



March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you regarding our curriculum plans at Scalby School. Following the consultation with parents the overriding feedback was that we needed to develop a model that kept the breadth of choice at KS4 we currently have, while keeping the opportunity in the arts at all stages. We feel this new plan addresses all those wishes.

I have spoken to all our Year 8 students during an assembly to let them know about our plans for their curriculum in Yr9. This has historically been to select their KS4 options. In September our Year 9 students will follow our newly developed Gateway curriculum which has been designed to support the transition between KS3 and KS4.

The rationale behind this new curriculum is:

- Increase the breath of curriculum to deepen knowledge and strengthen skills.
- Continue to give students a variety of creative and performing art experiences without the limitations of either the KS3 NC or the GCSE specification.
- Introduction of additional awards to demonstrate skills in learning.
- Start to build and develop skills across the curriculum in preparation for GCSE courses with less stress and the knowledge they are not falling behind or having to catch-up content.
- Opportunity to introduce or develop experiences outside the classroom that support the learning that goes on it in – students can understand the role the subject plays in society.
- Chance for students to immerse themselves in their new subjects and really understand the subject and whether they have made the right choice.

Normally at this time of year we begin our Year 8 options process. However, as we are making these exciting changes to the school curriculum the Gateway choices process will begin after Easter. All Year 8 students will get further presentations in Mentor time and support will then continue with a Parents Information evening in early May.

This new Gateway will also involve students making some choices about what their curriculum will look like. These choices will be guided by our continued focus on the EBacc and intent to ensure a broad curriculum of the Arts. This is an exciting time for our School and in particular our Year 8 students as we introduce this new part of our curriculum. As with anything new we are making every effort to ensure we communicate our plans to you and our students at appropriate times and will be sending further details regarding any of the next steps following the Easter holidays.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact me at the school.

Yours sincerely

Mr Richard Davis  
Deputy Head Teacher