



Year 8 Curriculum

Art

Skills to be covered:

Drawing, painting, 3D design/sculpture, printing textiles, graphics, mixed media, artist analysis, literacy and numeracy.

Topics and content for year:

Alice in Wonderland - workshops exploring the visual elements across a range of techniques. Fantastic and Strange- workshops exploring the visual elements across a range of art techniques

How students will be assessed:

Regular SWAN assessment including peer and self-assessment
Half-termly assessments using levels, including literacy
Y8 exams

National Curriculum Changes:

- To produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences.
 - To become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques.
 - To evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design.
 - To know about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.
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Computing

Skills to be covered:

Key Computing concepts such as logical thinking, sequencing, selection, loops, variables and algorithms.

Topics and content for year:

Students receive their Computing lessons through an intensive model of delivery as part of our Design and Innovation curriculum. They will undertake a variety of exercises designed to enhance their computational thinking abilities. They will build on skills learnt in Year 7 and develop their experience further by using HTML and Javascript to create their own web pages.

How students will be assessed:

In addition to regular feedback from teachers and their peers, students will sit an end of module assessment task in order to measure their progress.

National Curriculum Changes:

As specified above



Dance

Skills to be covered:

Students will develop skills in composition, performance and appreciation; learning how to create dances building on dance technique for performance.

Topics and content for year:

Students will study a range of dance techniques and styles, such as, Jazz, Musical theatre, Contemporary dance and Physical Theatre. They will focus on different topics and stimuli to produce performances.

How students will be assessed:

Assessment will be based on application of compositional and performance skills. Students will also be assessed on their speaking and listening skills in response to analysing their own, and others work. Assessment will take place at the end of every term with a mid-way assessment to monitor progress.

National Curriculum Changes:

As specified above

Design and Innovation

Skills to be covered:

Building upon skills learned in years including Pro-engineer and electronics. Further hand skills and appreciation of the design process.

Topics and content for year:

Bug hotel, night light, designing games controllers, food from around the world, juggling balls and further computing.

How students will be assessed:

Teacher assessment based on expected student progress.
Examination.

National Curriculum Changes:

Drama

Skills to be covered:

Students will develop skills in devising, performance and appreciation; learning how to create plays building on drama techniques for performance.

Topics and content for year:

Students will follow similar topics to English to develop their knowledge and understanding of texts. They will cover basic drama techniques: story-telling and narration from *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, a character study of Shakespeare's *Richard III* and realism theatre through the topic of *Homelessness*.



How students will be assessed:

Assessment will be based on application of devising and performance skills. Students will also be assessed on their speaking and listening skills in response to analysing their own, and others work. Assessment will take place at the end of every term with a mid-way assessment to monitor progress.

National Curriculum Changes:

As specified above

English Language and Literature

Skills to be covered:

Basics of spelling, punctuation and grammar. Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening.

Topics and content for year:

Autumn 1 - Survival extracts/ Anthropomorphism extracts - both with a combination of 19th,20th & 21st century
Autumn 2 - Survival extracts/ Gothic extracts - both with a combination of 19th,20th & 21st century

Spring 1 - Creative writing/ Much Ado About Nothing

Spring 2 - Hunger Games or Curious Incident/ Much Ado About Nothing

Summer 1 - Hunger Games or Curious Incident/ Poetry through the Ages

Summer 2 - Creative writing/ Poetry through the Ages

How students will be assessed:

Half termly assessments in Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening. Internal end of year exam.

National Curriculum Changes:

Curriculum changes have been made in line with the New English Language and Literature GCSE requirements.

Geography

Skills to be covered:

AO1 - Demonstrate knowledge of locations, places, processes, environments and different scales.

AO2 - Demonstrate understanding of concepts, environments and processes.

AO3 - Apply knowledge and understanding to interpret, analyse and evaluate geographical information.

AO4 - Use a variety of geographical skills and techniques to investigate questions and issues.

Topics and content for year:

Unit 1 - Fragile environments

Unit 2 - Rich and Poor

Unit 3 - Russia

Unit 4 - Rivers and Coasts

Unit 5 - Africa v Asia



How students will be assessed:

Students will sit three assessments (one each term), which will test them on all the knowledge, skills and understanding that they have covered so far in the year. There are also two 'key pieces of work' for each unit, where students will be graded as on/above/below target.

National Curriculum Changes:

As specified above

History

Skills to be covered:

AO1 - Demonstrate knowledge of events, individuals and time.

AO2 - Demonstrate understanding of concepts including, change and continuity, importance and significance and similarity and difference.

AO3 - Apply knowledge and understanding to interpret, analyse and evaluate historical sources.

AO4 - Apply knowledge and understanding to interpret, analyse and evaluate historical interpretations.

Topics and content for year:

Unit 1 - The English Reformation

Unit 2 - Elizabethan England

Unit 3 - Industrial Revolution

Unit 4 - Crime through time

Unit 5 - Empire and Slavery

Unit 6 - The First World War

How students will be assessed:

Students will sit three assessments (one each term), which will test them on all the knowledge, skills and understanding that they have covered so far in the year.

There is also a key piece of work for each unit, where students will be graded as on/above/below target.

National Curriculum Changes:

- A greater freedom to choose topics and design an engaging and cohesive curriculum.
 - New levels designed in accordance with the school framework, using current GCSE criteria to develop the levels to allow consistency through into GCSE.
 - A new Key Stage 3 curriculum map was developed, looking at creating a chronological and engaging curriculum covering a range of topic areas.
 - A new Scheme of Work template has been implemented to increase the depth of planning, focussing in on skills taught and attainment.
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Mathematics

Skills to be covered:

Objectives are taken from the Key Stage 3 Framework for Year. Using and Applying Mathematics is covered by problem solving tasks embedded into the Year 8 Scheme of Work.

Topics and content for year:

Number, Ratio and Proportion, Rates of Change, Algebra, Probability and Statistics, Geometry and Measures.

How students will be assessed:

3 assessments each term; a test covering the objectives taught and 2 rich tasks which assess problem solving skills. The results are recorded by specifying which of the assessment criteria a student has now achieved and this information generates whether a student is on, above, significantly above, below or significantly below target depending on their flightpath. This means that every student has a document tailored to their own specific needs.

National Curriculum Changes:

New Maths curriculum (see above)

MFL

Skills to be covered:

Students build on their knowledge and skills acquired in year 7. They learn how to express themselves in two tenses and use more complex language. They start to learn a third tense towards the end of the year.

Topics and content for year:

French: Life at home; holidays; TV, films and books; future plans; my identity

German: Free time; school; the town; holidays; TV, books and films; healthy living

Spanish: Food, meal times, healthy living; holidays; TV and cinema; relationships with family and friends; clothes and fashion

How students will be assessed:

Assessment is in speaking and/or writing at the end of each unit of work. Listening and reading are assessed throughout the course.

National Curriculum Changes:

Music

Skills to be covered:

Rhythmic accuracy, creating patterns, performing in groups, maintaining an independent part, recognising instruments, recognising musical styles, performing set patterns, instrumental dexterity, developing a melody, creating a structured piece, manipulating the elements, creating music for a purpose/effect, recognising mood/genre, commenting on musical devices.



Topics and content for year:

Rhythm 2 Latin American Music Melody Writing 2 Mood/Genre Music Pentatonics Performance 2.

How students will be assessed:

Half termly recorded compositions & performances, written tasks incl self/peer assessments & research topics, theoretical tests on music notation, music software tasks, listening tasks incl recognition of styles, instruments & rhythmic dictation.

National Curriculum Changes:

As specified above

PE

Skills to be covered:

Development of the above mentioned skills. Also officiating and organising games lessons.
Developing choreography and performance skills

Topics and content for year:

Autumn and Winter Terms. Hockey, Football, Gymnastics/Trampoline, Badminton, Netball (Girls Only).
Rugby (Boys Only), Fitness (including CrossCountry), Orienteering/OAA Problem Solving.
Summer Term, Athletics, Rounders, Tennis, Cricket (Boys Only), Softball

How students will be assessed:

Each topic is assessed in a number of areas including skill, game skills, organisation, and leadership. These scores are averaged to produce a level.

National Curriculum Changes:

As specified above

Religious Studies

Skills to be covered:

Focus on descriptive and exploratory development and evidencing opinion.

Topics and content for year:

Students will begin by exploring and comparing different types of Christian Initiation (Believers and Infant Baptism) before progress to a comparison of Christian and Jewish Marriage, including evaluating beliefs surrounding Marriage and Divorce.

Students will then progress towards exploring the person of Muhammad and evaluating how accurately Muhammad is represented in the Media (alongside Islamic beliefs associated with Muhammad).

Finally, in the summer term students will be studying their 'Finding the Divine' module which involves students exploring and comparing different representations of 'The Divine' in Ancient religions such as Paganism and Greek Mythology, through to more modern representations in the Christian Trinity and the Monotheism of Islam/Judaism.



How students will be assessed:

Regular self and peer assessment with more formal assessments at the end of each half term.

National Curriculum Changes:

We remain part of the basic curriculum and outside of the national curriculum there have been no changes directly focussed on Religious Studies, although we have adopted the Derbyshire agreed syllabus.

Science

Skills to be covered:

Literacy, Numeracy and Working Scientifically.

Topics and content for year:

Biology - Breathing and Circulatory System, Skeletal and muscular systems, Nutrition and photosynthesis.
Chemistry - Materials of the Earth, The Periodic Table and Elements, Limestone and Reaction. Physics - Electricity, Paying for Electricity, Energy and Magnetism.

How students will be assessed:

There will be a variety of assessment through the year; knowledge based, skills based and practical reporting. There will be a key focus on literacy, numeracy and working scientifically. Each topic will involve one of these assessments.

National Curriculum Changes:

Schemes of work have been re-written in line with the new National Curriculum. Assessments have all been written into topics with a numeracy, literacy or working scientifically focus. Activate resources have been bought in as a teaching and learning resource for staff and students, and can be accessed online.