

## Year 10 – Curriculum Information

- St Crispin's follows a broad and balanced curriculum as laid out in the National Curriculum. In Year 10 students are assessed through GCSE grades (9 to 1) and Technical Awards (Distinction\* to Pass).
- Throughout the year we will report to parents on three occasions, once per term. Reports contain a professional prediction of what the students will be likely to achieve at the end of the course and a target for each subject. Scores are also given for attitude to learning, motivation and organisation, behaviour for learning and quality of classwork and homework.
- A student's lessons are organised over a fortnight with a different week A and week B timetable. There are five one hour lessons per day (25 per week).
- The table below shows the subjects students will study and the number of periods available for each subject.

|          | Subject  |                               | Periods/Hours per fortnight |
|----------|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Core*    | English Language and Literature#   |                               | 8                           |
|          | Maths#   |                               | 7                           |
|          | Science#   |                               | 9                           |
|          | Wellbeing (Physical Education with a wider approach to living healthily) |                               | 6                           |
| Options* | Art and Design - GCSE  | French - GCSE                 | 5 each                      |
|          | Business Studies - GCSE  | Geography - GCSE              |                             |
|          | Computer Science - GCSE  | German - GCSE                 |                             |
|          | ICT – Cambridge Nationals  | Health and Social Care - BTEC |                             |
|          | Food Technology – GCSE   | History - GCSE                |                             |
|          | Graphics - GCSE  | Music - GCSE                  |                             |
|          | Product Design - GCSE  | Photography – GCSE            |                             |
|          | Textiles - GCSE  | Physical Education – GCSE     |                             |
|          | Drama - GCSE   | Religious Studies             |                             |
|          |  | Sport – BTEC                  |                             |

\*All students study the core subjects, in addition to four options.

- All lessons are taught in mixed ability groups, except for subjects marked with #. These subjects are set by ability. Unlike Key Stage Three where teaching groups were often in tutor groups, students in options subjects can be mixed from all tutor groups.
- Identified students are offered the opportunity to have additional support with literacy and numeracy in The Bridge. These students are withdrawn from an option to be given support in a small group to complete Entry Level English and mathematics. They may also opt to study Geography in Bridge, taught at a differentiated level with a focus on developing literacy, numeracy and exam skills.
- In Key Stage Four additional support is available for students who have been identified by a department as not having made sufficient progress. The Intervention Assistants, who are subject specialists, support students in English, Maths and Science. Students could be asked to attend sessions during registration or Wellbeing lessons throughout the year.
- Year 10 Wellbeing lessons will form the 'Core' Physical Education program. Students will have three distinct lesson themes each week which will aim to help individuals enhance their own physical and mental wellbeing whilst also developing a range of leadership skills and lifelong good habits.
- During registration students will be holding conversations with their tutor regarding their attendance, wellbeing and behaviour. We have also included a PSHCE programme that will focus on several key areas such as work related learning, health (mental, sexual, stress, anxiety, drugs and alcohol), life skills (finance, study and organisation skills) British values and Religious Studies.
- A wide variety of enrichment and extra-curricular activities is on offer to all students. Across the year, many educational visits are organised, including three trips days. Lunchtime and after school activities provide students with additional opportunities to develop their skills and understanding of the world around them.
- To help prepare students with the knowledge and skills required for Year 11, English, Maths and Science courses start during Year 9 and continue into Years 10 and 11.
- Please note that changes cannot be made to a student's options choices in Year 10 or Year 11.

### Future Changes

- Although some way off for Year 10 students, it is important to make you aware of the recent changes to GCSE and Technical Awards. Year 10 will be taking their exams in Year 11 in 2020.
- If you have an older son or daughter, you will be familiar with the old grading for GCSEs (A\* to G) and the threshold that students need to gain (5 A\* to C including English and Maths) to progress to Sixth Form or colleges of further education.
- By 2020, all GCSEs will be reformed and will be significantly different from the previous courses. The new GCSEs will have:
  - a new grading of 9-1: 9 being the highest grade, 1 being the lowest.
  - fewer tiered subjects - previously students could take a foundation or higher exam paper. In most subjects there will now be only one tier.
  - fewer controlled assessments to be completed in the classroom - most courses will be graded on exams only.

- no opportunity for early entry - students will take exams at the end of Year 11 only – there will be no modules to take in Year 10.
- a different exam structure - the exams will be longer and each exam will test more content.
- no opportunity for re-sitting exams before the end of Year 11.
- From 2016 the way of measuring a student's or school's achievement was changed. The percentage of students gaining 5 A\* to C, including English and Maths will no longer be used and will instead be replaced by four new measures. These are the Ebacc, Attainment 8, Progress 8 and the percentage of students gaining a pass in English and Maths.
  - Ebacc – awarded to students who gain a pass in English, Maths, Sciences, a Language and a Humanities course.
  - Attainment 8 – measures attainment in three areas – English and Maths, three Ebacc subjects and three other courses.
  - Progress 8 – compares a student's Attainment 8 with what they were expected to achieve.
- Further details about these new measures can be found on the school website.