

September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 have made an excellent start to the year with us at Appleton Academy and have demonstrated a strong and purposeful attitude to their 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 option choices in the spring term.

We will be holding an options evening in school on Tuesday 13 April 2027, 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 in the summer term which options they have been successfully allocated to ready for them to commence in September 2027.

Key Dates for Year 9:

Week Beginning Monday 16 November 2026	Report 1 – Attitude to Learning
Tuesday 2 February 2027	Families' Evening Report 2 will be given out on this evening (Attitude to Learning and Attainment data)
Tuesday 13 April 2027	Options Evening
Week Beginning Monday 12 July 2027	Report 3 – Attitude to Learning and Attainment Data

Homework

At Appleton Academy, homework is an important part of students' learning. It provides valuable opportunities for students to practise and consolidate their learning, develop their independence and take greater responsibility for their studies.

The Benefits of Homework

Homework can support students in many ways:

- Consolidate learning – revisit and practise knowledge and skills taught in lessons.
- Improve understanding – give students additional opportunities to work on areas they may find challenging.
- Develop independence – encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning and become more confident working independently.

- Develop good study habits – help students develop the organisation, time management and self-discipline needed for successful study.
- Prepare for future learning – introduce students to topics, concepts or skills that they will explore further in lessons.
- Build confidence – regular practice can help students feel more secure and confident in their knowledge and abilities.
- Support academic progress – completing homework consistently can help students make stronger progress over time.
- Involve parents and carers – provide opportunities for families to take an interest in and support their child's learning.

Homework Expectations

- Students should spend 30–45 minutes on homework for each subject.
- A variety of homework tasks will be set, including written work, research, revision, project work and preparation for future learning.
- All students will be given a pocket planner this year, which they can use to record their homework. We strongly encourage all students to use their planner to help them stay organised and remember what they need to complete.
- All homework will be set on Arbor and will be accessible to students and families. Please ensure you have access to the Arbor app to see what has been set. Homework may be computer or paper based but Arbor will be where you can view homework details.
- To make good progress in their learning, it is essential that students complete their homework to the best of their ability. Parents and carers are encouraged to talk to their child about their homework and support them in organising their time so that work is completed and handed in on time.
- If students need support with their homework, they should speak to their subject teacher.
- If parents or carers have any concerns about homework, these should be raised in the first instance with the relevant subject teacher.

Please find details below of the homework that will be set for each subject this year.

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. Please do contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Garlick

Rachel Garlick
Head of Secondary

Mrs Ashton
Head of Year 9

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	Once a fortnight
Geography	Project	Half termly
Spanish	Worksheet sent through Arbor	Once a fortnight
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)