

27th January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Year 9 Information

I am delighted to write to you at the start of a very important stage of your child's journey with us at Newquay Tretherras. We have begun to introduce your child to the process of selecting their option subjects for study at Key Stage 4.

This is the first time that your child will be able to make decisions about their curriculum, personalising it to match their strengths, whilst ensuring that it gives them as many opportunities as possible in the future.

Our aim is to provide every student with as much guidance and support as possible about their future curriculum choices and how these choices link to further education and employment. As such, there are a number of key events that support this process:

1. Year 9 Learning Cycle 1 Progress Report

The attached report gives you an indication of your child's current progress and engagement with learning within each subject. Your child's **attendance** for the year to date is given at the top of the report, as well as the total positive and negative points they have received. We encourage high levels of attendance as this is a crucial factor in academic success at school.

The **Engagement with Learning** grade gives an indication of your child's approach to study. This takes in to account their behaviour, effort, organisation, engagement and desire to learn.

The **Progress** indicator shows how well your child is progressing in each subject, relative to their own baseline. The statements are according to latest assessments in these subjects, judged as either making: Exceptional, Above Expected, Expected, Below Expected progress, or Support is Required. A student's baseline is determined from their KS2 SATS results. For example, if your child scored highly in their baseline KS2 SATS results (e.g. around 110), making expected progress means that they are achieving results in their assessments that would put them on-track for some of the higher grades in this subject area. Conversely, if their baseline results were slightly lower, this judgement allows us to check that your child is still progressing well from that starting point.

Please note: Art does not have a current assessment score on the report, instead they have assessed the progress each student has made through assessing their practical work. Your child may have missing results on their report if they were absent for any of their knowledge checks.

For further clarification, please find attached a parent guide explaining how we have calculated the progress indicators. The report will also be placed on the SIMS Parent App. Here, you can access all your child's reports as well as view their timetable and, crucially update your contact details that we hold. If you require any more detail, please do not hesitate to contact the school: Miss C Barber, Director of KS3: year9@tretherras.net

2. Year 9 Parents and Options Evening: Wednesday, 12th February 3.15pm - 6.00pm

This evening will be an opportunity to hear first-hand from your child's subject teachers about how they are progressing in English, Mathematics and Science. You will be able to book a 5-minute (face to face) appointment slot with their class teachers for these subjects, using the link below.

As well as meeting your child's core teachers, you will also have the chance to explore each of the option subjects in the main hall. All of the subjects offered at KS4 will share details about their courses, including content, assessment methods and the skills developed. Subject specialists will be available to students and parents, answering any questions you may have.

How to make the appointments

Please access the link below and follow the Step by Step guide.

- Step 1. Using your internet browser, enter <https://newquaytretherras.schoolcloud.co.uk/>
- Step 2. Complete the details on the home page using Child's **preferred** name. Choose 'Log In'
- Step 3. Follow the online instructions to book an appointment with the allocated member of staff.
- Step 4. Once finished, if you entered an email address when logging in, the system will send confirmation of your chosen appointment times

If the teacher you wish to see is fully booked, please go to **Add Appointment**, but use the option of **Manually** making your appointment, once selecting the teachers you will see the **BLUE 'JOIN WAITING LIST'** prompt box above the teachers name, please click on this **Blue Box** to join the list. The teacher will make every effort to make contact with you in due course.

If you do not have access to the internet or have any queries or concerns, please email the school via enquires@tretherras.net or telephone 01637 872080 and a member of staff will help to arrange these appointments for you.

3. Key Stage 4 Taster Lessons: Monday, 27th January – Friday, 7th February

Every student will be given the opportunity to participate in a taster lesson for all option subjects. In these lessons, students will learn more about the option subjects available. The lessons will include information about the knowledge they will learn, how they will be assessed and the types of learning activities they will do in lessons. Student have been given a taster session workbook to record key information from each session. Please do go through with them and help them to reflect on whether the course could be right for them.

4. Year 9 Careers Fayre: Wednesday, 30th January

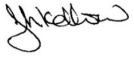
Every Year 9 student will have the chance to visit the Careers Fayre being held during the day at Newquay Tretherras on Thursday, 30th January. This will give them the chance to investigate potential career options and to ask representatives of a multitude of vocations questions to help them further inform their decisions.

We will also be using assemblies and tutor times to support students in knowing how to make these decisions.

As you can see, there is a comprehensive programme of support in place to assist every student through the options process.

We look forward to seeing you in school for the parents and option evening.

Yours faithfully,



Justine Kellow
Deputy Headteacher