

## **FHS Lower School – KS3**

Following their transition from year 6 into year 7 we aim to offer a broad curriculum to our younger students by exposing them to the wide variety and range of subjects taught by subject specialists. Within this framework, we also offer a series of ‘curriculum enrichment days’ where we aim to complement the work of all subjects and develop the important skills of teamwork, reflection, self-management, critical thinking, and .

With the abolition of the end of KS3 SATs exams, the content of the curriculum has been freed up within the majority of subject areas, allowing subjects areas and their staff to develop schemes of work that meet the needs and interests of students, and that also focus on developing different skills in our students.

In addition to the important subject-based learning, the students’ curriculum is also enhanced by the provision of PSHE lessons, taught by the pastoral teams, and citizenship lessons.

By exposing our younger students to the full range of subjects within the curriculum, they can find their particular talents and, further, select subjects that reflect their interests, strengths and weaknesses as they move out of KS3 and into their GCSE studies at KS4.

## **Homework Guidelines**

Homework is considered to be an important component of every student’s experience at Farlingaye. Due to the nature of our two week timetable and the fact that not every class is taught by only one teacher within a subject area, strict timetables of homework setting are not published for each year group. However, staff follow the homework guidelines summarised below:

- The amount of homework set will increase steadily as students progress through the school. Generally year 7’s will receive a maximum of two 25min tasks per subject per fortnight, increasing in 5minute increments to 45 minutes per task per subject by year 11.
- Students in the sixth form would expect an average of 5 hours homework per week for each A level subject.
- Homework will be set with a clear purpose, and will be written by the student into their journal.
- Staff and subject leaders will monitor the setting and marking of homework.
- Parents are encouraged to use the Home/School journal to inform staff when there are difficulties with a student completing their homework.

Due to the changes in the assessment guidelines at KS3, we are currently considering a review of the setting of homework in the lower school.