



What we are learning

The Key Stage 3 curriculum

Year 9 Term 5



What we are learning in Year 9

The curriculum in Years 7, 8 and 9 – Key Stage 3 – is rich and stimulating.

Throughout these three years, we want our students to discover a love for learning and knowledge that will help them select their GCSE courses and continue to progress successfully in Key Stage 4.

What we are learning is designed to give you an overview of the topics, knowledge and skills being covered each of the six school terms, in each subject.

Our KS3 curriculum is connected by four main strands. Each department delivers its own content and the curriculum is mapped to ensure key concepts and ideas are developed and explored from a range of angles over the three years.

We look at:

- Our own identity
- Our place in society
- Our world around us
- Our skills and future lives

We hope you enjoy what you are learning in school and that the information here helps you share and develop your ideas and knowledge with your families at home.

If you would like to know more, or have any questions, please contact your subject teacher.



Mr Ben Edwards

Assistant Headteacher, Teaching and Learning

Year 9 Term 5

Art

Students will begin their Street Art project, looking at the artists from around the world and from different backgrounds who create work for urban areas. They will consider how the public interact with these artworks and create their own artwork that carries some influence from those they have studied. The choice of subject matter will be largely up to each student, providing plenty of creative freedom.

Design and Technology

Students who have chosen Food Technology for this term will have a focus on food from different parts of the world including India, China and Europe. They will also make a range of dishes from these countries. Students who have chosen Textiles will be completing a project that includes a range of different materials and high-level textiles skills. Students who have chosen Resistant Materials will be attempting a brand new Architectural project that will focus on high-level modelling and CAD skills.

Drama

The plays of John Godber.

This term Year 9 will be focusing on the playwright John Godber and his plays. We will look at his characters, dialogue, his use of comedy and staging techniques, and explore socio-political themes. Students will learn about one of Godber's main influences, the theatre practitioner Bertolt Brecht, and how Brecht's ideas about theatre have informed Godber's own work. This unit will culminate in the students devising their own scene using Godber's style of theatre.

English

In the final term of Key Stage 3, students will be focussing on mastering the skills that have been required of them across this key stage. Students will undertake a holistic study of *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare. This unit will allow each student to show off the skills they have picked up and support them in transitioning through to Key Stage 4. We will also look to bring *Romeo and Juliet* to life, as we work closely with the Drama department to bring performance into the classroom and develop our knowledge of staging.

French

In this unit we will be learning about regions in France and DOM TOM countries. We will learn how to talk about where we live in more detail, discuss the weather and make plans accordingly. In addition, we will learn directions and practise the vocabulary by doing role plays. Finally, we will look at the pros and cons of where we live. This term's grammar includes using the imperative, irregular adjectives and superlatives, *si* clauses with near future and present tense, negatives and present and imperfect tenses together.

Geography

This term we will start our first unit of the AQA GCSE Geography specification. We will be focusing on Physical Landscapes in the UK, with a particular focus on coasts. Students will learn about waves as well as a range of processes at the coast including types of weathering, erosion, mass movement and transportation methods. We will explore the resultant features of these processes by studying a range of both erosional and depositional coastal landforms.

German

After finishing our module on daily life, we will be covering the theme of home area, learning vocabulary to describe places, talk about activities in the local area and visits to towns further afield in German speaking countries, as well as talking about our dream town. In grammar, we recap the four tenses already covered – present, perfect, future and conditional and learn how to express advantages and disadvantages in more detail.

History

We are addressing the development of the Nazi persecution of Jews and minority groups in Germany and across Europe. Our study will begin by focussing on the period before the Second World War through the analysis of photographs. Students will investigate a selection of anti-Jewish laws introduced by the Nazi regime before proceeding to study the Kristallnacht Pogrom of 1938. We sensitively explore life in ghettos and the Final Solution, as well as considering other examples of genocide in more recent history.

Computer Science

This term we will be covering the basic theory, creation and use of a single-table database and a simple relational database involving two tables in a one-to-many relationship. We will start by looking at an existing single-table database, learning how to add records and make queries. We will also create input forms with combo boxes and list boxes, reports and a front-end menu.

Mathematics

In Maths we will be covering, in block 7, probability (theoretical probability, systematic listing and counting, experimental probability and tables and venns). In block 8 we will be covering construction (bearings, loci, and congruence.) In block 9 we will be covering percentages calculator methods (decimal multipliers, reverse and successive percentage problems). There will be a topic review/assessment at the end of each block and an end of year examination.

Music

Having studied how to compose a song from the musical in the style of Hamilton, students will now look at another musical – West Side Story by Leonard Bernstein. We will continue to learn how music reflects character through instrumentation, rhythm and other MAD TSHIRT musical elements. Bernstein was a genius at showing character, and in this musical adaptation of Romeo and Juliet, he reflects the warring gangs (the Jets and the sharks) through Jazz rhythms (Jets) Latin Dances (Sharks) and complex harmonies. This will culminate in a group performance – are you a Jet or a Shark?

Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics

We continue to explore the philosophical problem of suffering; 'Why do we suffer?' This is an exploration of different religious explanations for origins of evil and how (and if) the presence of evil and suffering can be reconciled with the God of Classical Theism. After this we shall look at 'Poverty'; different types locally and globally, the religious and humanist responses to alleviating poverty on a practical level and how faith has motivated this.

Physical Education

For the summer term (block 7, 8 and 9), to coincide with our fixtures and athletic events, the PE lessons will be split to cover 2 sports each week; thus allowing students experience in both sports ahead of the summer fixtures and athletics events.

Block 7 (4 weeks; wb 8/4/24 - 29/5/24)

- Boys group 1 = Lesson 1: Athletics Lesson 2: Cricket
- Boys group 2 = Lesson 1: Athletics Lesson 2: Cricket
- Girls group 1 = Lesson 1: Cricket Lesson 2: Athletics
- Girls group 2 = Lesson 1: Cricket Lesson 2: Athletics

Block 8 (4 weeks; wb 6/5/24 - 3/6/24)

- Boys group 1 = Lesson 1: Athletics Lesson 2: Cricket
- Boys group 2 = Lesson 1: Tennis Lesson 2: Softball
- Girls group 1 = Lesson 1: Cricket Lesson 2: Athletics
- Girls group 2 = Lesson 1: Cricket Lesson 2: Tennis

Block 9 (4 weeks; wb 10/6/24 - 8/7/24)

- Boys group 1 = Lesson 1: Tennis Lesson 2: Softball
 - Boys group 2 = Lesson 1: Athletics Lesson 2: Cricket
 - Girls group 1 = Lesson 1: Rounders Lesson 2: Tennis
 - Girls group 2 = Lesson 1: Rounders Lesson 2: Athletics
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Science

In Year 9 Science, students begin their GCSE course. Students start different topics at different times on a rotation.

- In Chemistry, students complete topics C1-3. This means learning about the fundamentals of the atom and the periodic table, then moving onto how atoms bond to make compounds.
- In Biology, students complete topics B1-3 and B16-18. We begin by looking at the cell and the building blocks of life. Then in some summer, when the weather improves, students study ecology and ecosystems, which is topics B16-18.
- In Physics, students complete topics P1-3 which are all about energy stores, heat and how we can get electricity from different power sources. We also complete P6, which is about molecules and matter, how materials changes when they are heated.

Spanish

This term we will be continuing the topic of holidays. Talking about holidays and booking accommodation. We will be revising all tenses, using connectives and exploring higher level writing techniques.