

# Haileybury Turnford

Ambition · Pride · Success

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

## Key Stage 3 Curriculum

The guiding principles of our curriculum are to ensure that we provide a broad and balanced, yet ambitious curriculum for all students, which provides opportunities for them to achieve their full potential, alongside developing their character and ensuring their physical, and emotional wellbeing.

Students currently in Year 8 will continue their Key Stage 3 curriculum in Year 9. The decision was made prior to the COVID-19 pandemic for students to have a three-year Key Stage 3 and a two-year Key Stage 4. The Key Stage 4 Options Process will therefore take place in March 2022.

A three-year Key Stage 3 model has the following benefits for students:

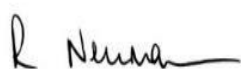
**Firstly**, a three-year KS3 ensures all students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum where they can deepen their knowledge and skills across a wide range of subjects, complemented by programmes for development of character, cultural capital and their physical and emotional wellbeing. This provides time for students to make informed decisions about future choices whilst they are in Year 9.

**Secondly**, we see Key Stage 3 as the building block for students to develop the foundations of their knowledge, skills and understanding and to prepare them for the rigours of Key Stage 4. By having a three-year Key Stage 3, students have the time to embed and practice skills, develop a broader cultural knowledge and vocabulary and be best prepared for informed decision making. Students will gain exposure to a knowledge rich curriculum which is coherently and sequentially planned and which supports memory and cognition retrieval in preparation for Key Stage 4.

Following a year of disrupted learning, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is particularly important that our Key Stage 3 curriculum delivers these principles for students.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mr Walsh, Assistant Principal, by email.

Yours faithfully



**Mr R Newman**  
Principal



**Mr B Walsh**  
Assistant Principal



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