Trinity Academy Halifax

Year 8

Trinity Pathways

Empathy • Honesty • Respect • Responsibility

WELCOME TO THE YEAR 8 PATHWAYS PROCESS

All Year 8 students will take part in the Pathway process. The process allows students to gain information on the subjects they will be selecting to undertake from Year 9 onwards. Students have the opportunity to tailor their curriculum, to align with their future aspirations and select options they feel they will succeed in. Alongside their options, students will also study a range of subjects that are part of our core curriculum.

This guide contains the following:

1. An overview of the Year 9 Curriculum
2. A list of subjects available for students to choose from
3. A summary of the Pathway subjects
4. A summary of the Carousel subjects
5. Top tips for students, parents and carers
6. Further support

The Pathways Process

1. Students will have an assembly about the pathway process and the subjects they can select during week commencing 26 February 2024.

2. Information Evening held at Trinity Academy Halifax on 29 February 2024 from 4.30pm- 6.30pm. There will be a speech in the Main Hall at 5.00pm and 5.45pm.

3. Students will complete their Pathway selection process via Microsoft Forms. The Microsoft Forms will be emailed to parents on 29 February 2024.

4. There will be a Parent Consultation Evening for Year 8 on 6/7 March (dependant on their college), to allow you to ask your child's VT tutor further questions.

5. Students to select their options by **9.00am on Tuesday 12 March.**

6. The allocated options are confirmed via email.

Important notice for parents

Please note students will use Microsoft Forms to select their chosen Pathway. The survey will be available between Thursday 29 February to Tuesday 12 March. We strongly advise that you ensure that you have discussed the Pathway that your child plans to select prior to them submitting their final preferred choices.

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WHAT DOES THE YEAR 9 CURRICULUM LOOK LIKE?

For students, moving into Year 9 will feel like a natural progression. The structure of lessons will remain the same, but opportunities will be made for students to go beyond the National Curriculum.

Students study a core curriculum, plus their Pathway options and they also take part in a carousel of other subjects. The chart below shows you which subjects they will study.

The curriculum for Year 9 students

Maths	English	Science	History/ Geography	RS	PE	MFL	Pathway A	Pathway B
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

What are the available pathway subject choices?

Students will select four options from the below table. Ranking them in preference of 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th choice. Students will be allocated two of these subjects and they will make up students 'Pathway A' and 'Pathway B' subjects. Students will study these subjects in Year 9 and Year 10 and will complete the subject at the end of Year 10.

Pathway A and B subjects

Subjects	Important Information
• GCSE 3D Design • GCSE Art • GCSE Business • GCSE Music • GCSE Photography • OCR Cambridge National in Health and Social Care • OCR Cambridge National in Media • OCR Cambridge National in Sport Studies • WJEC Hospitality and Catering • WJEC Performing Arts - Acting • WJCE Perfroming Arts - Dance	• Students CANNOT pick both Performing Arts - Acting and Performing Arts - Dance as their 1st and 2nd option. They can only study one. • Students CANNOT pick GCSE Art and GCSE 3D Design. They can only study one.

Creative Carousel

Subjects	Important Information
Compulsory term of: • Personal Development Choose two from: • Art • Computing • Design Technology • Food • Performing Arts Students need to rank these subjects in of preference to support with the allocation process.	• Students CANNOT be allocated the subject they have been given as their Pathway A or Pathway B on their carousel timetable. • For example, if a students selects GCSE Art as their Pathway A or B and is allocated this, the student will not be able to have art as a carosuel subject. • All students will have Personal Development for one full term.

PATHWAY A & B
SUBJECT SUMMARIES

The following pages provide a brief summary of the subjects available to students. We recommend that parents and students read these together. Please submit any questions via the contactus email address (contactus@halifax.trinitymat.org). Students can also speak to their teachers, VT tutors and Phase Leader is they would like further information.

GCSE 3D Design

The course starts with foundational content in the classroom, allowing students to build a strong basis for their work and offers students the opportunity to cultivate hands-on practical skills in the workshop. In the second year, they choose their themes, expanding on acquired skills and exploring different ideas. Through research and hands-on activities, students understand how market demands influence product development and fostering hands-on practical skills in the workshop. The curriculum emphasises applying structural elements and creative tasks to innovate product solutions. This course develops teamwork, problem-solving, and presentation skills, setting the stage for further A-level studies. GCSE 3D Design is an excellent choice for those interested in designing and manufacturing consumer products, catering to careers in Architecture, 3D Product Design, Engineering, and practical vocations like construction or manufacturing.

GCSE Art

While studying GCSE Art, students can expect to do drawing, painting, sculpting, ceramics, printmaking, illustration, and photography based on themes which will include anatomy and natural forms. Some content will be classroom-led to get a good understanding of how to create a body of work. This leads on into the second year, where students will select their own theme, building on the skills they have learnt and see what ideas take off from there. A passion for the subject is essential to be successful in Art! Students will also have the opportunity for their work to be displayed in a public art gallery at the end of the course.

GCSE Photography

Students looking to study photography at GCSE will be given an introduction into how to use a camera for a variety of techniques. Students will have access to and learn how to use a professional photography studio. They will also explore a range of image manipulation techniques using Photoshop. To begin with some content will be classroom-led to get a good understanding of how you create an e-portfolio of work. Themes that the students will cover include still life and disguise. A creative mind is essential to develop ideas into successful and original outcomes. The students will also have the opportunity for their work to be displayed in a public art gallery at the end of the course.

GCSE Business

The course allows students to explore business concepts, terminology and objectives and the impact of businesses on individuals and the wider society. It will apply knowledge and understanding to contemporary business issues and to different types and sizes of businesses in local, national and global contexts. Students will develop as enterprising individuals with the ability to think commercially and creatively to demonstrate business acumen and draw on evidence to make informed business decisions and solve business problems. Students will investigate and analyse real business opportunities and issues to construct well-argued, well-evidenced, balanced and structured arguments, demonstrating their depth and breadth of understanding of business.

GCSE Music

Music students will undertake a memorable 2-year experience, developing confidence in both their musical ability and personal growth as young adults. The GCSE Eduqas specification encourages a blended approach to the three disciplines of performing, composing and appraising through four areas of study. The four areas are designed to develop knowledge and understanding of music through the study of a variety of genres and styles of music in an open practical and theoretical context. GCSE Music offers students the ability to engage in an unforgettable experience, generating lifelong skills that can apply to all prospects, developing discipline, self-reflection, a community, passion, and self-belief in their ability to be a part of something extraordinary. There are no previous learning requirements for this specification.

OCR Cambridge National in Health and Social Care

This qualification provides students with a taste of what the health and social care sector is like, enabling them to make informed choices about their future career. The course includes one external task and two additional coursework elements. Students study topics including human growth and development, health and social care services and factors affecting people's health and well-being. All these topics will provide students with an opportunity to gain a broad understanding of the health and social care sector needed for future study or employment.

PATHWAY A & B
SUBJECT SUMMARIES

OCR Cambridge National in Media

The Cambridge National in Creative iMedia will encourage students to understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of digital media including factors that influence product design, use of media codes and conventions, pre-production planning techniques, legal issues and creation/publishing/distribution considerations. Students will be exposed to software used in industry today, including Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Premier Pro. Students will develop skills to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically, and critically, to develop independence and confidence in using skills that would be relevant to the media industry and more widely, design, plan, create and review digital media products which are fit for purpose meeting both client and target audience requirements. This course has a simple and intuitive assessment model, consisting of an externally assessed unit that focusses on knowledge and understanding and six skills-based, optional non examined assessment units (NEA).

OCR Cambridge National in Sport Studies

Our Cambridge National in Sport Studies will encourage students to think for themselves about the study of sport and the application to real life practical sport, leadership and evaluation of the skills required there. They will study up to the minute topics affecting sport through the contemporary issues unit, both play and lead sporting activities, as well as having the chance to explore the world of outdoor sport. There are three units of study; Performance & Leadership (internally assessed – 40%), Outdoor Adventurous Activity (internally assessed – 20%) and Contemporary Issues in Sport (externally assessed – 20%).

WJEC Hospitality and Catering

The Hospitality and Catering course is designed to help students grasp knowledge and understanding in various hospitality and catering areas, such as restaurants, hotels, pubs, bars, airlines, tourist attractions, hospitals, and sports venues. Exploring the differences in these sectors, students get a closer look at how they operate. The course also covers crucial topics like nutrition and food safety, shedding light on their impact on the success of hospitality and catering environments. Students studying the course actively learn and hone hands-on food preparation and cooking skills, mastering a variety of dishes while gaining insights into nutrition and ingredients. This course not only provides practical culinary expertise but also imparts a strategic awareness of potential career paths within the hospitality and catering field. Whether it's roles like waiting staff, receptionists, and catering assistants or positions like chefs, hotel managers, and food technologists in food manufacturing, students acquire valuable insights into the diverse opportunities that await them in the industry.

WJEC Performing Arts - Acting

This course is practical with no written exam. Students will tap into their creativity, building self-confidence and gain an understanding of prospects in the industry and how this subject supports careers in the wider world.

Working as a performer requires the application of skills, techniques and practices that enable you to produce and interpret performance work. You will communicate intentions to an audience through a variety of acting styles. There are three units of study; Performing & Creating which are both internally assessed out of 60 marks and Performance in Practice which is out of 80 marks and is externally assessed.

Students choosing performing arts will develop commitment and focus through the enjoyment of inspiring and engaging practical lessons, they will experience live theatre trips, professional workshops, learn about creative careers beyond performing and gain an understanding of events and business. With all these opportunities students will be enriched in the culture of performing arts.

WJEC Performing Arts – Dance

This course is practical with no written exam. Dance gives young people confidence to present themselves, as well as the opportunity to develop problem solving and leadership skills. Students will tap into their creativity, building self-confidence and gain an understanding of future prospects in the industry and how this subject supports careers in the wider world.

A dancer requires the application of physical and interpretative skills, techniques and practices that enable you to produce and interpret performance work. You will communicate intentions to an audience through a variety of dance styles. There are three units of study; Performing & Creating which are both internally assessed out of 60 marks and Performance in Practice which is out of 80 marks and is externally assessed.

Students will experience many workshops with professional dancers and dance companies as well as experiencing live performances at the theatre. They will learn about putting on an event, performing arts business, production and careers.

CAROUSEL SUBJECT SUMMARIES

Below are the summaries for the carousel subjects. As a reminder, all students will be allocated Personal Development for one full term. Students need to rank the other subjects in order of preference when they submit their pathway choices.

Personal Development – Compulsory for all

The health and well-being carousel is a 12-week block of educational lessons to raise awareness of the importance of physical, mental and social well-being. This will include a range of lessons that will focus on topics such as mindfulness, outdoor education, core values, and how to lead a healthy lifestyle. In Year 9, all students will complete both Trinity Challenge and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. These sessions will be used to deliver content for each award but will also offer student's different life experiences which will help develop the whole 'Trinity Student'.

Computing

Students will embark on an exciting journey through a series of interactive and stimulating computing workshops, exploring diverse facets of the digital landscape. Throughout this program, students will actively participate in coding exercises, problem-solving challenges, and hands-on projects that apply various computing styles and methodologies. The overarching goal is for students to collectively contribute to the development of a group project infused with creative algorithms, cutting-edge technologies, and a blend of cultural influences.

Art

Students will be encouraged to get creative by exploring the theme of 'Tiki masks.' This will include research, design and experimentation which will result in making their own 3D tiki mask out of cardboard and then decorated with paint. Art carousel helps our students to understand how the subject can benefit wellbeing and become a lifelong hobby or interest.

Design Technology (DT)

Students will study a 12-week journey within our creative carousel, dedicated to deepening their understanding of product design and enhancing their creative perception of the world. This offers students the opportunity to cultivate hands-on practical skills in the workshop. Throughout the product design curriculum, students will delve into the application of structural elements and creative tasks to create an innovative product solution.

Food

Understanding food, nutrition, and cooking skills is crucial for self-sufficiency. In food technology, students will expand on skills and knowledge from Year 7 and 8, engaging in 12 weeks of baking and cooking, with a focus on skills. This prepares students with the knowledge to sustain a healthy, diverse diet later in life. Exploring ingredient source, seasonality, and characteristics, applying this knowledge to adjust recipes and improve understanding of taste, texture, and seasoning.

Performing Arts

Students will experience a series of fun and engaging practical workshops studying various styles of theatre. The lessons aim to enhance their knowledge from Year 8, develop memory recall, group work, and build upon their reading, speaking, and listening skills. Students will work towards a group performance enriched in creative devices and cultural influences.

Be innovative, be inspired, be expressive, be performing arts!

SUPPORT AVAILABLE

The Pathways section of the academy website

We have established a dedicated section of our academy website containing information and videos to support parents and carers with the Pathways process. Here you will find a video presentation explaining how the Pathways process works and what support is available to students. There is also a frequently asked questions section which we will continue to update. Scan the QR code to find out more.

SCAN ME

Subject promotional videos on Trinity TV

Promotional videos are available via Trinity TV 'On Demand' to support students. These videos are made by subject leaders explaining the course and why students may wish to choose this option. Students can watch short videos for all the Pathways subjects to ensure they are fully informed before making their choices.

Important notice for parents

Please note students will use Microsoft Forms to select their options. This will be available between Thursday 29 February and Tuesday 12 March. We strongly advise that you ensure that you have discussed the options that your child plans to select prior to them submitting their final choices.

Top Tips

We have a wide range of courses that you can choose from. Students and parents will naturally be keen to ensure that they choose the right ones to support future careers. Here we include our top tips for students and parents to make sure that the options students select, support future career, apprenticeships, further education routes and university ambitions.

Top tips for students

Have a think about what your future career might be. Some subjects have strong links. For example, if you want to become a lawyer then A level history is often a requirement, and you would naturally need to consider specialising in history.

Check out all the available Pathways. You may really like a subject now, or be keen to study a particular one, but don't discount other choices! Do have a shortlist, but be open to hearing about how opting for another subject may help you in the future!

Remember you will submit your first, second, third and fourth choices online and it is vital that you have discussed your choices with your parent(s)/carer(s) before you submit.

Allow enough time to make your decision. You will be asked to choose a first, second, third and fourth option. We will try to allocate you your first and second option, but make sure you think about your third and fourth option as you may be given these subjects.

Don't just pick the same subjects as your friends. It's likely you won't be in the same class anyway and you will make new friends in Year 9 onwards.

Top tips for parents

Encourage your child to read this booklet, and discuss with you their shortlist of choices. Whilst enjoying a subject is crucial, it is important that their choice supports their future plans.

We ask that parents reinforce that students must choose a first, second, third and fourth choice so students need to dedicate enough time to making this decision.

Support your child to complete the Microsoft Form to select their choice by the deadline outlined in this booklet, and on the Pathways invitation email.

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