

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Y10 Curriculum Overview – Half Term 2**

We are very proud of how our Y10 students have settled into the rigours of Key Stage 4 study. They understand how every moment of every lesson counts in preparation for their examinations – and how soon those exams will come around!

In English lessons this half term students are studying the Victorian novel element of GCSE literature through Charles Dickens's festive classic 'A Christmas Carol.' Students are enjoying developing a deeper understanding of this familiar tale as well as a fresh perspective on some of the social and political change Dickens wanted to see.

In Physical Education students are gaining a fuller insight into the intricacies of the cardiovascular system and continuing to develop their teamwork and individual sporting performance.

In Religious Studies this half term students study the topic of Religion, Crime and Punishment. In this topic they are learning about religious (Christian and Muslim) and non-religious perspectives towards crime and punishment and examining contentious debates around capital punishment and the possibility of forgiveness.

Year 10 students are also exploring the differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships, coercive and controlling behaviour and how to make healthy, safe choices within relationships. They will consider the dangerous and harmful effects of sexist attitudes and behaviours by exploring statistics and case studies. Students will also study the issues of forced marriage and Honour Based Violence (HBV). Throughout these units there are references to places and organisations students can go to for support with any of the issues raised.

In Science, Year 10 students are learning the big ideas within energy, matter and organisms. This includes knowledge and skills from GCSE Paper 1 across all science disciplines. They will gain an understanding of ideas such as; the structure of the atom and how this model has changed over time, how eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells are structured and how energy is transferred between different energy stores.

In maths this half term your child will be learning to develop their equation knowledge and understanding, they will be applying their knowledge of angle rules to problem solve and be investigating transformations of shapes. There will be frequent practice of all previous mathematical learning to ensure complete mastery of vital mathematical knowledge.

Y10 students have now settled into their optional programmes of study and are quickly getting used to the demands of Key Stage 4. The Year 10 team have been delighted to see all students bringing their planner every day as part of their basic equipment and this is a really useful tool in organising learning and revision.

We thank all parents/carers for continuing to support their children's studies by ensuring they arrive punctually to school each day – equipped, prepared and ready for learning. Should you have any questions or comments linked to your child's learning, please contact the relevant faculty as outlined below.

Kind Regards,

Mr M Kilgannon

**Assistant Vice Principal**

**Aston Academy**

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