

The Minster School

Parents and Carers Information evening



September 2025
YEAR 8 & 9



Welcome to The Minster School

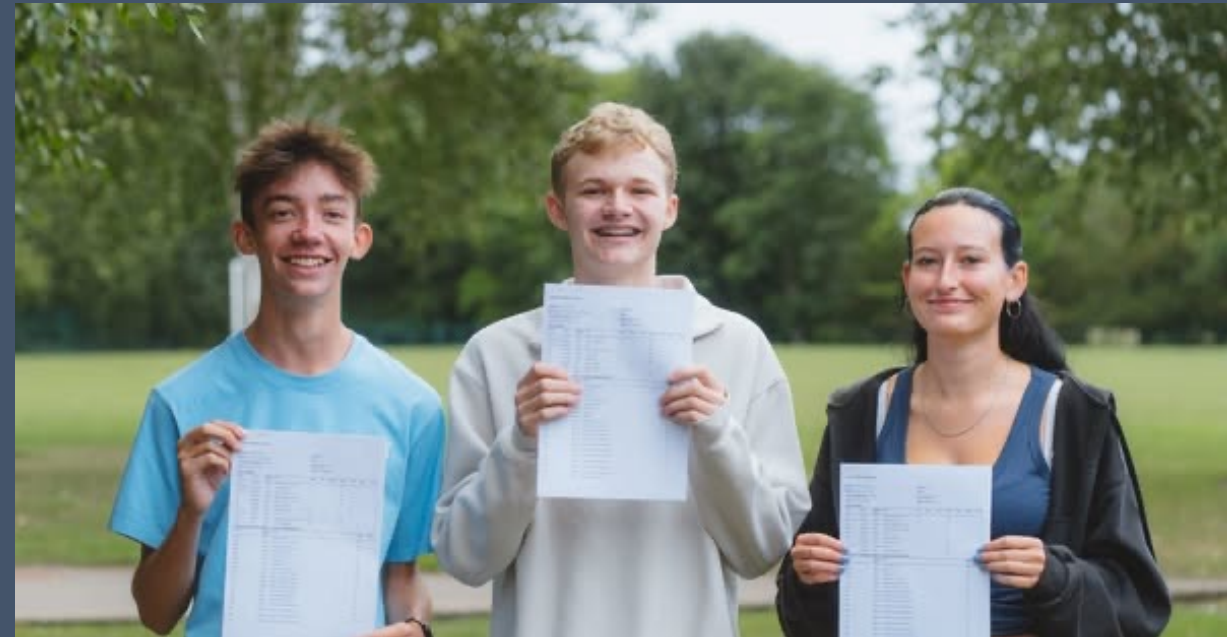
“Succeeding Together”



Fantastic exam success over the summer...!

| Year 11 | Minster |
|----------|---------|
| 4+ E / M | 84.0% |

| Year 13 | Minster |
|---------|---------|
| A*-A % | 26.9% |



Settling back in



We hope your sons and daughters are looking forward to their first day back in school tomorrow

Please encourage them to speak to us if there are any concerns

Year 8 Year Leader has changed from Miss Sanderson to Mrs Tearse

Year 9 Year Leader continues to be Mrs Kelly

Getting the culture right:

Tomorrow – series of sessions within lessons

Clearly communicating and explaining our expectations

Consistent message across whole school

Fire alarms and lockdown drills

Thursday – Fire walk throughs

Friday – lockdown drill practice



Settling back in

Uniform:

Black school shoes – not trainers

School shirts tucked in

Skirts should not be shortened or rolled up

Hair should be a natural colour

Jewellery – one stud in each ear only is allowed plus a watch

Nails should be short – safe for PE and D&T

False eyelashes should be removed

Phones:

Phones including headphones/earpods should not be seen or heard in school during the day, unless allowed by the teacher for Educational purposes.

Teachers will confiscate phones if they are seen. Collected at the end of the day.

Settling back in



ParentPay

If you have any concerns please contact parentpay@minsterschool.org.uk

Please check your child's balance regularly

Students can run into debt

We can place spending limits on students accounts

Please email finance@minsterschool.org.uk to set one up

Attendance

- We believe that every day and every minute counts and the impact of lost days and minutes can be seen here.
-
- If your child is absent for a medical appointment, please forward a copy of the letter/email/screenshot to attendance@minsterschool.org.uk
- We recognise that for some students with specific needs that it is more challenging to achieve a high level of attendance and punctuality, we do strive to support all students in achieving this.

Attendance Ladder



Year 8

- New teaching groups for Year 8
- Sets for Maths
- D&T smaller groups
- PE – girls and boys taught separately
- Most students will continue to study French
- A small number of students will also study German in addition.
- Students will participate in a daily Act of Worship during tutor time, this is inclusive for students of the Christian faith, other faiths and no faith.
- Disciplinary Literacy
- DEAR time – drop everything and read – bring a book!



Curriculum in Year 8

- **English** – reading a wide variety of books including *The boy in the striped pyjamas*, *Wonder*, *Wolf Brother*, *Medusa*, units on Dickens, Poetry, short stories and Drama performances
- **Maths** – following a Mastery approach to build on knowledge from Y7 and develop all areas of maths
- **Science** – learning about the scientific method through topics such as ‘Microbes and disease’, ‘Materials from the Earth’ and ‘Magnetism’
- **History** – topics including Slavery, the Industrial revolution, Suffragettes and the First World War
- **Geography** – learning about world issues such as the impact of migration and natural hazards
- **RS** – looking at Faith in Action, Hinduism, Sikhism and Human rights
- **Computer Science** – programming in Scratch, Big Wheel project and Music festival project.



Curriculum in Year 8

- **French/German** – topics including free time, school, technology and social media
- **D&T** – projects include making a clock, a cushion, using CAD to design a cube and making pizzas, cheesecake and pasta bake in food!
- **Art** - learning about composition and perspective, working with clay and textiles and finding out about the Artist Courtney Mattison
- **PE** – developing skills and tactics through different sports including Badminton, Handball, Football, Dance, Rugby, Athletics and Tennis
- **Drama** - learning about the genres of Melodrama and Panto, working with a range of scripts and learning about set and lighting design
- **Music** - learning about The Blues, songwriting composition, Band skills, Minimalism and Djembe drumming



Year 9

- New teaching groups for Year 9
- Sets for Maths
- Students will begin studying some GCSE content in core subjects
- D&T smaller groups
- PE – girls and boys taught separately
- Second language – French or German in addition to Spanish or literacy for some students
- Students will participate in a daily Act of Worship during tutor time, this is inclusive for students of the Christian faith, other faiths and no faith.
- Disciplinary Literacy
- DEAR time – drop everything and read – bring a book!



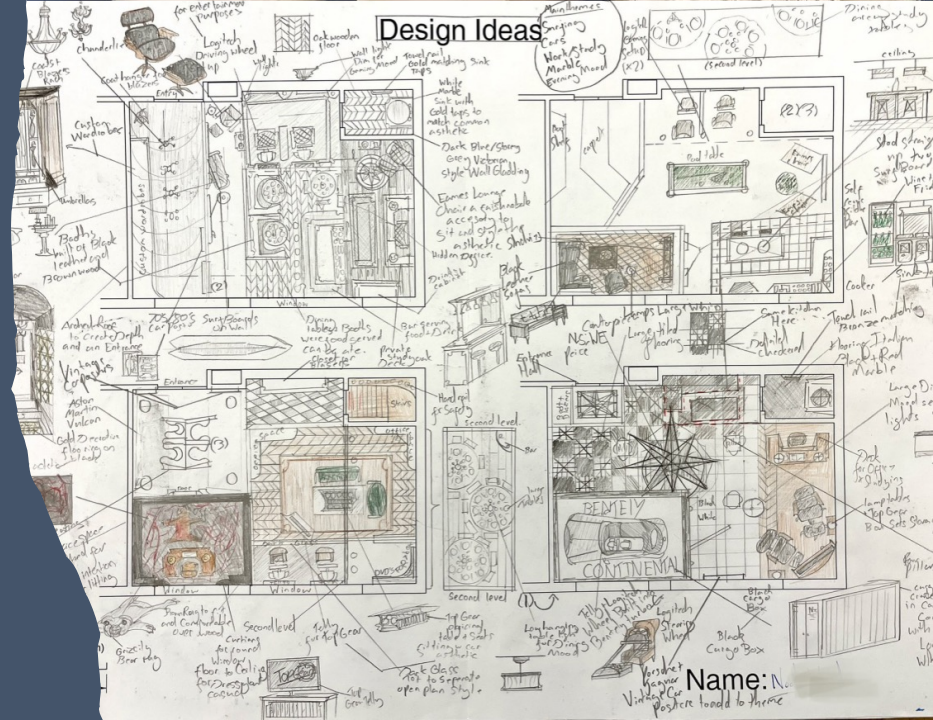
Curriculum in Year 9

- **English** – reading a wide variety of texts including Animal Farm, Romeo & Juliet, Much Ado about nothing, War poetry and beginning GCSE study of the play DNA
- **Maths** – following a Mastery approach to build on knowledge from Y8 and develop all areas of maths, beginning GCSE content after Christmas
- **Science** – preparing for more advanced scientific study through topics such as 'Photosynthesis', 'Atomic Structure' and 'Pressure and moments'
- **History** – topics including the American Twenties, Hitler's rise to power, the Holocaust, the Home Front, the role of Women and how 9/11 has changed our world
- **Geography** – learning about urbanisation and climate change and beginning GCSE content after Easter



Curriculum in Year 9

- **RS** – exploring Buddhism, Christian beliefs and practices and religion and the media
- **Spanish** – topics including hobbies, films, healthy lifestyles, and jobs and careers
- **French/German** – topics including healthy living, holidays, my family and my local area
- **Computer Science** – project-based learning including a wide variety of office skills and programming for business
- **D&T** – projects include making a soft toy, a programmable mood light, designing and making a scale model for the interior of a room and making Asian cuisine in Food.
- **Art** - topics include Graffiti and portraiture, working with clay and finding out about the artists Banksy and Andrea Joseph
- **PE** – embedding skills in different sports including Badminton, Handball, Hockey, Table tennis, Trampolining and Gymnastics
- **Drama** - looking at the genres of Soap Opera and Children's Theatre, physical theatre skills, improvisation and Set design
- **Music** - learning about Band skills, composition, Film music, Hip hop and musical theatre and arranging



Curriculum in Year 8 & 9

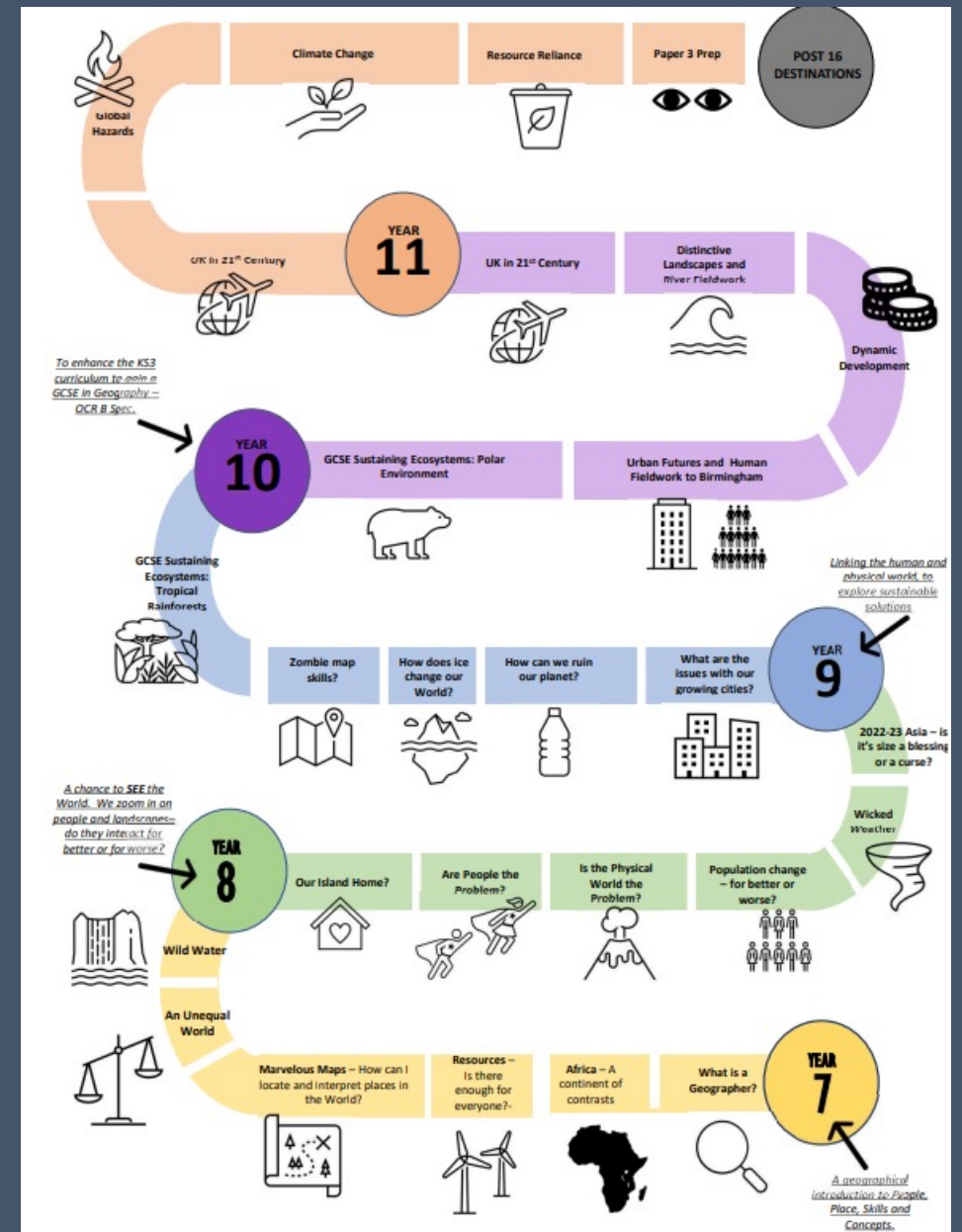
Further, more detailed information, can be found on the school website here:

[The Minster School - Subject Information](#)

Please scroll down and click on the subject you are interested in.

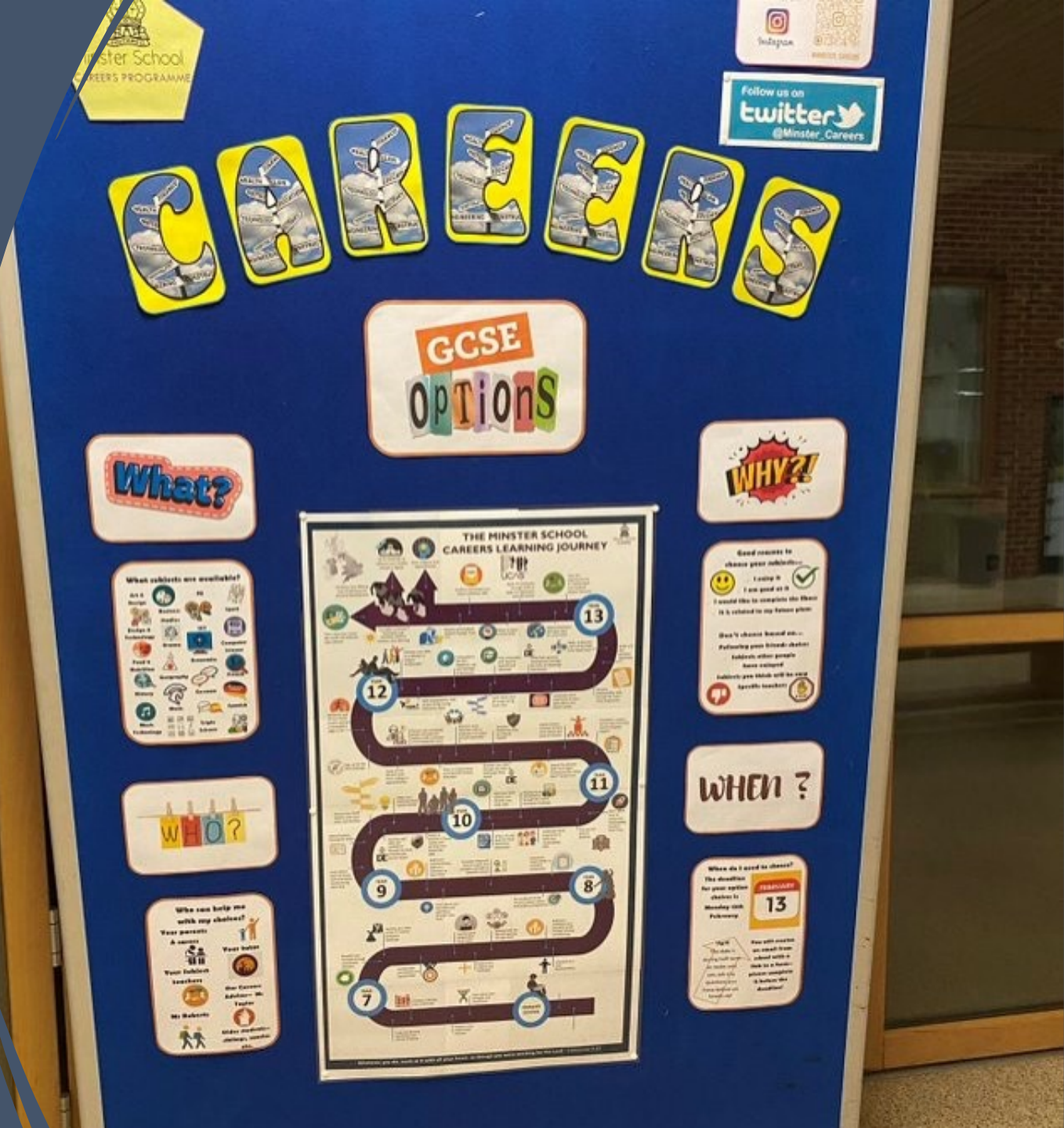
You can also watch a short video from Mr Wall which gives more details on how to find information on the website:

[Website Curriculum Guide - YouTube](#)



The Options process

- The Options process runs throughout the first half of the spring term.
- Students will be given an options booklet which gives information on the possible subjects for GCSE
- Parents' evening - Thursday 29th January online via SchoolCloud
- Options evening – Wednesday 11th February 6pm – 8pm in school
- Opportunity to speak to teachers and find out about the different options available for GCSE

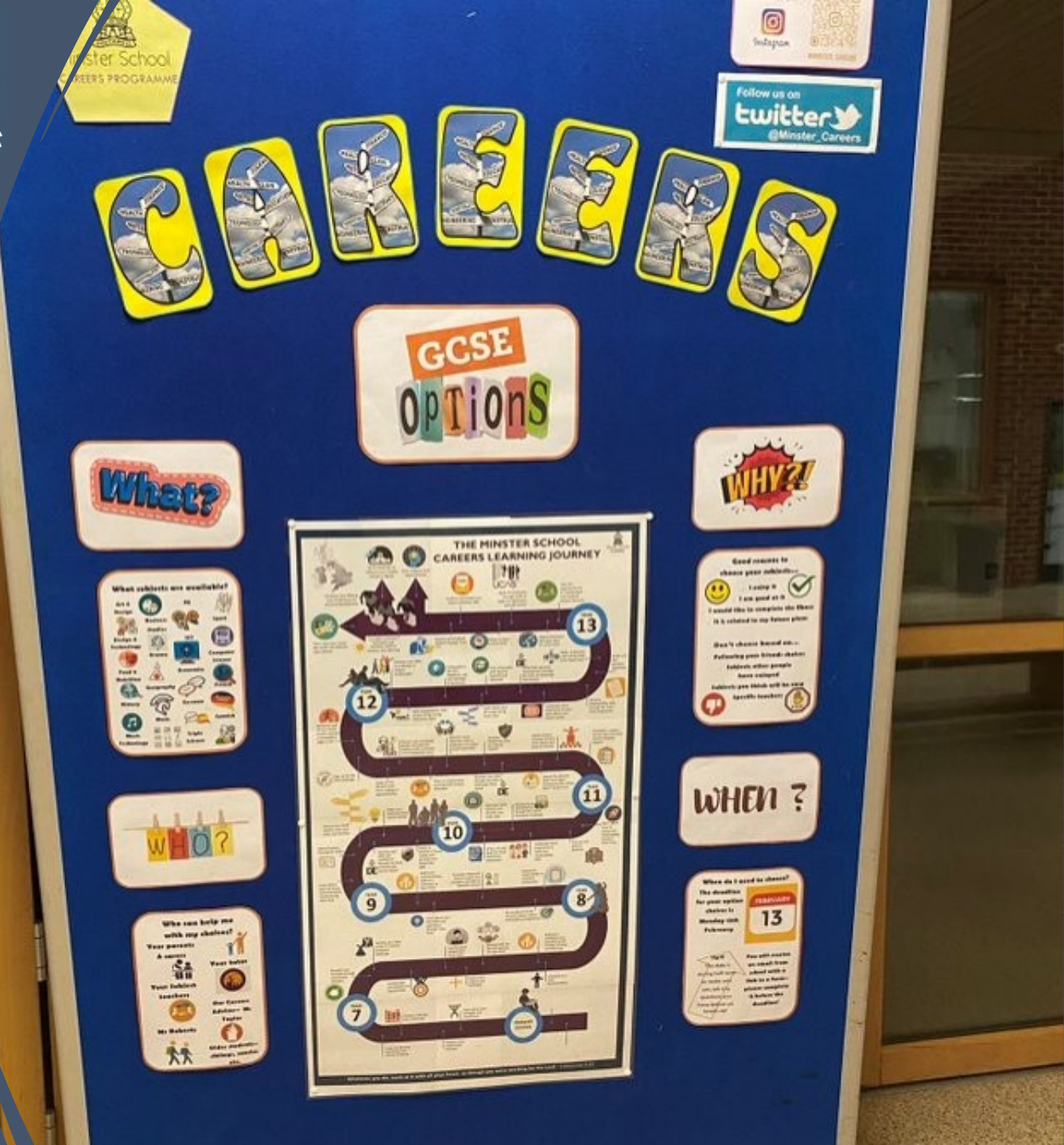


Careers provision



There is a lot of support available for students in Year 9 including:

- Weekly careers drop in sessions
- Tutor time sessions covering skills, strengths and abilities, learning about the world of work, labour market information, post 16 and post 18 information
- Hidden roles in Business workshop
- National Careers Week events
- Apprenticeships virtual information session for students and parents
- Unifrog
- Could you support The Minster School Careers Programme?

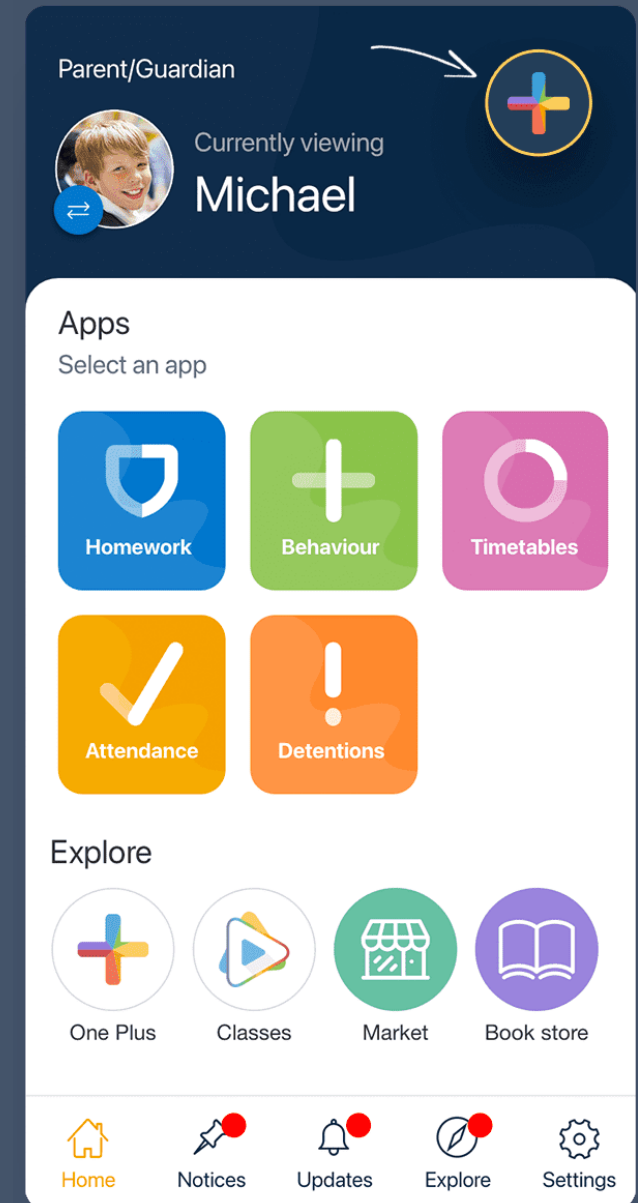


Year 8 and 9 - Satchel One

- Satchel One is our main method of communication with students.
- We expect students to check Satchel One daily.
- Range of homework tasks including rehearsal

How can I support my child with homework?

- Increasing independence
- Calm and tidy workspace
- Check Satchel One
- Healthy working habits including sleep
- Organisation



Assessment & Reports Year 8



Assessment point 1 – Wednesday 7th January

Including targets, competency and progress grades, effort, organisation and behaviour for each subject



Assessment point 2 – Wednesday 18th March

As AP1



Parents' evening – Thursday 23rd April 4pm – 7:45pm

Held virtually via the SchoolCloud platform – minsterschool.schoolcloud.co.uk



Assessment point 3 – Wednesday 24th June

This is a “Full Report” so includes data as AP1/2 but also will include teacher comments on your child's next steps.



Assessment & Reports Year 9



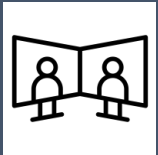
Assessment point 1 – Wednesday 3rd December

Including targets, competency and progress grades, effort, organisation and behaviour for each subject



Assessment point 2 – Wednesday 28th January

As AP1



Parents' evening – Thursday 29th January 4pm – 7:45pm

Held virtually via the SchoolCloud platform – minsterschool.schoolcloud.co.uk



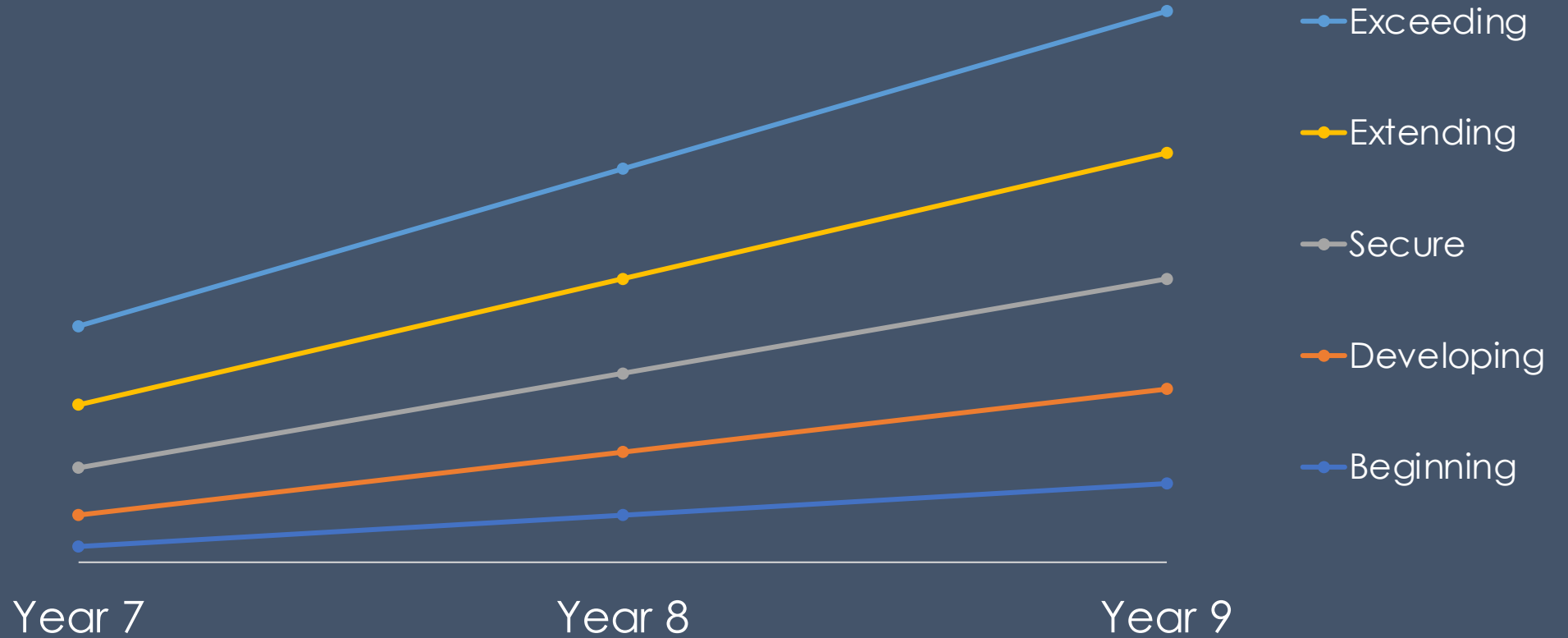
Assessment point 3 – Wednesday 13th May

This is a “Full Report” so includes data as AP1/2 but also will include teacher comments on your child's next steps.



Assessment & Reports

Chart Title



Student Support

- Pastoral support from teachers and tutors
- Year Leaders and Student Services
- Additional support from SEN team and inclusion



Mental Health Support Team

- The CAMHS Mental Health Support Team is a new collaborative trailblazing service across health and education, available in project schools across Nottinghamshire.
- They are an early intervention mental health and wellbeing service in schools aimed at providing support for children, young people and families around low-level emotional wellbeing needs, such as anxiety, low mood, managing emotions, and sleep. They link in directly with Nottinghamshire CAMHS teams and provide in school sessions to promote positive mental health. Their work is delivered on a 1:1 and group/workshop basis.
- Referrals for support can be through your child's year leader/key stage leader, or you can directly refer as a parent/carer.



Preloved uniform



- Uniform collection – end of the year
- Donations throughout the year
- Please drop off any unwanted uniform at reception



Reduce,
Reuse,
Recycle



Extra-curricular activities

- We offer a diverse range of extra-curricular activities
- We would encourage as many students as possible to sign up for these.
- Most run afterschool from 3-4pm
- If there is an activity you are interested in which you would like us to set up, please let us know!



Extra-curricular activities

- Boys Football
- Girls Football
- Badminton
- Rugby
- Netball
- Basketball
- Table tennis
- Tennis
- Cricket
- Athletics
- Hockey
- Dance
- Boccia
- Orchestra
- Full Choir
- Chamber Choir
- Jazz Band
- Concert Band
- Brass Ensemble
- String Ensemble
- KS3 Music Theory Club
- Flute Ensemble
- Harp Ensemble
- KS3 Music Technology Club
- Training Orchestra
- Session Orchestra & Vocals
- Chamber Music Ensembles
- Beginner Brass Ensemble
- Junior Chamber Choir
- KS3 Drama Clubs
- Drama productions
- STEAM
- Warhammer Alliance
- Art Club
- KS3 German Club
- Debate Club
- Dungeons & Dragons CLUB
- Coding Club
- Creative Writing Club
- Minster Cares
- Ugive UChange
- Library Assistants
- Confirmation Club
- Musical theatre Productions (this year is Fame)



Trips and Enrichment

Black Country museum trip
STEAM day
Languages Day
Yorkshire Wildlife Park trip
Duke of Edinburgh
History London residential
Year 9/10 France visit

Charity fundraising
House competitions
School Productions
Musical concerts
Aquathon
Maths Challenge
Piano Competition
End of term services
and much more...!



Keeping in touch

You can contact us:

- School office

office@minsterschool.org.uk

Tel: 01636 814000

- Year Leader

e.farrell-tearse@minsterschool.org.uk

l.Kelly@minsterschool.org.uk

- Attendance officer

attendance@minsterschool.org.uk

- Tutor (example)

a.surname@minsterschool.org.uk

We will contact you:

- Satchel One

- Emails from office

- WORKS Newsletter

- Website - www.minsterschool.org.uk

- Individual phone/email



Communication Charter

COMMUNICATION CHARTER



Consider the best method
Many queries can be resolved by email or phone. Sometimes a face to face meeting is best.



Our office hours
8.15am to 4.30pm.(4pm on Fridays)
Staff are not available at the weekend and in the evening.



We will respond within 2 working days
Occasionally this may not be possible, If the matter is urgent it will be prioritised.



Make an appointment
To see a member of staff make an appointment in advance.

Minster Trust for Education - Together we help every child to flourish



Thank You for listening

- Please take a Key Dates document
- Please come and speak to us if you would like any additional information or support
- Staff will be available in the break-out space



Key Dates for Parents & Students

Year 8 (Academic Year 2024 - 2025)

The information below details the key dates for Year 8 over their second year at The Minster School.

| Date | Event |
|--|--|
| Wednesday 4th September | Year 8 Information Evening 6:45-7:15pm |
| Thursday 6th September | 1st Day of School (Year 8-11) |
| Thursday 26th September | European Day of Languages |
| Friday 11th October | INSET Day |
| October Half Term: Monday 21st October – Friday 1st November | |
| W/B 25th November | Black Country Museum Trip/Steam Day |
| Thursday 12th December | Christmas Concert at Southwell Minster |
| W/B 16th December | Christmas End of Term Services |
| Wednesday 18th December | Y8 Assessment Point 1 report sent home |
| Christmas Holidays: Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January | |
| Thursday 9th January | Y8 Languages Day |
| W/B 3rd February | School Production |
| Friday 14th February | INSET Day |
| February Half Term: Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February | |
| Wednesday 12th March | Y8 Assessment Point 2 report sent home |
| Wednesday 19th March | Easter Concert at Southwell Minster |
| Tuesday 25th March | Piano Competition |
| Thursday 27th March | Y8 Parents' evening (online via SchoolCloud) |
| W/B 31st March | Easter End of Term Services |
| Easter Holidays: Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April | |
| Thursday 1st May | Junior Maths Challenge |
| May Half Term: Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May | |
| W/B 16th June | Y8 Science Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park |
| Wednesday 18th June | Y8 Full reports sent home |
| W/B 14th July | School Production |
| W/B 21st July | Summer End of Term Services |
| Friday 26th July | Last Day of Term |
| Monday 28th July | INSET day |
| Tuesday 29th July | INSET day |

Please put the above dates in your diary and plan around them. There are numerous other events that happen during the school year, and we will send you more details as they come up. Please be aware that some dates may change during the year, and we will keep you updated on such changes.

As ever, if there is anything we can help with, please get in touch.



Who's who

Senior Leadership Team

Mr Chaloner – Head Teacher

Mr Wall – Deputy Head Teacher - Curriculum

Miss Goodhead – Deputy Head Teacher – Inclusion & Safeguarding

Mr Edwards – Assistant Head Teacher – Behaviour & Attendance

Mrs Lyons – Assistant Head Teacher – Teaching and Learning

Mrs Mazurkiewicz – Assistant Head Teacher – Achievement & PP lead

Mr Price – Assistant Head Teacher – SENCO

Mrs West – Assistant Head Teacher – Maths Hub

Pastoral Team:

Mr Brookes – Head of KS3

Mrs Tearse – Year leader Y8

Mrs Kelly – Year leader Y9

Mrs Pascual – Attendance officer

Careers support:

Ms Taylor – Careers lead

