**Year 9 Curriculum Map – Sept to Oct half term**

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| **Maths** | Students in year 9 begin their GCSE studies by firmly embedding their number skills, to ensure that they can confidently calculate using integers, decimals, indices, powers and roots. They also study factors, multiples and primes, all of which are incorporated into real-life contexts.  Those on the higher programme of study also extend this calculation work to include reciprocals, standard form and working with number in surd form. |
| **English** | The purpose of this term’s work is to build a foundation of knowledge about 19th Century Britain and further develop students’ transactional writing and ability to analyse language and structure. Students will study a range of 19th Century and 21st Century Literary and non-literary texts and elicit the authorial intent in view of the contextual factors associated with the era. This knowledge will assist in the study of ‘A Christmas Carol’ by Charles Dickens in Year 10. |
| **Science** | Students begin topic 11 for biology (drugs & health), chemistry (earth & atmosphere) and physics (heat transfer). Each topic takes 2 weeks and cumulate in a tri-test covering all three topics, in the week before the half term break. These topics give students a basic understanding of some concepts which are covered in more detail at GCSE. The topics also develop a great understanding of the world around them. |
| **Geog** | Students will study unit 3.1.2 The Living World. They will learn about ecosystems at a range of different scales. They will learn about the distinctive characteristics of tropical rainforests and the economic and environmental impacts of deforestation. Students will then learn about the distinctive characteristics of cold environments - polar and tundra regions. The case study will focus on the development opportunities provided by cold environments and the resulting environmental threats that they face. |
| **Hist** | Students will study unit AD America, 1920–1973: Opportunity and inequality America. They will study Part 1 – America during the ‘boom’. They will discover that this is a period of opportunity and inequality – when some Americans lived the 'American Dream' whilst others grappled with the nightmare of poverty, discrimination and prejudice. Students will study the political, economic, social and cultural aspects of this period. Students will also look at the role of key individuals and groups in shaping change and the impact the developments had on them. Homework will be set once a week. |
| **RS** | Students will gain an introduction to morals and ethics by studying a range of moral dilemmas. They will consider the religious, non-religious and moral views on euthanasia, abortion and animal testing. Students will develop their oral and written skills of debate. |
| **Graphics** | In year 9 students will gain experience in responding to a design brief to develop a corporate identity. For 10 weeks they will develop the branding and packaging for a sports company. They will use nets to create 3-dimensional promotional products. Students then gain experience in using CAD applications such as *Photoshop*, *Google Sketchup* and *Techsoft 2D Design* and will use Computer Aided Manufacturing to create a final product. Homework will be set weekly. This will typically reinforce work covered in lessons or will be designed to prepare students to make progress in subsequent lessons. |
| **DT** | Students will spend ten weeks each area of technology. Two major areas are covered in the DT area. CAD CAM projects supplement the more traditional manufacturing skills focused on in previous years and a structures topic blends the theoretical knowledge covered with practical activities. Homework that relates to the topics currently covered is set every two lessons. |
| **Food** | Students spend ten weeks in the Food area of technology. Students are given a cookbook and make a range of complex dishes over the ten weeks building upon their making skills. Students complete a booklet in theory lessons covering topics such as nutrition, food waste and food provenance. Homework is to bring ingredients to the lesson the following week. |
| **Textiles** | Students will spend ten weeks in the textiles area of technology. Two major areas are covered in this time: construction of a product and decoration of a surface which will use a wide range of techniques including appliqué and hand embroidery. Students will illustrate their visual journey through theme research and product design. Homework that relates to the topics currently covered is set every two lessons. |
| **French** | Students continue to develop their skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.  They study topics related to:   * Family and relationships * Friends and friendship * Descriptions * Places in town * Leisure activities   They add to their knowledge of French grammar, with a focus on developing confidence and security in using three tenses: present, past, future. |
| **German** | Students continue to develop their skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.  They study topics related to:   * Towns and cities * Shopping * Snacks and drinks * Prices and currency.   They add to their knowledge of German grammar, with a specific focus on the use of the negative and adjectival agreements. They also work on extending their written and spoken responses. |
| **PE** | All students start Physical Education with two weeks of cross-country. Following on students will take part in activities listed below depending on their group. Football, Basketball, Hockey, Table Tennis and Handball. At the end of the half term students will undertake the PFL (Personal Fitness level) along with an assessment with the activity. Students are tracker and monitored against their own baseline score only. |
| **Art** | In the first two weeks of this half-term students will complete an Art assessment for the department to determine student ability in the formal elements of line, shape, form, texture, and tone.  Project 1. Entomology – This project has a strong focus on observational drawing in order to prepare students for GCSE Fine Art, should they wish to choose it. Students explore a variety of media and experiment in producing detailed studies of insects. Artist research is also crucial to this project and students will be given a choice of artists to base their research on.  Half-Term 1 focuses on the 17th Century scientist, mathematician, and artist Robert Hooke and his pioneering use of the microscope to create highly detailed studies of insects. Students will be producing a research page on Hooke and recreating his drawing of a flea. |
| **Drama** | During this unit of Gothic Horror students will deepen their understanding of tableaux image and narration. Using the Horror Genre they will explore their use of voice and stage positioning and how they can build tension and suspense up with their audience. Students will learn the importance of creating a climax in a horror performance and how sound can add to the performance. Students will use stories such as The Woman in Black and the play Frankenstein by Phillip Pullman to explore all these elements of Drama. |
| **Music** | In unit 1 year 9 students will begin the process of becoming an independent musician, who is able to perform an instrument from reading various types of music or by ear. Students will first familiarise themselves with skills learnt previously on guitar, keyboard, bass and drums before moving into ‘bands’ using a teacher-led song. |
| **ICT** | Students will spend this half term studying Component 1 – Exploring User Interface Design Principles And Project Planning Techniques as part of an early qualification in Digital Information Technology. The skills learned from these projects teach new perspectives and understanding on the world of technology and enhance the student’s digital capability. The units supplement the more traditional Office and ICT skills focused on in previous years blends the theoretical knowledge covered with practical activities as part of a Key Stage 4 qualification. Homework that relates to the topics covered is set on Doddlelearn.co.uk online homework platform every two lessons. |