

# *The St. Thomas More Guide to* **YEAR 8 CURRICULUM**

*“The academy curriculum has been carefully crafted to be broad and well balanced to meet the needs of all students. Students’ spiritual, social, moral, and cultural development is promoted well and students are prepared well for the future.”*

(OFSTED 2015)





# *LEARNING AND ACHIEVING*

## *AT ST. THOMAS MORE HIGH SCHOOL*

At St Thomas More High School we believe it is very important that parents and staff work together in providing the best possible learning environment and we value the support and encouragement that parents can provide.

This curriculum booklets offer a simple guide to the type of work your son will be doing during the current academic year at school.

As you read through each of the subject descriptions you will be able to discover the topics being studied, together with other details which may help you to support your son. By giving you this information you may be able to select newspaper articles, television programmes or local visits which will support your son's studies. You will also be in a better position to discuss your son's progress with his teachers at the Parent Consultation Evenings.

The subjects which form your son's curriculum have been set to give them the broadest range of learning opportunities. At St Thomas More High School, our well qualified staff use their expertise and the wide range of resources available to them to ensure that all students have the opportunity to make progress through their curriculum.

We hope that you find the information contained in the booklet useful, but if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.



# THE KEY STAGE 3 CURRICULUM



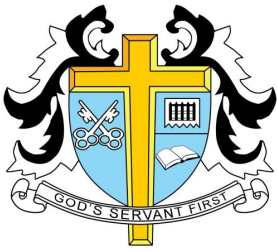
The Key Stage 3 curriculum is spread across years 7&8. Students are expected to build on the skills learned at Key Stages 1 and 2, alongside enjoying the opportunity of experiencing new subjects. At St Thomas More we pride ourselves on providing an inclusive curriculum; one that will allow all of our boys to enjoy a challenging yet achievable education.

Our Key Stage 3 curriculum is based on:

- ★ Expectations: establishing high expectations for all students and setting challenging targets for them to achieve.
- ★ Progression: ensuring progression in teaching and learning across Key Stage 3.
- ★ Engagement: promoting approaches to teaching and learning that engage and motivate students and demand their active participation.

Literacy and numeracy are mainly taught in English and Maths lessons. However, they are also an integral part of the teaching of all curriculum subjects. The schemes of work are structured around key learning objectives and for those students who need to develop their skills in these areas, St Thomas More provides additional sessions in both literacy and numeracy.

The delivery of the curriculum is monitored closely to ensure that the standards of teaching and learning are as high as possible in all subject areas.



# Year 8 Curriculum Model

## 2017 – 18

The table below summarises how many periods and the number of minutes each fortnight that are allocated to each subject.

	Maths	English	ICT	Science	Religious Education	Technology	Physical Education	Geography	History	Art	Music	Spanish	Personal Development
No. of periods	6	7	3	6	4	3	4	4	4	2	2	4	1
Total Time (in mins)	360	420	180	360	240	180	240	240	240	120	120	240	60

A period is 60 minutes long and there are five periods each day. There are 25 periods per week.