



Year 8 Curriculum Overview

Half Term 1	
Date	Curriculum Overview
	Topic: Keeping healthy Electricity and magnetism
WC 02/09	Welcome back and consolidation of some year 7 topics incorporating work with Bunsen burners.
WC 09/09	What is the skeleton? How do muscles help us move? What is respiration?
WC 16/09	Do we always need oxygen to respire? How does the body respond to exercise?
WC 23/09	What are microorganisms? How is the body adapted to keep them out? What happens if germs get in?
WC 30/09	Is static electricity always bad? What are electrical components? How can we build an electrical circuit?
WC 07/10	What are potential difference and current? How do series and parallel circuits differ?
WC 14/10	How does the resistance of a wire change with length? Formative assessment of skills linked to practical work.
Half Term 2	
Date	Curriculum Overview
	Topic: Electricity and magnetism Chemical reactions
WC 04/11	How do magnets behave? Are all magnets permanent?
WC 11/11	Consolidation, assessment, feedback (DIRT) and pupil voice.
WC 18/11	What is the difference between an element and a compound? Are all reactions permanent?
WC 25/11	What happens during chemical reactions? How do we represent reactions?
WC 02/12	How can we make reactions quicker?
WC 09/12	How can we make reactions quicker?
WC 16/12	What is photosynthesis? Formative assessment of skills linked to practical work.
Half Term 3	
Date	Curriculum Overview
	Topic: Forces
WC 06/01	What are forces? How do we measure force?
WC 13/01	Friction – friend or foe? How can you reduce the effort needed to move a load?
WC 20/01	How fast can you go? Can a design improve performance?
WC 27/01	What happens when we apply a force to a spring? Formative assessment of skills linked to practical work.
WC 03/02	How do weight and mass differ? What is space?
WC 10/02	Are we alone?
WC 17/02	Consolidation, assessment, feedback (DIRT) and pupil voice.
Half Term 4	
Date	Curriculum Overview
	Topic: Earth and atmosphere Ecology, inheritance and variation
WC 24/02	What makes Earth unique? How does our atmosphere support life? Why did fossil fuels form?
WC 02/03	Why is the carbon cycle important? What are the greenhouse gases?
WC 09/03	Are we damaging the Earth? What is acid rain?
WC 16/03	How is the climate changing? Should we be worried? Formative assessment of skills linked to literacy work.
WC 23/03	How do we classify objects? Can we identify organisms using a key?
WC 30/03	What are food chains? Does a problem with one food source have a major impact on others in the chain?
Half Term 5	
Date	Curriculum Overview
	Topic: Ecology, inheritance and variation
WC 20/04	How do species show variation? Where does the variation come from?
WC 27/04	Can an adaptation help an organism to survive? What causes new species to form?
WC 05/05	How can we improve livestock? Should we manipulate genetics?
WC 11/05	Are zoos important? Can life survive in extreme conditions?
WC 18/05	Revision for end of year summative assessment
Half Term 6	
Date	Curriculum Overview
	Topic: Waves (light and sound)
WC 01/06	Consolidation, assessment, feedback (DIRT) and pupil voice.
WC 08/06	What are waves? How do we produce sound?
WC 15/06	How does sound travel?
WC 22/06	Can we measure waves? Formative assessment of skills linked to practical work.
WC 29/06	How can we use waves? What is light?
WC 06/07	How does light travel? What happens when light meets a boundary?
WC 13/07	What is the eye? Why can we see colour?

- ✓ Each lesson will start with a series of questions linked to both the previous lesson and topics studied previously.
- ✓ Formative assessment of skills linked to practical work will enable students to demonstrate their acquisition of new skills.
- ✓ Students are encouraged to consolidate learning at least once a week and seek tutor help if unsure on any topics.