

2026-27 Year 10 Curriculum overview

Subject	Autumn Term	
Art	<u>Component 1-Portfolio 60% of the overall GCSE qualification</u> Pupils will begin creating a portfolio of work that meets the criteria, they will focus predominantly on producing observational studies from both secondary and primary sources, imaginatively exploring the given theme whilst trialling various materials, techniques/processes [AO2].	<u>Component 1-Portfolio Metamorphosis Project.</u> Pupils will continue with their coursework with a focus predominantly on producing observational studies from both secondary and primary sources, imaginatively exploring the given theme whilst trialling various materials, techniques/processes [AO2].
Computing	1.1 System Architecture This is a short introductory unit; it begins by looking at the various components of the CPU used in the Von Neumann architecture. Subsequent lessons build on the fundamentals covered at KS3 on understanding computers concentrating on RAM, ROM, cache and the need for virtual memory. 2.3 Producing Robust Programs Within this unit students practice writing and coding algorithms, which incorporate defensive design. Different types of error, and how to detect them in a program code, is described, along with testing and creating a test plan.	
Creative I Media	Unit R093 – Creative iMedia in the media industry.	
Drama	<u>Exploration of Blood Brothers- Component 1</u> Students will read the play and start to research the setting, costume, makeup, hairstyles, scenery and lighting for the play and present their findings to the class. They will also perform extracts from the play to put themselves in the position of the character to gain a deeper understanding to support responses to component 1 questions. Students will start to develop responses for the 4,8,12 and 20 mark questions starting with the 20 mark question.	<u>Working as a professional</u> Students will learn about schedules, rehearsals and minutes of meetings and the importance of deadlines to prepare for component 2- Devising their own performance. Students will learn about different specialisms and make choices about their own and develop their chosen specialism through a scripted performance. They will deepen their understanding of character and understand the aims and intentions of their character and how to show this in performance They will explore different genres of performance.

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English	An Inspector Calls – Literature Students will explore Priestley’s post-war morality play through character, theme and context. This unit builds essay-writing confidence through structured analytical practice, allowing students to interrogate ideas about class, responsibility and power while mastering the skills needed to respond to a full GCSE exam question.	A Christmas Carol – Literature Students will study Dickens’ novella through the lenses of theme, character and Victorian context. Alongside reading, they will refine their analytical writing and deepen their understanding of social inequality, morality and transformation in preparation for a full GCSE literature response.
Geography	Paper 2, Section B Economic World Paper 1, Section A Weather Hazard and Climate Change Paper 2, Section A Is Liverpool a thriving city? Paper 1, Section C How do Coasts Shape Our Landscape? In the first half term, students begin their GCSE Geography journey by exploring key themes in physical and human geography. They investigate global inequalities in the <i>Economic World</i> unit, examining why wealth and development vary around the globe. Students also study <i>Weather and Climate Change</i>, focusing on the causes and impacts of climate change. Practical case studies include coastal landscapes and their formation, helping students understand how natural processes shape the environment. The <i>Urban</i> unit on Liverpool will begin after the half term, building on their understanding of cities and human geography.	

History	Medicine in Britain c1000-present and British sector of the Western Front, 1914-18: injuries, treatment and the trenches		
Maths	Students begin Year 10 on either the Foundation or Higher Tier pathway , building on prior learning and developing the fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills required for GCSE Mathematics. Students study geometry and measures, accuracy, number, algebra and percentages . Foundation students cover perimeter, area and circles; rounding, estimation and accuracy; factors, powers and roots; Pythagoras; algebraic manipulation; and percentages . Higher students develop these areas further through arcs and sectors; accuracy and bounds; indices and surds; Pythagoras and trigonometry; quadratics; and percentages . Throughout the term, students are encouraged to make connections between different areas of mathematics, select appropriate methods and communicate their reasoning clearly.		
Music	Forms & Devices (Area of Study 1) Students begin the GCSE Music course by developing their understanding of musical language, notation, and structure. They explore binary, ternary, and rondo form, melodic construction, and key musical devices such as repetition, sequence, and ostinato. Through listening, composition, and performance activities, students build the musical knowledge and analytical skills required for success throughout the GCSE course. Popular Music (Area of Study 4) Students investigate a range of popular music styles, exploring chord progressions, riffs, improvisation, and song structure. They study the Eduqas set work <i>Africa</i> and develop an understanding of how harmony, melody and rhythm combine to create memorable popular music. Performing and composition tasks allow students to apply these stylistic features in practical contexts.		
RE	Christianity Beliefs We start the year off by learning about Christianity and the different beliefs that different denominations hold.	Islam Beliefs We continue our learning into beliefs and discover the views that both	

	We also look at Historical beliefs and how the Christian Church has changed since the Great Schism.	different Shia and Sunni views. We dive into the use of the Qur'an and look at specific beliefs that are pillars within the Islam faith.	
Science	<i>Biology -</i> <i>Infection & Response:</i> Pathogens and body defences. The immune system and principles of immunisations. How drugs are use to treat disease. Plant diseasaes. <i>Plant Organisation:</i> The structure of plant, photosynthesis and transport within a plant .	<i>Chemistry -</i> <i>Quantitative Chemistry -</i> Conservation of mass and chemistry calculations.	<i>Physics -</i> <i>Electricity in the home:</i> domestic electricity, energy transfer in electrical appliances, generating power, the national grid
Spanish	Module 1 - Diviértete – To start the year, students will use knowledge gained in KS3 to learn more about the Spanish-speaking World. They will recap using the present and past tenses and will learn a variety of new vocabulary that they can then manipulate to discuss sports, hobbies and activities as well as being able to talk about using technology and social media and its' risks. This term we will recap and consolidate our knowledge of past, present and near-future tenses as well as key vocabulary.		
Technology DT	Theory New and emerging technologies Energy generation & storage Electrical systems Mechanical devices Design & Make activity- Perspective drawing- one point, two-point, isometric, orthographic drawing techniques, SLR camera model to develop modelling techniques, Cams and mechanisms applied through children's toy project.		

Food and Nutrition	Principles of nutrition ● Micro & macronutrients ● Dietary values of water & fibre Diet & good health ● Diet, nutrition & health ● Making informed choices ● Food choices <i>Food commodities</i> ● <i>bread, cereals, flour, oats, rice, potatoes, pasta</i> ● <i>fruit and vegetables (fresh, frozen, dried, canned and juiced)</i> ● <i>milk, cheese and yoghurt</i> ● <i>meat, fish, poultry, eggs</i> ● <i>soya, tofu, beans, nuts, seeds</i> <i>butter, oils, margarine, sugar and syrup</i>	
PSHE	Mental and Physical Health Reframing Negative Thinking Mental Health: Stigma and Change Donation	Financial Rights Employment and Budgeting Money Management and Gambling Employment and Consumer Rights Targeted Advertising
GCSE PE	Theory Paper 1: Physical Factors Affecting performance - Components of fitness- BFCSCRAMPS - Fitness Testing - Principles of training - SPOR/FITT - Methods of training- FCCWHIP - AEP Coursework- Evaluation and Analysis sections - Warm ups & cool downs - Preventing injury	

	- Practical - Practical application of fitness tests - Netball/ Football - Handball/ Table Tennis
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	Spring Term	
Art	<u>Component 1-Portfolio Architecture Project</u> Pupils will be introduced to various themes and suggested artists whilst now choosing their own materials and techniques and recording their explorations through constructing cohesive contextual study pages within their sketchbooks.	<u>Component 1-Portfolio Architecture Project</u> Pupils will continue being introduced to various theme-based artists [AO1], materials and techniques [AO2] whilst learning to record [AO3] their explorations through constructing cohesive contextual study pages within their sketchbooks

Computing	2.5 Programming Languages and Integrated Development Environments • Know the differences between high- and low-level programming languages • Know the need for translators • Know the differences, benefits and drawbacks of using a compiler or an interpreter • Know the tools that an IDE provides and how each of the tools and facilities listed can be used to help a programmer develop a program • Know how to use a range of these tools within at least one IDE	
	1.3 Memory and Storage This unit begins by looking at primary and secondary storage. The unit explores the different types of memory and what characteristics they possess.	
Creative I Media	R094 – Mandatory Controlled Assessment Skills;	
Drama	<u>Component 1 Live theatre.</u> Students will watch a piece of recorded live theatre and learn how to evaluate the performance of actors. Students will focus on emotions, relationships between characters, and contrast and compare how the same actor performs in different scenes or with different actors.	Component 2 Students will complete a mock component 2 They will be given stimuli to work from and will contribute to the devising of a performance from their chosen specialism area. There will be a clear focus on the aims and intention of the students contribution to performance.

English	English Language – Full Course (Paper 1 & Paper 2) Students will study both English Language papers through a structured programme of reading and writing skills. They will explore a range of fiction and non-fiction extracts while practising descriptive, narrative and transactional writing. Across the units, students refine their ability to analyse writers’ methods, compare texts and produce effective written responses for exam conditions.	English Language – Full Course (Paper 1 & Paper 2) Students will study both English Language papers through a structured programme of reading and writing skills. They will explore a range of fiction and non-fiction extracts while practising descriptive, narrative and transactional writing. Across the units, students refine their ability to analyse writers’ methods, compare texts and produce effective written responses for exam conditions.
Geography	Paper 1, Section A Can we Protect Ourselves from Natural Hazards? Paper2,Section B Nigeria Paper1,Section B Living World Students continue their study of physical and human geography with an emphasis on understanding natural hazards and the living world. In <i>Paper 1, Section A: Natural Hazards</i>, they explore the causes and impacts of hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and storms, and investigate how communities prepare for and respond to these events. In <i>Paper 2, Section B: Nigeria</i>, students study this rapidly developing country as a case study for economic development, urbanisation, and the challenges and opportunities faced by emerging nations. The <i>Living World</i> unit covers ecosystems and biodiversity, focusing on the structure and function of natural environments and the threats they face.	
History	British sector of the Western Front, 1914-18: injuries, treatment and the trenches Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39	

Maths	Students build on their number and algebra skills through the study of sequences, graphs, data, ratio and proportion, and volume and surface area. They explore relationships between numerical, algebraic and graphical representations, while developing their ability to interpret and represent data accurately. Foundation students consolidate and apply key proportional reasoning skills, while Higher students extend these concepts through more complex algebraic and proportional reasoning. Students increasingly combine knowledge from different areas of the curriculum to solve multi-step problems in familiar and unfamiliar contexts	
Music	Music for Ensemble (Area of Study 2) Students explore how musicians perform and collaborate within a variety of ensemble contexts, including chamber music, jazz, and musical theatre. They develop listening and performance skills whilst studying texture, sonority, harmony, and tonality. Practical ensemble work helps students refine communication, timing, and musical awareness. Film Music (Area of Study 3) Students explore how composers use music to support narrative, character, and atmosphere in film. Through studying leitmotifs, thematic transformation and musical storytelling, students learn how composers influence audience response. Composition activities focus on creating original music for moving images using both traditional techniques and music technology.	
RE	Philosophy and Ethics: Relationships This is the first out of the Philosophy and Ethics topics that year 10 study. Students will study the different Islamic and	

	Christian views on relationships. This study will include religious views on same sex marriage, divorce, cohabitation, contraception and marriage.		
Science	<i>Biology -</i> <i>Human Organisation Part 2:</i> The vital biological processes of circulation, breathing, respiration and metabolism	<i>Chemistry -</i> <i>Chemical changes:</i> The reactivity of metals and common reactions with acids. Electrolysis and the reaction profiles of exothermic and endothermic reactions.	<i>Physics -</i> <i>Energy Applications:</i> Learning how to apply mathematical skills to equations and rearranging equations involving energy.
		<i>Chemical changes & Energy changes:</i> Reactivity of metals and the reactions of acids. Electrolysis and the reaction profiles of exothermic and endothermic reactions	<i>Nuclear Radiation:</i> atomic models, contamination and irradiation.
Spanish	Module 2 - Viajes – In this module we will learn all about the Spanish region of Andalucía and will use previously taught language along with new vocabulary linked to weather and tourism to be able to talk about the region as a tourist destination. We will also learn how to express our preferences for travel and will learn how to use the conditional tense to be able to talk about where we would like to travel to in the future. Module 3 - Mi gente, mi mundo - In this module we will learn about different types of families and will recap using possessive adjectives to describe people close to us. We will learn how to use the present continuous tense to be able to describe what people are doing in real time.		

Technology DT	Theory- • Materials including timbers, polymers, metals, smart and composite materials. • Specialist technical principles including forces and stresses, improving functionality. • The 6r's and scales of production. Practical- multifunctional desk tidy including skills such as wood joints, hinges, vacuum forming, 2d design, strip heater and pewter casting.
DT Food	<i>Where food comes from</i> • <i>Food provenance</i> ○ <i>food origins to include where and how foods are grown, reared, or caught</i> ○ <i>food miles, impact on the carbon footprint, buying foods locally</i> ○ <i>impact of packaging on the environment versus the value of packaging</i> ○ <i>sustainability of food: the impact of food waste on the environment, local, global markets and communities, effect of food poverty</i> ○ <i>food security: access to safe sufficient food for all (World Health)</i> • <i>Food manufacturing</i>
GCSE PE	Theory Paper 1: Physical Factors Affecting performance Skeletal & muscular systems Movement analysis Cardiorespiratory system Effects of exercise Practical - Handball, Basketball and Table tennis

PSHE	Healthy Relationships Sexual Intimacy in Relationships Sexual Harassment and Assault Sex Challenges	Exploring Influences Drugs and Gangs The Media Positive Role Models and Supporting Others
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	Summer Term	
Art	<u>Component 1- Portfolio Architecture Project</u> Pupils will learn to develop their ideas, producing self-directed/ explorative photoshoots enabling them to derive their own personalised responses to the given theme [AO4]. This will lead towards and inform their end of year Art exam piece.	<u>Component 1- Portfolio Architecture Project</u> Pupils will continue learning to develop their ideas, producing self-directed/ explorative photoshoots enabling them to derive their own personalised responses to the given theme [AO4]. This will lead towards and inform their end of year Art Summer exam piece.
Computing	2.1 Algorithms The first lesson introduces the concepts of computational thinking; abstraction, decomposition and algorithmic thinking. Lessons on searching and sorting algorithms are followed by those focusing on developing algorithms using flow diagrams and pseudocode. 2.2 Programming Fundamentals The first two lessons focus on data types and arithmetic operations.	
Creative I Media	R097 – NEA Controlled assessment set by exam board. Worth 35% of final grade.	

Drama	Component 3- Script Students will contribute to the performance of a full script either as an actor or a designer. They will work professionally with their peers and staff involved. Students will attend rehearsals and complete a technical and dress rehearsal. Students will watch and evaluate their contribution to performance and that of their peers. To support the development of the 32 mark question.	Component 3- Script continued alongside the delivery of Component 2 (2:1 split across the week) Students will start work on component 2 of their final GCSE Students will learn their performance groups and the stimulus to devise from. Students must undertake research and start to plan their performance. Students will complete section 1 of the devising log.
English	English Language – Full Course (Paper 1 & Paper 2) Students will study both English Language papers through a structured programme of reading and writing skills. They will explore a range of fiction and non-fiction extracts while practising descriptive, narrative and transactional writing. Across the units, students refine their ability to analyse writers' methods, compare texts and produce effective written responses for exam conditions.	Poetry Anthology (First Half) Students will study the first half of the Eduqas anthology, learning how to analyse language, structure and voice across a range of poems. Through comparison, contextual links and thematic discussion, students will begin building the knowledge and exam skills needed to approach anthology questions with confidence. Spoken Language Students will explore the features of effective speech writing and delivery while shaping their own formal presentation. Drawing on real-world issues and examples, they will practise rhetorical devices, voice and structure in preparation for the GCSE Spoken Language assessment.
Geography	Fieldwork at GCSE.	
	Students will go on their field trips to Liverpool and complete a coastal study here. They will spend the summer term, collecting data, coming back to school, presenting their data, describing and explaining their choices, completing an analysis and conclusion.	

History	Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39 Spain and the 'New World', c1490–c1555		
Maths	Students further develop their algebraic reasoning, statistical understanding and geometric knowledge through the study of equations and inequalities, probability, statistics and geometry. Foundation students further develop their understanding of angles, while Higher students extend their algebraic and geometric reasoning through simultaneous equations and circle theorems. Students analyse data, reason with probability and apply algebraic techniques to increasingly complex problems. Learning from across Year 10 is revisited and connected, preparing students to build on these foundations in Year 11.		
Music	Refining and Creating Students consolidate learning from all four Areas of Study whilst developing performance, composition, and listening skills. Time is spent refining coursework, preparing assessments and strengthening the analytical and practical skills needed for Year 11 and final GCSE submission.		
RE	Christianity: Practices During the final topic, we revisit Christian beliefs and then the students discover what Christians will do due to these beliefs. This includes studying the 7 sacraments of faith for Catholic Christians including Baptism, Eucharist, pilgrimage and celebrations.		
Science	Biology -	Chemistry -	Physics -

	<i>Homeostasis & Response:</i> The structure of the nervous system and how we respond to stimuli. The organs involved in the endocrine system and its role in the balance of the body's internal environment.	<i>The Rate and Extent of Chemical changes :</i> Factors that affect rate of reaction such as concentration, temperature, surface area and the effect of catalysts	<i>Forces:</i> resultant force, weight vs mass and gravity.
Spanish	Module 4 - Mi estilo de vida – In this module we focus on describing our lifestyles and preferences and learn how to discuss and appreciate cultural diversity. We take an in-depth look into different customs and lives across the Spanish-speaking world. This then leads on to being able to talk about healthy vs unhealthy lifestyles and about our routines, and students will then learn how to express feeling unwell and how to seek medical help and advice in a Spanish-speaking country. We will also take a detailed look at how the Spanish speaking exam works and will have a first mini-mock so students can see how this process works in real life.		
Technology DT	Theory- Manufacturing processes and development of the design cycle through a practice NEA Revision of core content. Year 10 examination Design & Make activity Completion of practice NEA process focused storage unit.		

	Begin real NEA (June 1 st) Cover Research and Brief / Specification (sections 1+2).	
DT Food	The science of food part 1	
	The science of food part 2 Students will complete a practice NEA to prepare them for undertaking their real one next year.	
PSHE	Work Experience Preparing for Work Reflecting on Work	Extreme Behaviours Communities and Belonging Radicalisation and Extremism Domestic and Honour Based Violence
GCSE PE	Theory AEP Coursework- Overview section - Assessment section - Movement analysis section Paper 2: Socio-cultural issues and sports psychology -Sports psychology - Classification of skills Practical - Athletics and Tennis	

