

Autumn 1 Subject Information

Year 9

English	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 'The Day' website has accessible, teen-friendly news articles free to access.
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number topic including; non calculator arithmetic, fractions, percentages, rounding and estimation, indices and standard form. • Statistics students: Begin with GCSE Maths modules. Algebra; Shape and angles; calculating with integers and decimals; formulae and linear equations.
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students will revisit the science fundamentals and develop and expand their understanding in cell biology, atomic structure and the periodic table and energy. - Their first assessment point will be in the week beginning 6th October
Education for Life	<p>This half term we are focussing on Health and Wellbeing. The programme consists of Education for life lessons, tutor sessions and assemblies. Please see below for a brief outline of what each year group will be studying this half term:</p> <p>Peer influence, Substance Abuse & Gangs</p> <p>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	Students are engaging in our concept curriculum in their Core PE time, where students will experience a range of activities including team sports, swimming, fitness and outdoor adventure education. 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, Technique and Performance, Fit4Life and Water Safety this term.
Animal Care	Students will be introduced to the structure and expectations of the Animal Care course. The students will study behaviour patterns and functions in animals relevant to species, influences on animal behaviour and causes of abnormal behaviour.

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Art	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 portrait showing off 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.
Business Studies	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.
Dance	Year 9: An introduction to GCSE dance. Theory: Safe Practice, nutrition and hydration, warm up and cool down Practical: Learning the set warm up for the year. Developing their Physical Skills and Mental Skills through learning key action content and choreographic tasks
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. Students will explore the theories of the theatre practitioner Stanislavski, which will support them with their understanding of characterization and rehearsal techniques. 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

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	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	We explore the nature of Print Media with a focus on how meaning is created through symbolic codes,
French, German or Spanish	<p>Theme: My Personal World</p> <p>Students will learn to describe themselves and their families, including what they look like and their personalities. They will talk about their relationships with family members and friends, explain their daily routines, and give opinions on what makes a good friend. This theme helps students develop language skills to talk confidently about their personal lives and relationships.</p>
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.
RE	Year 9 will start their GCSE course with a journey looking at Christian beliefs and the diversity within these.
Examination PE	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 muscular skeletal 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 creating photography that focuses on natural forms inspired by photographers such as Karl Blossfeldt
Psychology	Students begin with a mini introductory module, Introduction to Psychology, which covers what psychology is, how research in psychology is conducted, the importance of ethics, and an overview of different psychological approaches. This is followed by the first main GCSE module on Memory.