

September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 have made an excellent and purposeful start to the year with us at Appleton Academy, demonstrating a strong attitude to learning.

We are writing to you with some key information about this academic year, which will be useful for you in supporting your child. We want to ensure, as you do, that your child makes as much progress as possible this year with us in school.

Academic Options

Year 9 is an exciting time for our students at Appleton Academy. Throughout the year, they will have the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the curriculum which will, in turn, support them to make their GCSE option choices in the spring term. We will be holding an options evening in school on **Wednesday 15 April 2026**, where you and your child can gain a better understanding of the courses we have on offer and the doors they can open to further education, employment or training Post 16. Students will find out which options they have been allocated in the summer term ready for these to commence from September 2026.

Please find below a list of key dates for Year 9:

Week beginning 17 November 2025	Report 1 – Attitude to Learning
Week beginning 2 February 2026	Report 2 – Attitude to Learning and Progress Data
Weds 4 February 2026	Families' Evening
Weds 15 April 2026	Options Evening
Week beginning 13 July 2026	Report 3 – Attitude to Learning and Progress Data

Homework

At Appleton Academy, homework is seen as a valuable way of revising and extending work undertaken in school. It is also a way for students to discover information that might not be available in school, of involving parents and carers in their children's studies and of developing the self-discipline essential for good study habits.

- Students should spend 30-45 minutes on each subject's homework
- A variety of homework tasks will be set, including written work, research, revision, project work and preparation for future work
- Students have a journal this year, which is slightly different from the planners they have previously had, they are able to record homework in these so they do not forget to complete this
- To make good progress in their learning, it is essential that students complete homework to the best of their ability. Please talk to your child about their homework and support them in organising their time to ensure this is handed in on time
- If students need support with homework, please encourage them to talk to their subject teacher

- Whilst we value the importance of homework in consolidating or extending your child's learning, it can become an unmanageable task for teachers to chase students who were set homework and choose not to do it. Therefore, if your child fails to complete three consecutive pieces of homework, we will presume that you do not wish your child to continue to complete homework and staff will no longer inform you or issue a sanction to your child should they not complete it
- If you have concerns about homework, you should refer these to the subject teacher in the first instance

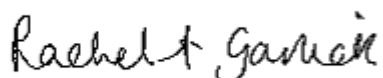
Please find the subject homework plan for this year below:

Subject	Task Type	Frequency
English	Worksheet - 10 Questions	Once a week
Maths	Worksheet	Once a week
Science	Worksheet	Once a week
History	Worksheet or research tasks	Fortnightly
Geography	Project	Half termly
Spanish	Worksheet sent through Arbor	Fortnightly
Digital Literacy	iDEA Badges	Twice half-termly
RE	Task for lesson	Once a week
DT and Art	Task set through Arbor / worksheets	Fortnightly
Performing Arts	Music - Listening Log Drama - Line Learning	Twice half-termly (1 Music 1 Drama)

Specific homework plans for each half term can also be found in the Year 9 section of the Academy website here: <https://appletonacademy.co.uk/secondary/year-9/> You will also find other letters and information about Year 9 in this section of the website, while whole school letters and information can be found via the website homepage.

Through all of us working together, we know that your children, our students, will have a positive year and will make the progress their hard work deserves. If you have any questions or concerns, please email info@appletonacademy.co.uk in the first instance and a member of staff will be in touch to discuss these.

Yours faithfully



Rachel Garlick
Head of Secondary

Mrs Griffin
Head of Year 9