



Year 9

Course Outlines

Art and Design

Students develop and extend skills learnt in Years 7 and 8, potentially preparing for GCSE Art. Through themed projects, further opportunities are provided for students to investigate additional media, techniques and processes including; photography, paper construction, stylised drawing, stencil cutting and wire/clay sculpture. Students continue to work with a clear methodical approach undertaking contextual research, experimenting with media, drawing and resolving a final outcome. Students are encouraged to complete each piece of class work and homework with imagination and creativity.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in a 3D sculpture workshop with a visiting Artist.

Computer Science

- The Appliance of Computer Science - this unit aims to reveal the science behind Computer Science and how computers actually works. Areas included are: Computing number systems, including Binary image and sound representation, Boolean logic, Python programming (September - October).
- Creative Computing Project - this is a project where students will learn to design a piece of software and use software development skills and Python programming that they have been taught in previous units (February - June).
- ADVANCE programming in Python learning text based language (November - February).
- Computer Ethics – students study computer ethics and laws, including social engineering and environmental issues associated with Computer Science (June - July).

Design and Technology

All students will study a range of subjects in DT and Food until late January.

Food: Students will make a range of healthy and inspirational foods.

Textiles: Students will make sustainable clothing for developing countries.

Graphics: Students will design a unique design for a logo representing themselves, using an iterative design process using CAD and CAM. The final logo will be used as a Key-Fob.

Product Design: Students will design and make a paper holder using a range of machinery and techniques.

From February, students will have the opportunity to study one subject in greater depth until the end of the year. Students will be able to choose from:

Electrical and Mechanical Systems: Counting system using Binary.

Food Prep: Students will be able to select from a range of recipes from different cultures around the world.

Graphic Products: Design and manufacture of a mock-up product and its packaging.

Product Design: Students will design and make an interlocking Tea-light Holder using rapid modelling and experimentation and make using CAD and CAM.

Textiles: Students will design and make a punk or hippy styled bag using a range of techniques.

Drama

The syllabus has no specific subject content as it is entirely skills based. The social skills concentrated on in previous years continues to form the basis of the syllabus but more personal skills are used.

Characterisation and role-play - To think more deeply about character being portrayed and how they would behave and react.

Problem solving - Through discussion and experiment discover the most effective way of solving a fictional or practical problem.

Exploration of more challenging techniques and subject matter.

Observation.

Effective communication through spoken language, body language, facial expression and gesture.

The subject matter is the individual tutor's choice, although during Year 9 more complex themes are selected.

English

The Year 9 English Curriculum develops the language skills that are essential to full, productive and confident communication. An appreciation of our rich and varied literary heritage and a lifelong love of literature and language are encouraged through engagement with the spoken and written word. Students also begin study towards GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature.

Spoken language is integral to classroom practice, reflecting its importance to cognitive, social and linguistic development. Students are provided with multiple opportunities to develop their confidence and competence through both informal discussions and formal study of presentation, debate and drama skills.

Reading: Engaging with a breadth of challenging texts of different forms, genres and origins, students learn comprehension skills linked to content, purpose, audience and context. Additional skills learning is related to: vocabulary and etymology; inference and deduction skills; critical analysis skills linked to writers' choices of: vocabulary, figurative language, grammar, structure, organisation and form.

Writing: Students learn to write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in a range of contexts, purposes and audiences, including formal academic essay writing and imaginative writing. They also refine their drafting and writing skills, developing resilience to write at length and with an increasing sophistication of expression, grammatical command and application of linguistic and figurative devices.

Broader Literacy Skills: Students' grasp of the structure, intricacy and nuances of English language and literature is further developed through learning and application of grammatical, linguistic and literary terminology related to areas of study.

French

Listening: Students show that they can understand extracts of spoken language containing familiar material from several topics including present, past and future events.

Speaking: Students show that they can take part in conversations that include past, present and future events.

Reading: Students show that they can understand a variety of texts which include past, present and future events. They can identify and note main points and specific detail.

Writing: Students show that they can write sentences using simple, descriptive language and refer to past, present and future events.

Topics covered:

- France and other countries
- Entertainment and advertising
- A balanced diet.

Geography

- **Geography of Crime:** The study of socio-economic patterns of crime and management strategies on a local, national and international scale.
- **Impossible Places:** The study of unusual places where man has had to overcome nature's physical challenges and barriers and where nature continues to dictate human activity.
- **Awesome Asia:** The study of global and national population change and migration with a focus on China, Singapore, Philippines and Japan.
- **Snowball Earth:** The study of glacial processes and landforms, climate changes and the effects on human activity.
- **Work, Work, Work:** The study of globalisation, changes in industry and the processes by which businesses or other organisations develop international influence or start operating on an international scale.

German

In Year 9, the students follow the textbooks **Zoom 1 & 2**, which cover key topics and incorporate grammatical structures. These books lead directly to the GCSE course.

The topics covered are:

- holidays
- shopping
- food
- leisure activities
- health
- daily routine
- clothes
- an exchange.

History

Core topics will cover:

- Africa Depth Study
- 20th Century Conflict
- Genocide Depth Study
- Post War Britain

Special Study Modules on:

- India
- Interpretations
- The Holocaust

Life Skills

The Life Skills course comprises elements of Citizenship, Careers education and Personal, Social & Health Education. Students study topics such as, managing peer pressure and conflict, how to tackle homophobia and sexism, assess the risks of alcohol and drugs, healthy relationships and planning and carrying out an enterprise project.

Mathematics

Number and Algebra: Decimals, fractions and standard form without a calculator. Introduction to surds. Equations and inequalities (including simultaneous equations). Quadratics.

Shape and Space: Graphs of straight lines and curves. Gradients. Representing inequalities on a graph. Congruence and similarity. Trigonometry. Introduction to circle theorems.

Handling Data: Correlation. Averages. Stem and leaf diagrams. Histograms. Construction and circle theorems. Box and whisker diagrams. Cumulative frequency curves. Probability of combined events including the use of tree diagrams and venn diagrams.

Music

Music students continue to develop the interrelated skills of composing, performing, listening and appraising. They learn to further refine their ideas by regularly listening to and reviewing their own and others' work and are encouraged to develop and increase their use of musical terminology. Knowledge of conventional notation is extended to include the bass clef and students explore a variety of styles, including Blues, fanfares, Classical music and pop songs.

Physical Education

Students experience the following activities:

Girls - Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Dance, Outdoor and Adventurous Activities, Hockey, Invasion Games, Netball, Rounders, Trampolining, Tennis and Volleyball

Boys - Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Football, Gymnastics, Health Related Fitness, Hockey, Invasion Games, Outdoor and Adventurous Activities, Rugby, Softball, Table Tennis and Tennis.

Students have the opportunity to:

- Develop skills in physical activities
- Make and apply decisions
- Develop physical and mental capacity
- Evaluate and improve
- Make informed choices about healthy, active lifestyles.

Religious Studies

Autumn Term/ Spring Term: An exploration of beliefs, creeds and ultimate questions. The Christian teachings of Rev. Martin Luther King and their influence on the civil rights movement, particularly with regard to non-violent protest. The influence of Mahatma Gandhi and other religious leaders who fought against discrimination.

Summer Term: Understanding Buddhism, its teachings and actions including key figures who have used Buddhist teachings to make a stand against violence and injustice.

The problem of evil and suffering and religious responses to this (Jewish and Christian).
Key Christian beliefs.

Science

Students continue to build on the foundations from KS3 Science and begin their journey into KS4 content.

Biology

- Cell Structure and Transport
- Cell Division
- Organisation and the Digestive System

Chemistry

- Atomic Structure
- The Periodic Table
- Structure and Bonding

Physics

- Pressure, Forces and Moments
- Particles
- Energy

Spanish

In Year 9, students follow a course using the textbook **Viva 2**, which is topic based integrating speaking, listening, reading and writing and also incorporating a range of grammatical structures.

The topics and structures are:

- Holidays/preterite tense regular and irregular.
- Talking about music, technology, TV programmes/comparatives/preterite tense.
- Food and mealtimes/expressing opinions/eating out/shopping for food/giving an account of a party/use of negatives/use of the three tenses.
- Arranging to go out/giving excuses/clothes/discussing events in the three tenses/reflexive verbs/demonstrative adjectives.
- Describing a holiday home/comparatives/superlatives/sking directions/using imperatives.