

Spring term - Curriculum Overview

Year 9

CORE

English	<p>Pupils will begin with a unit entitled Tragedy -Love and Relationships. This unit will include the following key concepts and texts: <i>Origins and features of tragedy</i> <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> <i>Producing effective essays</i></p>	<p>In the second half of the spring term, pupils will continue the theme of love and relationships but the unit will involve an introduction to poetry. Key knowledge and themes include: <i>Developing poetic terminology</i> <i>Love and relationships poetry cluster</i></p>
---------	--	---

Mathematics	<p>Transformations and geometry, focusing on <i>Transformations</i> <i>Constructions</i> <i>loci</i> <i>Geometry with right angled triangles</i></p>	<p>The second half term will focus on the lead up to starting the GCSE course in the summer term with end of KS3 assessments and revision of key skills</p>
-------------	---	---

Science	<p><i>In Year 9 pupils work through the different areas of Science - biology, physics, and chemistry - on rotation to help us share specialist equipment. However they follow the same sequence for each aspect of Science and their second units in each area of science this year will focus on the following:</i></p>	
Biology	<p>Genetics and Biodiversity. This unit will focus on: <i>Inherited Characteristics, Genes and DNA, Variation, Classification, Natural selection, Biodiversity and extinction</i></p>	
Chemistry	<p>Types of Chemical reactions. This will introduce key knowledge areas that include: <i>Combustion, Thermal decomposition, Oxidation of metals, Displacement reactions, Conservation of mass, Changing state, Exothermic and Endothermic reactions, Catalysts.</i></p>	
Physics	<p>Earth Space and Forces. In this module, the following key topics will be explored: <i>Pressure, Moments, Simple machines, Gravity and Weight, Solar system, Seasons and orbits, Speed of light and Asteroids</i></p>	

History	<p>The Year 9 spring term addresses the following key questions in History: <i>Why did people at the time think the Treaty of Versailles was unfair?</i> <i>How similar were Hitler and Stalin?</i> <i>Why did the world go to war in 1939?</i></p>	
---------	--	--

Geography	<p>Pupils began the spring term with a unit entitled: Russia -What are the opportunities and challenges facing Russia? They will explore <i>location, biomes, skills, human issues and physical issues</i></p>	<p>Pupils finish the spring term with unit Middle East - Why is the Middle East an important region? In this unit in which they will explore <i>location, biomes, skills, human issues and physical issues</i></p>
-----------	---	---

WORLD

Spanish	<p>Film is our topic for the spring term. Pupils will learn vocabulary and explore language needed to speak, write, listen, and read about: <i>Characters</i> <i>Themes</i> <i>Descriptions</i> <i>Relationships</i> <i>Film Reviews</i></p>	<p>Grammatical and linguistic focus. In exploring this topic, pupils will learn the following key knowledge: <i>Adjectival agreements</i> <i>Comparatives and superlatives</i> <i>Reflex verbs</i> <i>Introduce conditional tense</i> <i>Revise preterite tense</i></p>
---------	--	---

French	<p>Film is our topic for the spring term. Pupils will learn vocabulary and explore language needed to speak, write, listen, and read about: <i>Characters</i> <i>Themes</i> <i>Descriptions</i> <i>Relationships</i> <i>Film Reviews</i></p>	<p>Grammatical and linguistic focus. In exploring this topic, pupils will learn the following key knowledge: <i>Adjectival agreements</i> <i>Comparatives and superlatives</i> <i>Reflex verbs</i> <i>Introduce conditional tense</i> <i>Revise preterite tense</i></p>
--------	--	---

Religious Studies	<p>Fairness for all is our topic for the spring term. We will use this unit to explore the following topic areas: <i>What price a life?</i> <i>Holocaust survivors</i> <i>Prejudice and discrimination</i> <i>Resistance</i> <i>Christian perspectives</i> <i>Suffering and Evil</i></p>	
-------------------	---	--

ANNUAL

Design Technology	<p>Design Technology enrichment - robotics</p>	<p><i>This topic will run through the academic year as pupils experience their enrichment lessons as part of our subject rotations on Tuesday mornings.</i></p>
-------------------	---	---

TECH	Computer Science	Computer Science enrichment - de-coding HTML and building websites.	<i>This topic will run through the academic year as pupils experience their enrichment lessons as part of our subject rotations on Tuesday mornings.</i>
	Art	Art enrichment - Japanese Art and Design.	<i>This topic will run through the academic year as pupils experience their enrichment lessons as part of our subject rotations on Tuesday mornings.</i>
PERFORMANCE	Physical Education	Core PE sports on rotation include: <i>netball, badminton, football, table tennis, fitness, rugby, dodgeball, golf, athletics, rounders, softball and cricket.</i>	
	Music	Music Enrichment - 'Musical Futures': performing in a band.	<i>This topic will run through the academic year as pupils experience their enrichment lessons as part of our subject rotations on Tuesday mornings.</i>

In Year 9 pupils will also begin the study of their two subject choices from the performance and technical disciplines. This provides a transition to the demands of Upper School study as well as providing a broad and balanced curriculum as they move into Year 10 and 11.

TECHNICAL	Product Design	<p>Product Design: the cube calendar. The knowledge and key skills pupils will focus on throughout the design process include: <i>designing the cube, considering sustainable sources, wood joints, use of tools, equipment and machinery, use of CAD and CAM surface decoration.</i></p> <p><i>Students will also design and manufacture an electronic Mp3 Mono Amplifier. As well as building on the electronic knowledge gained from Year 7, students will develop theoretical and practical skills in soldering a complex PCB. The casing of the Mp3 Amplifier will be designed based on a range of specific designers, including Rei Kawakubo from Japanese fashion, Aljood Lootah, geometric furniture, or Art movements, including the Bauhaus. The history of the Bauhaus and the style of the designers will be a focus to develop the aesthetic quality of their own practical outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>Also, students will be given the opportunity to complete a design task considering, 'Inclusive Design' and 'User Centred Design'. This will analyse a range of real-world problems, considering a range of clients. Students will get the opportunity to develop a product designed for inclusivity</i></p>	
	Business Studies GCSE	Business Operations. Key knowledge to include: <i>production processes, the role of procurement, the concept of quality, and customer service.</i>	
	Business Studies - Applied	<p>Market research project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Market research and customer needs</i> <i>Using types of primary research</i> <i>Using types of secondary research</i> <i>Identifying competitors</i> <i>Understanding competitors price and quality</i> <i>Understanding competitors unique features</i> 	
	Food Technology	<p>Food Science - Key knowledge and skills this term relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Cooking of food and heat transfer</i> <i>Selecting appropriate cooking methods</i> <i>Functional and chemical properties of proteins</i> <i>Functional and chemical properties of carbohydrates</i> <i>Functional and chemical properties of fats and oils</i> <i>Functional and chemical properties of raising agents</i> 	
	Computer Science	Algorithms. Key content to include: <i>computational thinking, producing algorithms, story game, chat application, types of error, lists</i>	
	ICT	<p>Human computer Interface</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Purpose, importance and use of HCI in application areas</i> <i>• Hardware considerations</i> <i>• Software considerations</i> <i>• User interaction methods</i> <i>• HCI design conventions and principles</i> 	<p>Creating spreadsheet solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Data handling and manipulation</i> <i>• Generating outputs</i> <i>• User interface</i>

PERFORMANCE

<p>Art</p>	<p>The spring term begins with a short project to develop confidence and understanding of the structure of an art project. This includes researching artists, analysing work, completing work in the style of artists and the planning and creation of a Pop Art piece.</p> <p>In the second half of the Spring term pupils will start the Landscape project (Dodge and Mullan) This includes researching artists, analysing work, completing work in the style of artists with the planning and creation of the final piece to follow in the summer term.</p>
<p>Drama</p>	<p>Our first half term focuses on one of the key studies texts, Blood Brothers. This unit will look at <i>character Costume, Context and the Rehearsal process</i>.</p> <p>The second half term will focus on Live theatre, including reviews, the process from page to stage and development of performances.</p>
<p>Media Studies</p>	<p>Pupils continue this term looking at different media forms. These include <i>television drama, print media, online and social media, music video and print news</i>.</p>
<p>Physical Education</p>	<p>This term pupils will study toward key exam topic areas such as: <i>Cardiovascular system, drugs in sport, ethics in sport, muscles, antagonistic muscle pairs, commercialisation in sport and player violence</i></p>
<p>Sports Studies - Applied</p>	<p>This term focuses on the following topic areas of the Applied qualification: <i>R187 Topic Area 1: The Provision for Different Types of Outdoor and Adventurous Activities - Theory/Research; R185 Topic 1 - Key Components of Performance - ATHLETICS; R185 Topic Area 2: Apply Practice Methods to Support Improvement; yR187 Topic Area 2: Understand the Equipment, Clothing and Safety Aspects involved with Outdoor and Adventurous Activities; Topic Area 3: Plan and Demonstrate Knowledge and Skills during an Outdoor and Adventurous Activity.</i></p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>The spring term will look at the following key topic areas: Reggae music Theory and listening, harmony and tonality II Periods of classical music Composing with Chords Set work 'Brandenburg Concerto No.5' Composing a 12 bar blues</p>