do you think you would enjoy?
- Are there family members or friends whose jobs you would like to learn more about?
- What would you like your future job to help you achieve or contribute to?

If you need to contact any of your child's teachers, then all staff email addresses can be found on the school website via: <https://www.teignmouthsecondary.co.uk/general-information/staff-list/>