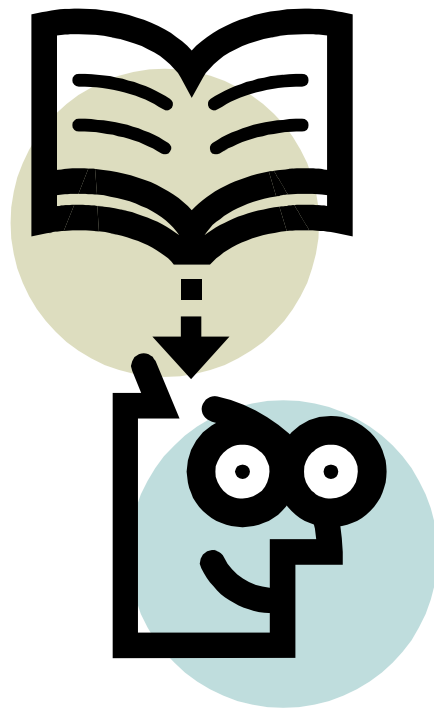


My Personalised Curriculum
Self Review Booklet
Year 8
February 2010

Name:

Form Class:





Our school aims say clearly that we expect “all young people to learn and to achieve success”. We know that all of our students are capable of being successful and we will do everything possible to support you in your efforts. After Key Stage 3 a number of different things contribute toward your success and choosing the right subjects and courses is one of them. This is why we are introducing a New Personalised Curriculum which will allow you to have more flexibility to choose the subjects and courses that will suit your individual needs, interests, talents and abilities!

This booklet is designed to help you make choices that suit you, that will interest you and that ultimately will lead to your success.

This is an important and exciting time for Y9 students. You have the opportunity to take up interesting and challenging subjects, which will begin to inform your career and educational choices at 16+ and 18+. Make the most of these opportunities by choosing carefully and wisely: ask your teachers if you require more information or help in coming to a decision.

High Storrs offers a wide range of very successful subjects in Key Stage 4 and your teachers are fully committed to helping you make the most of your abilities and interests. You can succeed.

Ian Gage
Headteacher

Activity 1: Self Review Year 8 Personalised Curriculum

Every student will have to study the core curriculum (see page 6). However, if you are interested or talented in these subjects there are opportunities to study them in more depth through additional courses; this is why they have been included in the self review grid. For example, every student will follow a Mathematics core curriculum but some may wish to supplement this by studying GCSE Statistics as well.

Step 1

Self Review Questions:

Instructions:

- a) *Please read each of the questions below.*
- b) *Take each question one at a time and complete the accompanying grid on the next page. Put a tick in the appropriate box.*

- Q1** Which subjects are you strongest in? (Are you achieving your teacher target easily?)
- Q2** Which subjects are you really interested in and enjoy most?
- Q3** Which subjects would you like to study further?
- Q4** Which subjects would you like to try?
- Q5** Which subjects would you need to study to allow you to follow the careers you are currently considering?

Step 2

- a. When you have completed all questions, look at each subject in turn. Those that have most ticks, shortlist in Column A.
- b. Now consider Column A and decide which subjects you would definitely want to continue studying. List these in order of priority in Column B, starting with those that you most want to study at the top.
- c. In Column C list those subjects that you have not yet had the opportunity to study but would like the opportunity to try.
- d. Now research each subject from your ***Personalised Curriculum Pathways Booklet*** and ***Course Descriptors Booklet*** both the type of courses available, and the different pathways you can take and gather as much information as possible about them to inform your choices.
- e. Now have go at plotting out your Personalised Curriculum using the guidance overleaf.
- f. Remember to bring this **Personalised Curriculum Self Review Grid** with **Your Personalised Curriculum Structure** proforma to your Personalised Curriculum Day to talk it through with your teacher so they can help you to begin to make some choices.

The New Personalised Curriculum

The purpose of the **New Personalised Curriculum** is to offer you more choice and flexibility in what and how you will study throughout your career at High Storrs School. Key Stage 3 has been condensed into two years to allow for a greater amount of time in which students, staff and parents can tailor the curriculum to the needs, interests, talents, abilities and aspirations of the individual.

The key to designing a Personalised Curriculum is to no longer think of KS4 or KS5 as separate stages, but rather, try to view the time after KS3 as a 5 year Curriculum plan. In this way you will be able to identify and plan how to best prepare for certain courses/ pathways, when you are ready to take final assessments, and when to take up and put down subjects to ultimately give you a broad and balanced curriculum that will allow the greatest choice when it comes to further education (university/ world of work/ college etc).

There are really only two limitations on your choices:

1. You must take the **CORE** compulsory courses that will fulfil the National Curriculum Entitlement (See p4)
2. By the end of Y11 you must have ensured that you have the '**Golden Eight**' GCSE or equivalent grades. (By doing the CORE compulsory most of you should have already acquired 7 of these!)

So this is how the study time allocation is broken down: (**See Your Personalised Curriculum Structure Proforma p 18 .**)

In Y9

- You will study the CORE (15 hours per week)
- You will all have at least **10 hours** of **CHOICE** per week. (These can be made up of a mixture of 1 year GCSE or equivalent courses, enrichment or preliminary courses.)

In Y10

- You will study the CORE
- You will all have at least **10 hours** of **CHOICE**
- Some of you who choose not to take additional science will have **15 hours** of **CHOICE**.

In Y11

- You will study the CORE
- All of you will have **10 hours** of **CHOICE**.
- Some of you who choose not to take triple science will have **15 hours** of **CHOICE**.
- Some of you who have completed their English in Y10 and choose not to take triple science will have up to **19 hours** of **CHOICE**.

Y12 and Y13

- You will have **20 Hours CHOICE** in each year.

Activity 2:
Guidance on How to Complete Your
Personalised Curriculum Structure

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALTHOUGH YOU SHOULD BE TRYING TO MAKE CHOICES FOR Y9-11, YOU WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO REVIEW THESE EVERY YEAR SO YOU ARE NOT LOCKED IN FOR THREE YEARS!

However , it is important to note that you will only be allowed to study a course once – if you do less than well in it, you will only be allowed to re-sit the exam (at your expense) not the whole course!

Step by Step Process:

- Step 1 Highlight Maths in all 3 years.
- Step 2 Highlight PE in all 3 years.
- Step 3 Highlight ICT in Y9 only.
- Step 4 Highlight your most likely pathway for English in each year.
- Step 5 Highlight your most likely pathway for Science in each year.

Now hand this booklet back to your teacher.
You will be given it again at the Options Evening on
Thursday 11th February.