



Year 9 Curriculum Overview

Core Subjects	Autumn Term				
Biology	Cells: Cells and microscopy.				
Chemistry	Elements, compounds and mixtures: The structure of the atom and techniques to separate mixtures.		The Periodic Table: The development of the periodic table and the properties of different groups of the periodic table.		
English	<p style="text-align: center;">Striving to be better. What makes us want to be heroic? What is the difference between heroism and cowardice?</p> <p>The Power of Rhetoric Developing knowledge of rhetoric and learn how it can be used by activists to affect change. Developing persuasive ability – building on the knowledge of rhetoric gained in Y7 and Y8 and express our own beliefs on what makes us heroic.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Striving to be better. What makes us want to be heroic? What is the difference between heroism and cowardice?</p> <p>The Power of Stories A study of the 'Tragic Hero' and what it means to be heroic.</p>		
Geography	<p>North America Mapping, population, migration, crime, tectonic activity and atmospheric hazards.</p>		<p>North America Flooding, volcanoes.</p> <p>Ice Worlds Ice processes and landforms, the Lake District.</p>		
History	<p><u>Movement Settlement and Empire</u> How Far was Empire a Good Thing? An enquiry focusing on Britain's establishment, control and decolonisation of India</p>		<p><u>Conflicts and Co-operation in the 20th Century</u> <u>WW1- Who fought for Britain and what was their experience?</u> A brief look at WW1, Main causes and an enquiry into who fought in the War and their experiences.</p>		
Maths	Introduction to number	Introduction to algebra	Decimals and rounding	Averages and range	
Maths (Higher)	Introduction to number	Introduction to algebra	Indices and standard form	Solving equations	Averages and range
Physical Education	Football/Netball/ Basketball	Football/Netball/ Basketball	Football/Netball/ Basketball	Handball/Fitness/ Yoga/Flag Football	
Physics	Energy and Motion: Energy stores and transformations, work and power. Speed and acceleration with levers, moments and biomechanics.				
RE	<p>Theme: What really matters? Subject: What does it mean to be human? Christianity Throughout this first topic for year 9, we consider religious and non-religious views on the world. This includes the discussion of modern-day Philosophers, well known Atheists and also Humanists. We look at the topic of the</p>		<p>Theme: What really matters? Subject: The Problem of Evil. Judaism The problem of evil can stretch out into many parts of huma existence but it can also make believers query the existence of their God. Within this topic, we focus on the religion of Judaism and we discuss how religious believers respond to the argument of suffering. We look at religious stories such as the</p>		



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	conscience, the soul, creation and animal/human rights. There is a focus on Christianity, but also a non-religious aspect to the course.	story of Job and Abraham, but we also do a deep dive in to the topic of the Holocaust.
Spanish	"Somos así" - describing likes and dislikes using irregular verbs; talking about your week.	"Los trabajos" - talking about jobs and requirements; focus on adjectives and present, conditional and future tenses. "Mi futuro" - expressing wishes and dreams for the future; exploration of pathways and relationships.

Taster Year Subjects	Autumn Term	
Art & Design	Portraiture- Introduction Students will be introduced to Art Project/sketchbook structure. They will focus on drawing skull structures and facial features in various media.	Portraiture – Contextual Studies Students will be introduced to various portraiture-based artists (AO1), materials and techniques (AO2).
Computing	Theory: Computer Hardware & Software	Theory: Computer Memory and Storage
Drama	Technique recap and physical theatre development Prior knowledge checks of techniques plus development and introduction of new techniques. This will include trust exercises and physical theatre in the form of lifts. Students will learn about different specialisms within the Performing Arts industry- Acting, singing dancing, makeup, costume and lighting.	Specialisms in the performing arts industry Students will develop their knowledge of selected specialism in relation to a given theme/ for a performance. Students will present finished product through performance designs/ final design and use if lighting is the specialism. Students will watch back and evaluate their performance and set developmental targets to work towards for the next presentation of work.
Food	Food Commodities: Fruit and Vegetables Students will learn the key aspects of this specific food commodity and will focus on: 1. Nutrition 2. Classification 3. Food Hygiene & Safety 4. Food Science 5. Food Provenance 6. Food Processing. Cooking will reflect this commodity and students will learn key culinary skills	Food Commodities: Dairy Students will learn the key aspects of this specific food commodity and will focus on: 1. Nutrition 2. Classification 3. Food Hygiene and Safety 4. Food Sciences 5. Food Provenance 6. Food Processing. Cooking will reflect this commodity and students will learn key culinary skills.
French	On doit savoir... Students will start their French journey by getting to grips with basics such as introducing themselves in French; giving details about themselves and learning how to hold short conversations.	Ma vie et ma famille Building on from being able to talk about themselves, students will expand their knowledge of vocabulary and verb forms and be able to talk about their families and lives in more detail.



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Music	<p>Performing, Composing and Appraising</p> <p>Students will focus on the development of their ensemble practical skills. They will present a group arrangement of 'Havana' and will study the construction of pop songs and the accompanying vocabulary. They will develop their understanding of chords and consolidate their knowledge of music notation, with a focus on rhythm. They will be introduced to Logic as a tool for composition, creating looped compositions.</p>	<p>Performing, Composing and Appraising</p> <p>Students will focus on the development of their solo and ensemble practical skills. They will present a group arrangement of 'Dance Monkey' and a solo performance of any piece of their own choice. To further develop their understanding of chords, students will compose their own chord sequences and melodies. They will use Logic to create an original improvised piece. The study of music notation will focus on reading notes in the treble and bass clef.</p>
Design	<p>Theory</p> <p>Formal communication techniques revisited (perspective, orthographic and isometric). Design sheet skills and techniques. Designers, design styles and companies.</p>	<p>Design and Make activity</p> <p>Skills assessment: Ball bearing game Design Project: Alessi pen drive (card model to scale).</p>

Core Subjects	Spring Term	
Biology	Human Organisation 1: The digestive system and enzyme action.	
Chemistry	Forming Bonds: How compounds can be formed	
English	<p>Striving to be better. What makes us want to be heroic? What is the difference between heroism and cowardice?</p> <p>The Power of Stories Studying 'Romeo and Juliet', focusing on the tragic hero and the Greek origins of tragedy. Learning the tropes of writing a tragedy Learning the structure of a tragedy with a focus on Aristotle and Freytag Learning how Shakespeare uses 'heroic couplets'</p>	<p>Striving to be better. What makes us want to be heroic? What is the difference between heroism and cowardice?</p> <p>The Power of Stories Studying the novel 'Heroes', focusing on what makes us a hero and why we have the urge to be heroic. Learning how a writer can manipulate the structure of a novel to impact the reader</p>
Geography	<p>Ice Worlds Antarctica: ecosystem, food chains and webs, opportunities, challenges, threats, Antarctica Treaty.</p>	<p>Oceania Mapping, weather and climate, cities, climate change, impact of climate change, coral reefs and invasive species.</p>
History	<p><u>Through the themes of Power and Conflict and Ordinary Lives</u></p> <p>The Interwar Years- Was the Twentieth Century an era of extremes?? A series of short enquiries starting with the peace in 1918 through to the developments of political ideologies across the globe of communism, fascism and democracy up to the late 1930's.</p>	<p><u>Through the themes of Power and Conflict and Ordinary Lives</u></p> <p>The Interwar Years- Was the Twentieth Century an era of extremes?? A series of short enquiries starting with the peace in 1918 through to the developments of political ideologies across the globe of communism, fascism and democracy up to the late 1930's.</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An uncomfortable Peace - What was life like in a Totalitarian Dictatorship - Communism 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What was life like in a Totalitarian Dictatorship – Fascism - Was American Democracy all Boom and Bust? 	
Maths	Representing data	Fractions decimals and percentages	Equations	Angles
Maths (Higher)	Angles	Representing data	Fractions and percentages	Ratio
Physical Education	Handball/Fitness/ Yoga/Flag Football	Dodgeball/Table tennis/ Rugby	Dodgeball/ Table Tennis/ Rugby	Athletics
Physics	Molecules and Matter: Kinetic theory of matter, changes of states and calculating the density of materials.			
RE	<p>Theme: What really matters? Subject: Medical Ethics- Christianity & Islam We concentrate on two religions during this topic, they include Christianity and Islam. We look at mature topics such as IVF, Genetic Engineering, Abortion, Organ Donation and Euthanasia. We discuss both religious and non-religious views on these topics and the law surrounding them. Students will be able to use the knowledge gained from the religious beliefs already studied throughout their RE curriculum.</p>		<p>Theme: What really matters? Subject: Does religion encourage equality? Sikhism Throughout this half term, we make enquiries about the religion of Sikhism and what beliefs are held with importance. We investigate the life of Guru Nanak, the 10 Gurus and The Khalsa. We also look at Sikh practices that include the 5 K's, the Gurdwara and the Langar.</p>	
Spanish	<p>“En forma” - healthy living and eating; body parts and benefits of leading a healthy life.</p>		<p>“Jovenes en acción” - talking about young people’s lives and rights; using justifications in a debate.</p>	

Taster Year Subjects	Spring Term	
Art & Design	Portraiture – Contextual Studies	Portraiture – Final response



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	Students will refine and experiment with texture, pattern and mixed media to the research they have collated during the Autumn term.	Students will devise a final response to their project to demonstrate the depth of understanding and skill accrued across a range of media through their portraiture investigations.
Computing	Theory: Peripherals and their functions	Practical: Programming with Python
Drama	<i>Performance from a stimulus</i> Students will develop their skills of working as an ensemble and will devise and direct their own group work contribution that links/acknowledges the scenes of other groups. They will perform their work and watch a recording back where they can access their contribution and areas for development.	<i>Working as a professional</i> Students will learn how to work as a professional and research key roles and the skills required. They will have to consider all specialisms, acting, singing, dancing, lighting, sound and music. They will discuss what they learnt through their initial experiment with their chosen specialism and how they can develop from this.
Food	Food Commodities: Eggs Students will learn the key aspects of this specific food commodity and will focus on: 1. Nutrition 2. Classification 3. Food Hygiene & Safety 4. Food Science 5. Food Provenance 6. Food Processing. Cooking will reflect this commodity and students will learn key culinary skills	Food Commodities: Chicken & Fish Students will learn the key aspects of this specific food commodity and will focus on: 1. Nutrition 2. Classification 3. Food Hygiene & Safety 4. Food Science 5. Food Provenance 6. Food Processing. Cooking will reflect this commodity and students will learn key culinary skills
French	Les passe-temps In this unit students will learn to speak in detail about their favourite hobbies as well as a variety of sports. They will make comparisons and give detailed opinions using colloquial language.	Le cinéma et la télé Building on our knowledge of forming opinions and talking about our hobbies, in this unit we delve into the world of television and cinema.
Music	Performing, Composing and Appraising Students will further develop their practical and composition skills and knowledge of music theory, with a focus on scales. They will perform and make their own arrangements of Film Music using classroom instruments and music technology. To develop their appraising skills, they will study compositional techniques used in Film Music.	Performing, Composing and Appraising Students will develop their performance skills, presenting a solo piece and an ensemble arrangement of a pop song of their own choice. They will further develop their knowledge of music notation focussing on consolidating their understanding of scales. They will complete a technology project which involves adding melodies to chords and bass lines to melodies.
Design	Theory Electronics and control module. Mechanisms and structures. Overview of key material areas.	Design & Make activity Project: Art Nouveau metal scroll design.



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Core Subjects	Summer Term				
Biology	<p>Infection & Response: Pathogens and body defences. The immune system and principles of immunisations. The development and testing of drugs.</p> <p><i>Ecology 1:</i> Ecosystems in terms of biotic and abiotic factors. The interdependence of organisms specifically food webs, competition and predation. Field investigations.</p>				
Chemistry	<p>Mass changes in reactions: Investigating conservation of mass.</p>				
English	<p>Striving to be better. What makes us want to be heroic? What is the difference between heroism and cowardice?</p> <p>Literature as Art Studying an anthology of poetry covering the major poetry movements, and appreciating how poetry can express heroism and cowardice. Consolidating our knowledge of the heroic couplet.</p>		<p>Striving to be better. What makes us want to be heroic? What is the difference between heroism and cowardice?</p> <p>Literature as Art Studying an anthology of dystopian heroes with a focus on how writers create heroic characters. Creating our own dystopian hero and dystopian setting.</p>		
Geography	<p>Oceania Species, el nino, la nina, plastic planet.</p>		<p>Going Global Climate crisis globally. Have we run out of time to save the planet?</p>		
History	<p>Why is it important that we know about the Holocaust? An enquiry into the Holocaust and experiences of ordinary people</p>		<p>How Tolerant Are the British? Unit to link to Year 8 Protest and Black Civil Rights in America and Year 7 'who are we?' with 'Black and British' focus post WW2 to current day</p> <p>Is the Cold War Really Over? Contextualise some key events of the cold war and connect to current global events.</p>		
Maths	Ratio and basic proportion	Real life and linear graphs	Probability	Perimeter and Area	Pythagoras and Trigonometry
Maths (Higher)	Pythagoras and trigonometry	Simultaneous equations	Proportion	Graphs	Probability
Physical Education	Athletics	Tennis/ Striking and Fielding/ Volleyball	Tennis/ Striking and Fielding/ Volleyball		
Physics	<p>Circuit Electricity: investigating current, potential difference and resistance in series and parallel circuits.</p>		<p>Electricity in the home: domestic electricity, energy transfer in electrical appliances, generating power, the national grid.</p>		
RE	<p>Theme: What really matters? Subject: Peace and conflict- Islam Within this topic we discuss the different Muslim views on peace and conflict. This is a varied topic due to common misconceptions about Islamic teachings and religious views on war. Some of the subjects that we consider are pacifism</p>		<p>Theme: What really matters? Subject: What is faith? Christianity & Islam In our final topic, we discuss what the term faith means. We look at religious stories such as Jonah and whale and consider what this teaches both Christians and Muslims today. We look at inspirational people who have stood</p>		



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	in Islam, what makes a just/holy war, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. We tackle misconceptions of the above topics whilst investigating Muslim views on each issue.	up for their faith through protest, such as Malcolm X and Martin Luther King. We evaluate how Muslims and Christians show their faith today, such as through the Hajj for Muslims.
Spanish	“Una aventura en Madrid” - meeting and greeting people; buying souvenirs; discussing where you will visit.	Recaps, revision and end of year assessments.

Taster Year Subjects	Summer Term	
Art & Design	Portraiture – Contextual Studies Students will continue refining and experimenting with texture, pattern and mixed media to the research they have collated during the Spring term.	Portraiture – Final response Students will devise a final response to their project to demonstrate the depth of understanding and skill accrued across a range of media through their portraiture investigations.
Computing	Theory: Data Representation	Practical: Programming with Python
Drama	Exam scripts for performance Students will work as a team of professionals to put on a performance of a given script. They must consider all specialisms and work as professionals to run a show.	Live Theatre Using Drama online National theatre collection students will watch an online professional production and learn how to write an evaluation of this work. They will discuss and make notes about characters set and design. Students will write a review in response to a given question.
Food	Food Commodities: Fats, Oils and Spreads Students will learn the key aspects of this specific food commodity and will focus on: 1. Nutrition 2. Classification 3. Food Hygiene & Safety 4. Food Science 5. Food Provenance 6. Food Processing. Cooking will reflect this commodity and students will learn key culinary skills	Food Commodities: Cereals Students will learn the key aspects of this specific food commodity and will focus on: 1. Nutrition 2. Classification 3. Food Hygiene & Safety 4. Food Science 5. Food Provenance 6. Food Processing. Cooking will reflect this commodity and students will learn key culinary skills



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French	Les vacances In this unit students will develop their conversational skills further and be able to describe what they do whilst on holiday. We will use the conditional tense to discuss ideal holidays and use the perfect tense to describe a past holiday.	Au restaurant Our final unit will focus on being able to successfully order in a restaurant, as well as make complaints and seek resolution. Pupils will talk about French food and debate about French culture and cuisine.
Music	Performing, Composing and Appraising Students will study Indian music and Bhangra. They will compose a piece of Indian music on Logic and a piece of Bhangra. They will study Musical Theatre and perform a piece of music from this genre. Listening and appraising tasks will focus on Bhangra and Music Theatre. Students will extend their knowledge of melodic and rhythmic notation.	Students will continue to develop their performance and composition skills. They will perform and compose their own pop songs and perform and compose a piece of Jazz. They will keep logs of their composition work. Listening and appraising tasks will focus on Jazz, with associated notation tasks.
Design	Theory Designing products, design strategies. Skills development in 3D CAD. Modelling.	Design & Make activity Practice NEA: Beach house design based upon a designer's work. Scale modelling techniques as well as virtual modelling.