

YEAR NINE CURRICULUM SUMMARY – SPRING TERM 2020

<p>ENGLISH</p>	<p>Continuing to prepare Year Nine for the skills required at GCSE, students will study William Shakespeare’s comedy ‘Much Ado About Nothing’. They will study Shakespeare’s language in detail, exploring themes and dramatic techniques, relating the play to its historical context. Students will also continue to build upon their creative writing skills, experimenting with style, structure and vocabulary to create a range of effects. In the second half of the term, Year Nine will also be introduced to a range of poetry, developing critical analysis and skills of comparison as they study an anthology of thematically linked poems.</p>
<p>MATHEMATICS</p>	<p>Year Nine students will continue their mathematics journey through their GCSE mathematics qualification. This term there will be consolidation work on calculations, with fractions and percentages using a calculator, plus pen and paper methods. Other topics to be covered will include work on data collections, displaying data in statistical diagrams such as scatter graphs, pie charts and using different tables and charts plus drawing conclusions from data. Algebra topics this term will involve solving equations and understanding and solving inequalities. Geometry and measures topics will include angles in quadrilaterals and polygons, plus Pythagoras Theorem and trigonometry for the higher level students.</p>
<p>SCIENCE</p>	<p>During the Spring Term, Year Nine students will be covering the following topics in science:</p> <p>Biology: students will continue their studies focusing firstly on the nervous system and the brain. They will need to be able to explain how the body responds to external stimuli. We will then be continuing on to ‘Health, Disease and the Development of Medicines,’ looking firstly at the main causes of communicable and non-communicable diseases.</p> <p>Chemistry: students will be learning about states of matter and various separation methods. In the new chemistry unit, students will go on to learn how different bonds and structures are formed in different molecules and link this to the physical properties of a substance.</p> <p>Physics: students will be studying light and the electro- magnetic spectrum. They will learn about the uses, and in some cases dangers, of the different parts of the electromagnetic spectrum. Students will also learn how lenses work and what they can be used for. Then they will move on to study the topic of radioactivity, finding out more about atoms and their structure and how they can produce radioactivity when they change. In addition to the above, students will carry out a selection of core practicals which will be recorded in their lab books. These practicals will develop key scientific skills including scientific thinking, experimental skills and analysis/evaluation techniques.</p> <p>https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/sciences-2016.html</p>
<p>ART & DESIGN</p>	<p>The art and design GCSE is made up of two elements: portfolio work and the final exam. The portfolio work will be created in Year Nine, Year Ten and the first term of Year Eleven. Over the course of Year Nine, students will be working on two different projects: still life and portraiture. They will build up skills, especially in acrylic painting, and will gain confidence working on larger scales. Students will familiarise themselves with the format of GCSE projects and assessment objectives. The Still Life project continues in January and leads on to the end of term, working through all assessment objectives for the art GCSE and teaching students how to develop a project. Students produce a cubist inspired painting as a final piece.</p>
<p>ENTERPRISE AND MARKETING</p>	<p>Students will begin to learn about how businesses finance their businesses whilst studying about how external factors can influence a business. Students will also look at customer feedback and the importance of a business plan. Students will also learn about the different types of ownership.</p>

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COMPUTER SCIENCE	The computer science GCSE option covers a wide variety of theoretical and practical topics. Areas covered include computations thinking, algorithms in mathematics, pseudo-code, Boolean and logic gates, object orientated programming, binary and hexadecimal, storage and compression, validation and verification, trees and Huffman coding, hardware, software, networking, as well as social engineering, cyber security, ethics, the law and the environment. There is a vast array of computing knowledge required but this year will form a good basis for the in-depth learning in these areas required in Year Ten.
DANCE	This term the students will be introduced to the GCSE dance anthology and will begin to explore all features of analysis. We will work practically and theoretically on the works, accumulating in a test of knowledge. The students will also focus on choreography processes and devices to develop choreography from a range of stimuli in preparation for component 1 of the GCSE course.
DESIGN TECHNOLOGY	This term's focus will be on the mechanisms of everyday products and putting them into context. Students will have further 'hands-on' opportunities within the project that will support the on-going theory elements of the GCSE course. The main material focus will be timber, with additional focus on wood working tools, equipment and machinery to produce a functioning mechanical toy with multiple joints. Students will be learning 3D drawing skills to allow them to communicate their ideas visually.
DRAMA	In Year Nine students will begin their GCSE journey. Over the course of the year students will explore practically and academically all components of the syllabus. Students have the opportunity to consolidate their learning and experience from the past 2-4 years and demonstrate their skills and understanding in a practical setting. Year Nine drama also endeavours to instil the wealth of transferable skills the subject offers into the students and prepare them for future study and eventual employment.
FRENCH	Year Nine students will begin the term by learning how to talk in detail about their tastes in sport, music, books and film by using a range of conjunctions, opinions and authentic phrases. They will take part in important discussion topics surrounding healthy living, social media, technology and the online world. Grammar concepts this term include: combining tenses, using 'depuis', order of adjectives, using 'que', direct object pronouns and superlatives.
GEOGRAPHY	Year Nine will continue with weather hazards and the study of tropical storms. In groups they will self-direct the impact of and responses to, a named tropical storm to understand the complexities of living and managing these hazards. They will then move onto extreme weather in the UK, which will allow them to understand more about how and why our weather has become more extreme. Geographical skills and interleaving of knowledge will feature throughout the lessons.
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE	Year Nine will gain an insight into what types of health and social care provisions are available and who they are available for. They will look closely at key life stages and the challenges that can come with them. Year Nine will investigate different types of communication and how these are used in health and social care provisions.
HISTORY	Students will continue with their study of America between 1840 and 1895, before moving onto the second unit of study, based on 'Health and the People in Britain, from c1000 – present day'. Source evaluation skills will continue to be developed throughout the term.
HOSPITALITY & CATERING	Year Nine students will be looking at the environment in which hospitality and catering providers operate and will investigate the different job roles available plus the responsibilities that come with these. They will learn how to cook a range of dishes including different methods of cake making, yeast doughs, working with pastry and a variety of sauces. They will all sit a food safety exam.

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iMEDIA	Year Nine will start the year looking at pre-production documents and the paperwork requirements to be able complete the planning for pre-production. They will then move on to look at digital graphics and how they can be constructed to meet a specific target audience and to fit certain criteria. Following that, they make a digital graphic from a set brief with certain requirements. They will then move on to digital photography and look at how the camera works and how each setting can be changed in order to achieve the perfect picture, utilising Photoshop to enhance and correct the picture. Finally they get introduced to video and how the same camera can shoot video in order to make a trailer, advert or video product, still considering the criteria that needs to be met.
MUSIC	Through a range of integrated performing, composing and listening activities, students will develop their skills in these areas alongside their understanding of the music of the following genres: 1st half of term – Film Music (students will be exploring how composers create music to support, express, complement and enhance film). 2nd half of term – Rock ‘n’ roll of the 1950s and 1960s (as part of the “Conventions of Pop” area of study).
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Year Nine will participate in a variety of invasion games, focusing on skill development, advanced tactics and officiating. Students will have the opportunity to experience new sports such as table tennis and challenge activities. They will also follow a fitness programme.
GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Within GCSE physical education students will have one theory and one practical lesson each week. Theory lessons will concentrate on continuing to study physiology and factors that affect performance. In practical lessons, students will develop advanced skills and tactics in table tennis and badminton.
PSHE	During the Spring Term, Year Nine will study a unit on ‘Valuing Difference’ where they will explore protected characteristics, gender identity, gender stereotyping and how to recognise and challenge gender-based discrimination. Thereafter, students will explore healthy relationships, including material on peer pressure and social expectations of drug use and issues relating to drug and alcohol misuse. Finally, students will complete an SRE unit exploring what consent means, and the misconceptions about “social norms” surrounding sexual activity.
RELIGIOUS STUDIES	Students will continue studying their GCSE course with component 1 – the study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices. Students will continue studying Christianity and focus on the church, holy communion, baptism, prayer and pilgrimage. They will also look at the role of the church in the wider community and how it aims to support vulnerable people.
SPANISH	Year Nine students will begin the term by learning to describe the weather and to talk about where they like to go and what they like to do in different weather conditions. They will then focus on a range of topics including how to tell the time, television and film, daily routine, food and drink, how to order food in a restaurant, and how to use high numbers in order to shop for food in a Spanish-speaking country. Key grammatical concepts will include the present tense of all regular verbs, key irregular verbs, reflexive verbs, the near future and the preterite tense. By the end of the Spring Term, students will be able to employ the past, present and future tenses together, allowing them to move on to the first module of the GCSE course in the summer term.
SPORTS STUDIES	This term students will learn about the important role that sports leaders have in influencing those around them. Students will have the opportunity to experience the practical skills required to be an effective sports leader. They will plan, deliver and evaluate a sports session, focusing on their leadership style, effective communication and the personal behaviours conducive to being an effective leader.
TRAVEL AND TOURISM	Students will continue their studies of influences on the global travel industry by exploring the management of the travel and tourism industry. They will do this by investigating concepts such as sustainability and the rise of eco-tourism destinations. They will consider a range of ways to management tourism by investigating a range of named examples. Students will continue to develop their research and presentation skills.