

Autumn 1 Subject Information

Year 9

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| English | <p>Students will study a unit called 'Viewpoints and Perspectives' in which they will read, discuss and analyse a variety of non-fiction texts including historically significant speeches, letters and articles. This will prepare students to write and deliver their own short speech before Christmas as part of their GCSE Spoken Language assessment. Parents can support at home by discussing topical events in the news with students and reading news articles together. The 'Newsround' website has accessible, teen-friendly news articles free to access.</p> |
| Maths | <p>Foundation: Introduction to algebra and solving equations; properties of angles, lines and triangles; patterns and sequences; equations and inequalities. Higher: Algebra; shape and angles; calculating with integers and decimals. Higher with Statistics: Algebra; Shape and angles; calculating with integers and decimals; formulae and linear equations.</p> |
| Science | <p>Students will revisit the science fundamentals and develop and expand their understanding in cell biology, atomic structure and the periodic table and energy.</p> |
| Education for Life | <p>Peer influence, Substance Abuse & Gangs Students will gain an understanding of the law surrounding drugs and alcohol, along with the different types of drugs. An important part of the unit will be exploring how peer pressure has a big impact on people's choices to consume drugs and alcohol and providing students with strategies to deal with this. Students will explore the concept of addiction and where to access help and support for this as well as the effects of drugs on individuals and others.</p> |
| Core Pe | <p>Students are engaging in our concept curriculum in their Core PE time, where students will experience a range of activities from American football to gymnastics. Groups will work on a carousel of activities throughout the year to make sure they receive a broad balanced curriculum. Our concepts are Overcoming opponents, Sports Culture, Technique and Performance, Fit4Life and Water Safety this term.</p> |
| Art | <p>Year 9 artists complete a baseline test before commencing their first SOW whereby they learn about the proportions of the face. Students create half shaded portraits showing these skills alongside their use of tone, texture and detail. Throughout the term students continue to analyse the work of a number of contemporary portraits artists whilst exploring a range of media and techniques.</p> |
| Business Studies | <p>Enterprise and Entrepreneurship: Students will look at how and why businesses come about, the risks and rewards for starting businesses and the role and purpose of business enterprise. Spotting a business opportunity: Students will start to look at how businesses identify and meet the needs of customers through market research and other strategies.</p> |
| Computer Science | <p>Students will be learning about the systems architecture of modern stored program computers, before moving on to developing their Python coding skills</p> |

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| Dance | <p>An introduction to GCSE dance.</p> <p>Theory: Safe Practice, nutrition and hydration, warm up and cool down</p> <p>Practical: Learning the set warm up for the year. Developing their physical and mental skills through learning key action content and choreographic tasks</p> |
| Design Technology | Students are learning a range of graphic communication skills. Following this they will be taught unit 2, which focuses largely on sustainable design. |
| Drama | The first few weeks of year 9 we go back to basics, practising the importance of vocal expression and the actors' physicality within the performance space. The students will be assessed on a monologue taken from the LAMDA Anthology, which they will perform in front of their peers. Towards the end of the half term the class will start to read through and understand the play text Blood Brothers. |
| Food & Nutrition | Students are learning about how nutritional needs change through the different life stages whilst developing a range of practical skills using ingredients which provide a range of nutrients. |
| Geography | Year 9 begin their GCSE journey with 'The Challenge of Natural Hazards'. This is a scheme of work that looks at the different types of hazards that occur around the world, both geophysical and hydrological. We explore how people are impacted and how level of wealth can hinder responses through the use of case studies before moving on to look at Hurricane Ida. |
| Hospitality & Catering | Students are learning about food safety and the importance of nutrition to ensure they are able to plan menus for a range of customers and venues. |
| History | Year 9 will be starting their GCSE paper 1 section A: American, Expansion and Consolidation. This half term they will be learning about the culture and lifestyle of the Native Americans on the Plains and the early settlers who crossed America in search of fortune and a better life. |
| IT | Students are starting their OCR IT National qualification by learning about a variety of design tools used in ICT to plan and design ICT-based products |
| Media | Print Media: Students will explore a range of print media texts such as adverts and magazine front covers to learn about connotations and implied meaning through visual clues. |
| MFL (French, German or Spanish) | Grammar introduction: A recap of key vocabulary from year 7 and 8 and supporting mastery of key grammar, including giving opinions and past, present and future verbs. |
| Music | Students first complete a baseline listening/theory test. They then study 3 units of work this half term with an emphasis on learning about hooks and riffs in music. This will encompass studying the blues, the music of Broadway and rock music from the 1960s and 1970s. Through studying these topics, they will be developing critical listening skills with an emphasis on keywords, as well as developing compositional techniques and group performance skills. At the end of the half term, each student will prepare a solo performance to perform to the class. |

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| RE | Year 9 will start the GCSE and will start the journey looking at Christian beliefs. |
| ExaminationPE | Students will be introduced to the two examination courses we offer, GCSE PE and Sport Studies for year 10 and 11 students. They will start by looking at the musculoskeletal system and how muscles and bones work together to produce movement. Practically, they will develop their skills in activities such as handball and netball. |
| Photography | Year 9 Photography students are introduced to basic editing and camera techniques whilst learning about the fundamental skills of composition and the use of formal elements in photography, prior to developing in to creating photography that focuses on natural forms inspired by photographers such as Karl Blossfeldt |
| Psychology | As a new course, students will be first introduced to the subject through a mini module called Introduction to Psychology. Followed by the first module of the GCSE course Memory. |