**Year 8 Curriculum Map – Oct to Dec half term**

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| **Maths** | The majority of students follow a programme of study which gives them the basic skillset required to start the GCSE course by the start of year 9. The upper sets follow a programme which stretches them at a higher level appropriate to their higher starting points and prepares them better to access the grade 7+ content at the top end of GCSE:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Foundation – Algebra (Unit 2F)**   * Midpoint of a line on a graph * Expanding and Simplifying Brackets * Solving Equations * Rearranging Simple Formula * Forming Formula and Equations * Inequalities on a Number Line * Solving Linear Inequalities | **Higher – Geometry (Unit 3H)**   * Loci * Congruent Triangles * Sectors of a Circle * Trigonometry * Spheres * Pyramids * Cones * Frustums | |
| **English** | Students explore the culture and experiences presented by John Steinbeck in ‘Of Mice and Men’. Students explore Steinbeck’s use of language to create characters and setting. They will develop some contextual understanding and build on their skills to explore the writer’s ideas developed in Year 7 whilst studying ‘Macbeth’. Students will explicitly explore the characterisation of Crooks and Curley’s Wife. Furthermore, students will develop their reading skills by predicting what will happen after the novella has finished. |
| **Science** | Students begin topic 6 for Biology (food & digestion), Chemistry (compounds) and Physics (motion). The topics are taught on a rota so the order may vary by class. Each topic takes two weeks and cumulates to a tri-test, covering all three topics, in the week before the Christmas holidays. The topics add to previous learning on forces and their effects, processes in the human body and how chemical reactions work.  These topics also start to build on basic knowledge needed for the GCSE science course. |
| **Geog** | Students will study ‘Our Extreme World’ a cold climate. This unit will enable students to understand the characteristics of cold environments and the adaptations of the plants and animals that survive in them. This unit will enable students to compare their learning about a cold climate with the previous unit’s learning about Africa. They will continue to develop their geographical skills. |
| **Hist** | Students will continue to study the period 1500-1750. They will explore the lives of ordinary people during this period, with a case study on the Elizabethan poor. They will then study the causes of the English Civil War and the impact that it had on Lancashire and England. Finally, they will consider the causes and consequences of the 17th century witchcraze. They will continue to develop their source skills and concepts such as cause and consequence and change and continuity. |
| **RS** | Students will look at religious and human rights issues, linking to religious prejudice and tolerance. Students will investigate these areas throughout history and in the modern world in order to make a common link with humanities subjects.  Civil rights, gay rights, women's rights and religious teachings and influences will be covered. |
| **Graphics** | In year 8, for 10 weeks, students will examine the link between graphic design and activism. They will gain an understanding of how images have been used throughout history to affect political and social change. They will look at how a contemporary climate activist group has used techniques such as block printing and screen printing to create engaging images. They will then design and develop images and slogans using similar printing techniques and will have the opportunity to create their own climate rebellion banners, posters and clothing. Homework will be set every 2 lessons. This will typically reinforce work covered in lessons or will be designed to prepare students to make progress in lessons. |
| **DT** | Students spend ten weeks in the materials area of technology. The major project is a design and make practical tasks that builds on the basic skills covered in year 7. If time permits an extension activity will use CAD/ CAM in order to introduce modern manufacturing techniques. Homework that relates to the topics currently being covered is set every two lessons. |
| **Food** | In spend ten weeks in the Food area of Technology. Students are provided with a cookbook for the ten weeks in Food. Students can build upon their making skills and use a variety of different cooking methods from bread making to sauce making. Safety and hygiene are taught alongside the practical tasks in more depth than year 7. Nutrition is also taught in more depth during the focused practical tasks. The homework set is for students to bring ingredients for the following weeks practical lesson. |
| **Textiles** | Students spend ten weeks in the textiles area of Technology. The major project is a design and make practical tasks that builds on the basic skills covered in year 7. If time permits an extension activity will use embroidery to introduce students to a number of decorative techniques. Homework that relates to the topics currently being covered is set every two lessons. |
| **French** | Students continue to develop their skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. They study language related to holiday and leisure activities using the past tense. They add to their knowledge of French grammar, with a specific focus on “avoir” and “être” to form the perfect tense, as well as studying regular and irregular verbs, negatives and formation of opinions in the present and past tense. |
| **German** | Students develop their skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. They study language related to descriptions, family, pets, birthdays and celebrations. They develop their understanding of German grammar, including noun gender, cognates, basic verbs, adjectives and adjectival agreement, definite and indefinite articles, ordinal numbers, plurals, present tense, modal verbs and pronouns. |
| **PE** | Students will take part in activities listed below depending on their group. Hockey, Gymnastics, Handball, Table Tennis and Rugby. At the end of the half term students will undertake the PFL (Personal Fitness level) along with an assessment within the activity. Students are tracked and monitored against their own baseline score only. |
| **Art** | Project 1. Islamic Art – In Half-Term 2 students will focus on producing their own designs and explore various ways of creating their own patterns, including stencilling, templates, and squared paper. They will need to combine intricate patterns with experimental colour shading techniques to create stunning Islamic Art-inspired designs of their own. |
| **Drama** | During this unit students will explore the horror genre focussing on a make-believe haunted house known as “Darkwood Manor”. Throughout a range of fun and exciting learning opportunities including teacher in role and hot seating students will use a range of drama skills and strategies to develop storytelling. They will be able to work both independently and as part of a group and use elements of drama and the drama medium in order to show tension and create believable characters. Students will develop understandings of physical theatre and use effectively in performance as well as evaluating their own and others work, using subject specific vocabulary, enabling work to be improved. |
| **Music** | In unit 2 year 8 students will learn about a particular genre of music, such as Reggae. Students will develop their ability to perform different types of rhythms and learn about a variety of characteristics, using musical elements to analyse the music. |
| **ICT** | Students will spend this half term studying 8.1 Office Skills and 8.2 Binary Bits and Bobs. The skills learned from these projects teach new perspectives and understanding on the world of technology and enhance the student’s digital capability ready for the next Key Stage in ICT, Enterprise and Computing. The units supplement the more traditional Office and ICT skills focused on in previous years blends the theoretical knowledge covered with practical activities. Homework that relates to the topics covered is set on Doddlelearn.co.uk online homework platform every two lessons. |