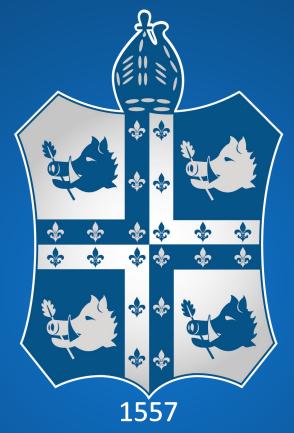


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Welcome to the Year 8 Information Evening

- Katie Forrester Head of Year 8
- Danny Bass Pastoral Lead for Year 8
- Mel Carroll Assistant Headteacher (SLT link to Year 8)
- Matt Gill Deputy Headteacher
- Year 8 Form Tutors



Plan for the evening

Time	Session	Staff
5:45 - 6:00pm	Meet and Greet, Tea and Coffee	
6:00 - 6:15pm	An overview of the Year 8 Curriculum, Teaching, Learning and Assessment at TGS	Mr Matt Gill (Deputy Headteacher)
6:15 - 6:45pm	The Year 8 Experience + parent task	Miss Forrester (Year 8 Leader)
6:45 - 7:10pm	The Teenage Experience	Mrs Carroll (Assistant Headteacher)
7:10pm	Final questions and depart	



An overview of the Year 8 Curriuclum

Year 8	Ma	Ma	Ma	M	a M	a M	ta I	En	En	En	Er	E	n E	n :	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	S	P	P	e F	e	Pe	Fr	Fr	Fr	D	2 D	e D)e	Te	Te	Te	Те	G	g G	g G	ig	Hi	Hi	Hi	Lk	Lk	Со	Co	Re	Re	D	Dr	M	u M	u A	r A	r	
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Statutory Courses

ALL students will study:

- English Language and English Literature (2 GCSEs)
- Mathematics (1 GCSE)
- Science (up to 3 GCSEs)
- Personal Development
- Physical Education (can also be an option)



The Options process starts in January 2024

Option 1

- Computer Science
- French
- German
- Geography
- History



Other option choices

- Art & Design
- Art & Design: Photography
- **Business GCSE or Enterprise BTEC**
- Child Development or Health & Social Care
- **Computer Science**
- Creative Media Production
- Design & Technology: 3D Product Design
- Design & Technology: Graphics
- Drama
- Economics

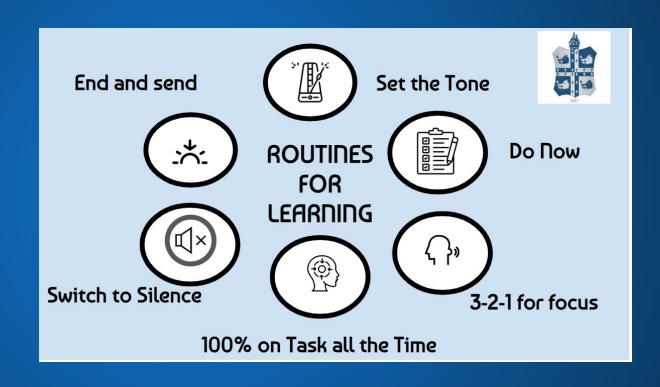
- Electronics
- Food Preparation & Nutrition or Hospitality & Catering
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- Music
- **Physical Education or Sport Studies**
- Religion, Philosophy & Ethics



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Teaching and Learning at TGS: Six routines to support student learning







Classroom routines:

The 3 posters below are up in every classroom...

RESILIENT

Learners:

see mistakes as an

Give everything a go:

opportunity to improve.

Show maximum effort

Respond to feedback

and have a positive

attitude at all times.

in order to improve.

RESPECTFUL

Learners:

presentation of their

work and themselves.

Follow instructions

and are considerate.

polite and tolerant.

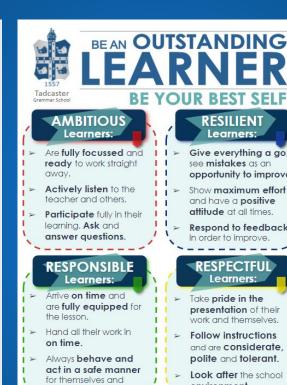
Look after the school

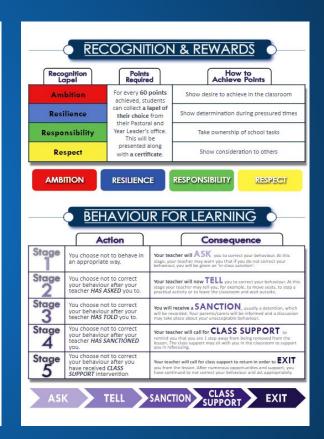
environment.

CHECK YOUR VALUES

Take pride in the









Key Stage 3 Reports

Issued twice per year <

Mid-year - February

End of year - June

Academic Progress

Familiar language from primary school





With a broad guide as to how this links to grades in Key Stage 4 (9-1 grades)

Current Attainment levels awarded in Year 7 and 8	Very broad indicator of GCSE grade equivalence
Working Beyond (WB)	9 - 7 (A*/A in old money!)
Age Expected (AE)	6 - 4 (B/C in old money!)
Working Towards (WT)	3 - 1 (D-G in old money!)
Entry Level (EL)	Entry level or functional skills qualifications in Key Stage 4



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Attitudinal Information

"We firmly believe that having a fantastic attitude to learning is the key to success at TGS, no matter what your academic starting points are."

We report on three key areas, using a 5 point scale for each.

- Behaviour for Learning
- Attitude to Learning
- Homework

The school sets the minimum benchmark at grade 2, with grade 1 awarded to students who go that extra mile.

Grade	Grade Heading
1	Outstanding
2	Good
3	Need for improvement
4	Concerns
5	Serious Concern

≈ 93% of all grades are awarded in these two categories

Any students falling into these categories will be spoken to in school about how to improve.

Please also have these conversations at home.



Homework in Year 8

- Workload with transition
- Planner/Routines
- Chromebook school
- Always optional extra









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Meet the Team

































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Parent task: Place the cards below on the continuum

MOST IMPORTANT





LEAST IMPORTANT

Healthy Balanced Diet	Positive Sleeping Habits/established bedtime and routines.	Achieving well in school.	Using their mobile phone for social media- tik tok, snapchat.
Joining extra-curricular clubs inside of school.	Quality time with family members (eg; eating together, homework together, activities together).	Breaks from screens and time away from their phones.	Engaging with their local community.
Engaging in regular exercise.	Taking on a new challenge (stepping out their comfort zone).	Completing homework/independent learning.	Taking individual responsibility to overcome a challenge.
Establish a work life balance.	Having hobbies outside of school e.g football, CCF, Guides	Meeting up with friends.	Gaming, on their playstation, x-box, computer, phone.



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The Teenage Experience

Mel Carroll
Assistant Headteacher



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Experience of a parent of a teenager...

I am trying to enjoy every parenting moment but my teenager is making it difficult!



Experience of a parent of a teenager...

Going in to a teenager's room is like taking a trip to Ikea...

You pop in just to look and end up leaving with 6 cups, 2 plates, 3 bowls, a tea towel and some cutlery...



Dr Mike Riera

'I think teenagers are frequently misunderstood by even the most caring adults...



Teenagers are complex, but they are not impossible to understand.

My goal is to help translate what teenagers mean (but can't say) by their behaviours and attitudes.

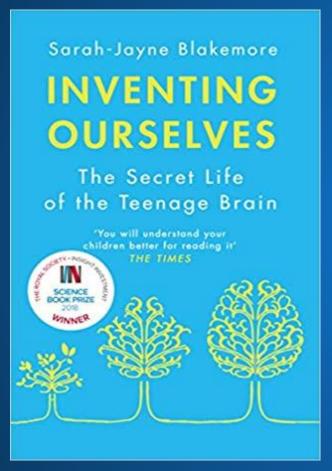
As adults, the more we understand the meanings behind their behaviours, the more flexible we can be in our responses. This in turn means better relationships with our teenagers and healthier teenagers overall.

Finally, parenting a teenager means thinking and acting more in terms of influence than control — easy to say, tough to do.'

http://www.mikeriera.com/



Understanding the teenage brain



- The most rapid brain growth is between 0 and 3 years and then again between 10 and 13 years of age.
- Puberty is like a second growth spurt for the brain cells, new cells grow so teens use their emotional brains much more.
- Teenagers feel positive and negative feelings at an even more heightened intensity (just as toddlers do).
- During the brain development there is a growth of cells first and the connections occur later. This can often result in it taking teens a lot longer to process information that we do as adults.



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During Adolescence

Changes in emotional functioning in teens include:



- Physical growth, sleeping patterns and fatigue
- Hormonal fluctuations/puberty
- Challenges with social and intimate relationships
- Development of self-identity
- Rejecting parental help with decision making
- Increased risk taking behaviour
- It is also important to remember it is a myth that all teens have difficulties



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Emotional Changes

You may also notice the following?

Teenagers can experience:

- Changes in emotional expression
- Rapid onset of emotions
- More emotional
- Increased embarrassment
- Increased emotional awareness
- Fewer strategies to regulate their emotions
- Can be vulnerable to emotional flooding





Activity

You are at the airport ready to jet off for your long anticipated half-term break.

You move forward from the queue to the check in desk.

You are asked to present your passport... you realise it is not there!

- 1) Describe your immediate reaction?
- 2) What do you do?

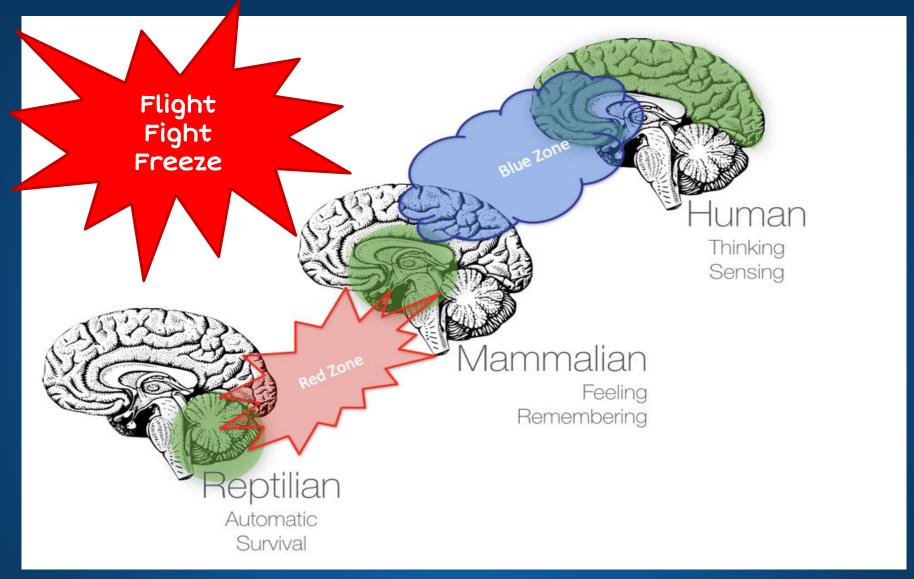


Recognising the stress reaction

3 levels of regulation:

- Physiological
- ☐ Relational
- Cognitive
- Where were you in our example?
- What is the importance of having a developed stress management system?
- Young people (and adults!) struggle when they have under-developed stress management system
- Our early experiences help us to regulate/ develop our stress management system



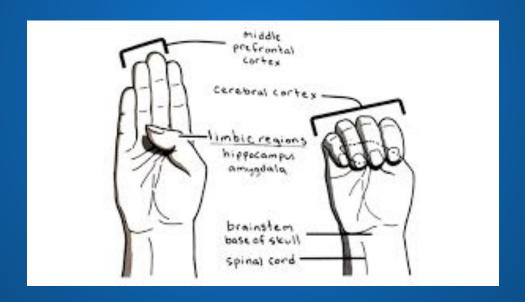




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Hand Model of the Brain

In Dan Siegel's metaphor, the closed fist represents the regulated brain – when we make our most effective decisions - with the amygdala, prefrontal cortex and brain stem connected. When we are aroused e.g. angry – we 'Flip Our Lids', the fingers raise and our prefrontal cortex and amygdala disconnect.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gm9CIJ74Oxw



What is Emotion Coaching?

'helping children and young people to understand the different emotions they experience, why they occur and how to handle them' (Gottman, 2007)

Research suggests this is key to happy, resilient and well-adjusted young people

HOW?

By training practitioners and parents in Emotion Coaching so they can support children's capacity for pro-social behaviour and emotional regulation.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7KJa32r07xk





Five steps to Emotion Coaching

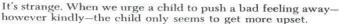
- 1. Tuning in: Notice or become aware of emotions
- 2. Connect and recognize the opportunity to 'teach' about emotions
- 3. Accept and listen: show understanding and empathy
- 4. Reflect: what you hear and see, name the emotions
- 5. End with problem solving (and set limits if necessary)



Naming and Taming

INSTEAD OF DENYING THE FEELING.









Parents don't usually give this kind of response, because they fear that by giving a name to the feeling, they'll make it worse. Just the opposite is true. The child who hears the words for what he is experiencing is deeply comforted. Someone has acknowledged his inner experience.



Faber & Mazlish (2013)

Key phrases from Dr Dan Siegel:



Naming and Taming – don't deny the feeling



Connect before correct



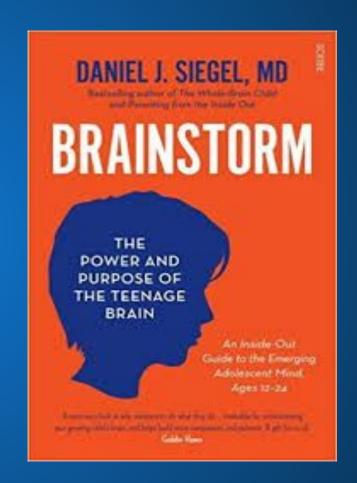
Engage don't enrage



Rapport before reason



To understand you have to be understood





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Students followed the MiSP .b Course in Year 7.

This is a mindfulness-based course that includes learning self-regulation, strategies for health and well-being, how the brain works, stress and strategies for reducing anxiety, being in the present moment, concentration and focus.

Lesson programme

- 1) Paying attention
- 2) Taming the Animal Mind
- 3) Recognising worry
- 4) Being Here Now
- 5) Moving mindfully
- 6) Stepping Back
- 7) Befriending the Difficulty
- 8) Taking in the Good



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Student Support

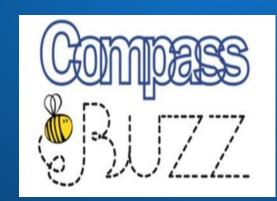
In addition to our Five Ways to Wellbeing curriculum and Life Skills curriculum, support from tutors and our pastoral team, students can be referred to other support services if they are struggling.















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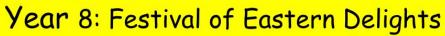
MATHEMATICA

The Science of





















Geography Trip to the Coast





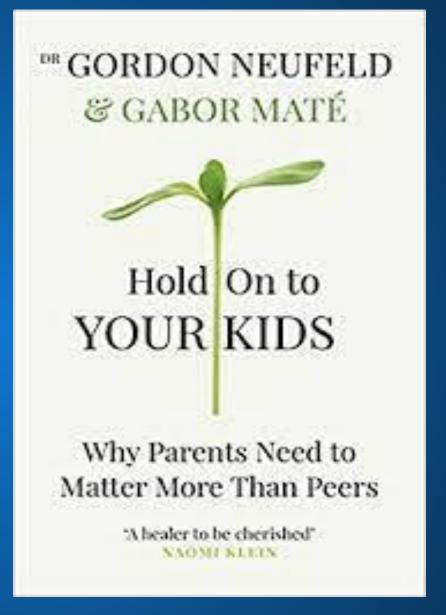
Enrichment Week (w/b 15.07.24)



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 Parents/ carers need to be vigilant and stay connected with their young person – even when they push us away

Relationships and communication are key

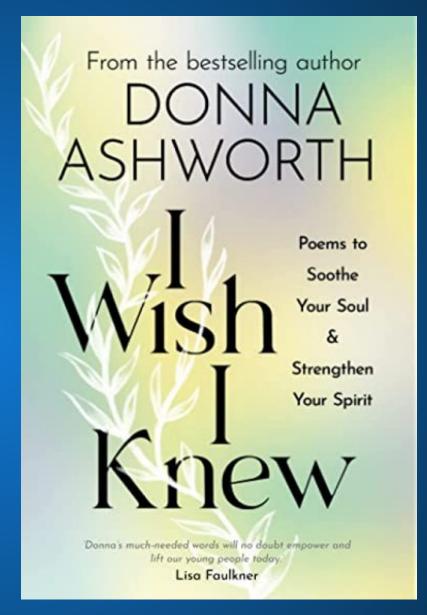




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'The Teenage Cloud'

by Donna Ashworth

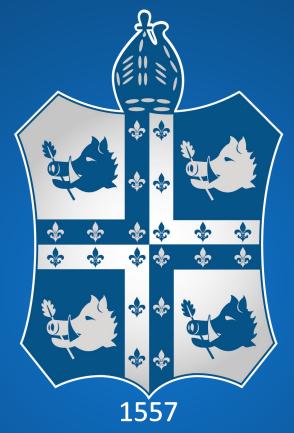




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Thank you for joining us





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