



Year 9

English	Across this half term, students will be working towards their GCSE Spoken Language examination which will be conducted in the weeks before the Christmas break. Students will look at a range of important speeches from throughout history, before researching, writing and practising their own speeches on a topic of their choosing. Further information about the GCSE Spoken Language examination will come out in a separate letter. Parents can support by talking to their child about the topic of their speech and encouraging them to practise and rehearse at home.
Maths	This half term the foundation curriculum will include: • Linear equations and inequalities • Properties of quadrilaterals • collecting/representing and interpreting data The higher curriculum will include: • Integers and decimals • Formulae and linear equations • Construction and loci • Types of numbers • Patterns and sequences
Science	Students will be continuing to study science fundamentals, completing the following units: - P1 Energy - B1 Cell biology - C1 Atomic structure
Education for Life	This half term we are focussing on our second theme, Relationships. The programme consists of Education for life lessons, tutor sessions and assemblies which will be underpinned by our Rights Respecting Ethos. All Year groups - Tutor Sessions This half term, all students will be looking at a variety of whole school and national events that link into the theme of Relationships. - Attendance - building positive relationships at School. - British Values and Diversity with a focus on life in Modern Britain - Remembrance Day - students will learn about remembrance day and what it represents. A two minute silence will also be observed. - Anti-Bullying week - Students will partake in a survey amongst other activities. - Basics Food Bank Appeal - This a whole school community event where we ask staff and students to donate food to local families in need this Christmas. - Christmas Cards for Care homes - students will be able to create and write cards that will be sent to the local care homes.





	Please see below for a brief outline of what Year 9 will be studying in their Education for Life lessons this half term:
	Year 9: Respectful Relationships In this unit students will be exploring the concepts of marriage and divorce. Students will begin thinking about what they look for in a partner, religious views on marriage, different types of marriage ceremonies, same sex marriage, forced marriage, relationship break-down and divorce. Students will explore these concepts from different religious perspectives and have the opportunity to form their own views and opinions.
Core Pe	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. We are looking at Team sports, individual sports and fit4life this half term.
Art	Throughout the remainder of this term students continue to analyse the work of a number of contemporary portrait artists whilst exploring a range of media and techniques.
Business Studies	Students will be learning about market research and market segmentation, looking at how businesses meet the needs of their customers.
Computer Science	Students will be learning and developing their coding skills using Python. They will also be learning about systems software.
Dance	In theory lessons, students will be developing their knowledge on the 4 areas of Performance Skills to support their understanding of Section A of the exam paper. During practical lessons, students will be practically developing their execution of Technical and Expressive skills, through performance work which will be showcased and assessed in The Berry Theatre.
Design Technology	Students will be focusing on timbers, where they will be learning about the sources/origins, categories, examples and properties of timbers. They will get an opportunity to develop their practical skills by manufacturing a traditional finger jointed and hinged box.
Drama	Initially students will receive feedback from their monologue assessments that took place at the end of last half term. We then move forward and start exploring their GCSE play text Blood Brothers both practically and academically. The play text makes up 25% of their overall GCSE grade.
Food & Nutrition	This half term students will be developing their knowledge of nutrition, food choice and health issues associated with an energy imbalance. Both theory content and practical skills will be based on Mexican cuisine.





Geography	This term students continue to explore the theme of hazards looking specifically at weather hazards through a case study. Students will explore where and why weather hazards occur in different locations around the world, with a localised focus on the UK's extreme weather before moving on to look at the causes, impacts and evidence of climate change and how we can adapt and reduce these impacts in the future.
Hospitality & Catering	Throughout this half term students will be completing a practice scenario based task focused on a given scenario; meals for customers who have gluten and/or lactose free diets. Students will be required to research, plan and prepare a dish suitable for the customer within the scenario.
History	Students will be studying the early settlers who crossed the Plains of America and their experiences. They will study the conflicts that occurred with the Native Americans of the Plains.
IT	Students will be learning about Human Computer Interfaces and considering how we can make these fit for purpose and audience
Media	We continue to explore the nature of Print Media but now with a focus on audiences and the role they play in the production of Media products.
French, German or Spanish	Describing family, friends and relationships in more detail, using GCSE level structures and widening the students' vocabulary
Music	Students will study 3 units of work this half term with an emphasis on learning about hooks and riffs in music. This will encompass studying minimalism, Film Music and Music of the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods. 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.
RE	Students will be studying Jesus' resurrection., the afterlife and judgement. They will then begin an introduction into ethics - looking at whether or not war is justified.
Examination PE	Students will continue to develop their knowledge on the two examination courses we offer. Now they have completed the muscular skeletal system they will move on to health, fitness and training. Looking at all elements of fitness and the effects of training. Practically, they will continue to develop their skills in activities such as handball and netball in team sports but begin to look at individual sports such as table tennis and badminton.
Photography	Showing inspiration from natural forms and the photographers studied, self study shoots are planned for and undertaken by students with support as required. Students created a final hand manipulated outcome.





Psychology	Students will be completing their first GCSE module Memory, before moving on to
	Perception which should take us up to the Christmas break. Perception explores
	optical illusions and how the brain interprets these, and whether perception is
	innate or learned.