

Year 8 Curriculum Overview 2026-2027							
		Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
English	Topic	Dracula Gothic Novel	Richard III Shakespeare	I Am Malala Non-Fiction	Dystopian Short Stories Anthology Prose	Social Justice Anthology Poetry	Pygmalion
	Content	- Conventions of nineteenth-century Gothic Horror and the place of the ‘outsider’ in the novel. - Explicit teaching of Victorian vocabulary. - Exploration of tension created through setting	- Conventions of Shakespearean history play - Understanding of plot and key characters, such as Richard and Lady Anne - Exploration of ideas such as power and corruption and morality.	- Conventions of autobiography. - Social and historical context of the text. - Exploring ideas such as identity and gender roles.	- Reading of a collection of short stories that have an imagined society in which there is great suffering or injustice. - Exploration of the key terms: totalitarian and post-apocalyptic. - Conventions of dystopian literature and their place in modern literature.	- Revision of the Dystopian Short Stories anthology for the end of year assessment. - Study of social justice poetry and revising themes and ideas covered by poetry in year 7. - Exploration of poetic technique.	- Exploration of the main characters, particularly Eliza Doolittle and Professor Higgins, and how language, class and identity shape their relationships. - Analysis of key themes such as social mobility, transformation, prejudice and power, alongside Shaw's use of humour and dramatic techniques. - Development of analytical and evaluative writing skills through close study of significant scenes, characters and ideas within the play.
Maths	Topic	Number	Algebra & Geometry	Geometry, Number, Measures & Proportion	Number, Ratio & Geometry	Statistics	Geometry
	Content	- Powers and Roots - Prime Factorisation - Rounding - Fractions	- Linear Equations - Angles in parallel lines - Circumference	- Direct Proportion - Fraction, decimal and percentage conversion - Percentage calculation	- Ratio - Area of circles	- Presenting and interpreting data - Averages and spread	3-D Visualisation - Volume
Science	Topic	Heating and Cooling Earth and the Atmosphere Forces and Motion Plants and their Processes (order varies depending on class)		Electricity Interactions and Interdependence Forces and Work Acids and Alkalis (order varies depending on class)		Nutrition and Digestion Space (order varies depending on class)	
	Content	- Temperature - Changing Temperature - Energy Transfer and Temperature - Investigating Heating and Cooling - Heating Graphs - Cooling - What Affects Temperature Change - Investigating Materials’ Capacity to Store Energy - Thermal Conduction - Measuring Thermal Conductivity - Internal Energy - Density Changes - Thermal Convection - Surfaces and Thermal Stores - Designing Systems - Structure of the Earth - Continental Drift - Igneous Rocks - Weathering and Erosion - Sedimentary Rocks - Metamorphic Rocks and the Rock Cycle - Fossil Formation - Fossil Fuels - Extraction and Use of Fossil Fuels	- Earth’s Atmosphere - Greenhouse Effect and Global Warming - Revisiting Forces and Motion - Investigating Speed - Calculating Speed - Relative Motion - Speed and Distance-Time Graphs - Changing Motion - Drag and Streamlining - Frictional Forces and Motion - Falling - Plants as Organisms - Photosynthesis - Testing for Starch - Plant Growth Theories - Leaf Adaptations - Gas Exchange and Stomata - Plant Roots - Transport Vessels in Plants - Transpiration - Measuring the Rate of Photosynthesis 1 - Measuring the Rate of Photosynthesis 2 - Plants and the Atmosphere - Plants as Producers and the Role of Pollinators	- Circuits - Current in Series Circuits - Potential Difference - Investigating Potential Difference - Power and Energy - Electrical Power - Impact of Using Domestic Electricity - Efficiency of Electrical Appliances - Food Chains (Biomass and Transfer) - Predator-Prey Relationships - Food Webs - Bioaccumulation - Decay and the Importance of Microorganisms - Carbon Cycle - Classification - Competition - Adaptations - Natural Selection - Evolution and Extinction	- Forces and Their Effects - Work Done - Moments and Balance - Simple Machines - Hidden Forces - Hooke’s Law - Pressure - Applied Pressure - Acids and Bases - Simple Indicators - pH Scale and Indicator Solution - Investigating Acids and Alkalis - Acid Rain - Reactions of Acids with Metals 1 - Reactions of Acids with Metals 2 - Reactions of Acids with Alkalis - Antacid Investigation 1 - Antacid Investigation 2 - Metal Oxides and Non-Metal Oxides	- Healthy Diet 1 - Healthy Diet 2 - Consequences of Poor Diet - Chemistry of Food: Carbohydrates - Chemistry of Food: Proteins - Chemistry of Food: Lipids - Energy in Food 1 - Energy in Food 2 - Releasing Energy from Food - Enzymes and the Digestive System - Enzymes and Chemical Digestion - Absorption and Transport of Nutrients 13.Factors Affecting Enzyme Action - Investigating Temperature and Enzyme Action 1 - Investigating Temperature and Enzyme Action 2 - Making Digestion Efficient	- Observations from Our Position on Earth - Solar System - Gravity - Calculating Weight - Day and Night - Years - Seasons - Stars and Galaxies - The Universe - Exploring Space
Geography	Topic	Population	Coasts	Ecosystems	Tectonics	Tectonics	Weather and Climate
	Content	- How is the population spread and distributed around the globe? - Why do people settle where they do?	Understanding the processes of erosion, transportation and deposition that occur within the Sea.	- Describe the global distribution of biomes - Understand the factors that influence the distribution of biomes.	- Distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes. - Physical Processes at plate margins and the effects of and responses to earthquakes.	- Case studies of earthquakes; Chile and Nepal - Reducing risk of tectonic hazards.	- Factors which affect weather and climate - Describe and explain patterns of the UK - Identify and explain difference between high- and low-pressure systems

		Looking at why people choose to migrate from places into certain other places.	- Describing the features created by each - Looking at how Coasts affect our lives. - Ways in which we can protect ourselves and others from the Sea; case studies	- Features and location of Taiga biome - Identifying threats and managing the Taiga biome - Features and location of Corla Reefs - Identifying threats and managing the Coral Reefs			- Impacts of hurricane Katerina and strategies to manage - To work through a mini geographical field work project building on fieldwork skills from year 7
History	Topic	The Reformation/Tudors	The Elizabethans	The English Civil War	The trans-Atlantic slave trade	The Industrial Revolution	The British Empire
	Content	- Why was Martin Luther angry with the Catholic Church? - What is the difference between the Protestant and Catholic Church? - Who are the Tudors? - Why did Henry break from Rome?	- How did the church change under Edward, Mary and Elizabeth - What was the religious settlement and what challenges did it pose? - How did the Armada affect England?	- Why did the English Civil War start? - Why did Oliver Cromwell win the English Civil War? - How did the war change society?	- What was the Triangular Trade? - What was the Middle Passage? - What was life on plantations like? - What are examples of slave rebellions? - How was slavery abolished?	- How did England change through the Industrial Revolution? - Who were key individuals in the Industrial Revolution and why are they so significant?	- What countries were a part of the British Empire? - Why was the British Empire so important?
RS	Topic	Islam and religious Authority	Islam	Dharmic traditions	Dharmic traditions	Buddhism	Buddhism
	Content	- Founders, Foundations and Holy Texts - The History of Islam - The Life and time of the Prophet Muhammad - Shari’ah Law - Western Perspectives on Islam - Jihad	- The Sunni/Shi’a Split - The Hijab - The Qur’an - Islam in the UK Today	- Origins of the Hindu Dharma - Difficulties of finding the name - Scared texts - Nature of God	- Rituals - Different interpretations - Faith Across the world - Morality and living a good life	- Roots in Hindu Dharma - The Buddha - The 4 Noble Path - Dukkha	- Enlightenment - Mediation - Buddhist Philosophy
Spanish	Topic	Holidays	Going out	Daily Routine and Health	school	Future plans	Revision of Curriculum in Terms 1-5
	Content	- Types of transport - The weather - The past tense to talk about a holiday - Your ideal holiday - To talk about a future holiday	- Talking about a party - Expressing opinions - TV, film and music - The past tense to talk about last weekend - Present tense to talk about what you like to do	- Daily routine - What you do after school - Healthy eating - Food and exercise - The past tense to state what you did after school - What we should do to keep healthy	- To describe your school - After school clubs - School rules - Using the past and future to talk about school	- Future plans - Professions - Your ideal job	
French	Topic	Talking about TV, cinema, reading and what we do at weekends	Discussing clothing, holidays and future holiday plans	Describing daily routine and mealtimes	Talking about healthy and unhealthy diets and about illness.	Talking about school life, after school clubs and career paths.	Revision of Curriculum in Terms 1-5
	Content	- Weekend activities in present tense. - Justifying preferences - Simple book and film reviews.	- Use of vocabulary to describe clothes, food, drink and holiday destinations. - Use of present and future tense.	- Narrating routines in the past tense. - Use of reflexive verbs - Use of times of the day.	- Food and drink preferences - Discussing health habits in the present tense. - Use of modal verbs	- Discussing school routine in present tense. - Narrating routine in past tense.	
Computing	Topic	Computational Thinking	Computational Thinking	Binary Representation	Algorithmic Sorts and Searches	Data Types and Selection	Iteration and E-Safety
	Content	Computing - Computational thinking - Abstraction - Programming constructs revisited - Interactive game creation ICT Skills Presenting work using advance features of word	Computing - Computational thinking – decomposition and algorithmic thinking - Interactive game creation ICT Skills Presenting work through Power point	Computing - Binary representation revisited. - Binary representation of graphics. - CPU design and factors affecting performance.	Computing - Sorts and searches revisited. - Merge and selection sort. - Comparing sorts/searches using efficiency.	Computing - Python, variables, data types. - Basic input and output statements - Selection, if statements and nested if statements. - Adventure game	Computing - Python iteration, while loops - Combining iteration and sequence. - Adventure game project ICT Skills E-safety, online presence and relationships.
Music	Topic	Saharan Sounds (Exploring Textures and Rhythms)	Tonality and Structure	The Ensemble Musician- Off Beat	The Creative Musician – Black Music In America	Exploring the Conventions of Rap Music	Computer and Video Game Music (Exploring Global Computer and Video Game Music)
	Content	- African Drum performance techniques - The effect of timbre and sonority of the sounds produced. - Exploring Texture and Rhythm.	- Exploring keys and scales - Exploring the different structures in music e.g., Binary, Ternary, Theme and Variation	- Study through a variety of Popular Song Styles e.g. Mento, Ska, Reggae - Developing and refining ensemble skills	Exploring the development of contemporary Popular Music, tracing the development of Black music in America through listening, appraising and performance. <i>Blues, Rhythm and Blue, Rock and Roll, Jazz</i>	- Cultural and social aspects of the rap genre. - Perform and compose excerpts of Rap music and in turn, explore its characteristics.	- Character Themes in computer and video game music - Development of different atmospheres and scenarios games.
Art	Topic	Cubism	Cubism	Locality	Locality	Our world/Climate change	Our world/Climate change

	Content	- Formal elements - Art movement and artist knowledge/study - Facial features/proportion - Exploring media and techniques. - Multiple viewpoints & portraiture	- Formal elements - Drawing, design and exploring media and techniques. - Multiple viewpoints portraiture/3D card sculpture.	Locality - Formal elements - Understanding of scale/proportion - Composition - Perspective: 1 point, 2 points - Media experimentation - Annotation, analysis and evaluation.	- Formal elements - Understanding of scale/proportion - Composition - Media experimentation - Water colour and ink final pieces	- Formal elements - Media testing - Composition - Annotation, analysis and evaluation - Mixed media experimentation	- Formal elements - Colour theory Composition - Annotation, analysis and evaluation - Mixed media experimentation - Final pieces
PE	Topic	Netball Football Badminton	Volleyball Handball Hockey	Basketball Gymnastics	OAA Fitness training	Athletics	Rounders/Cricket Tennis
	Content	- Perform skills with proficiency and fluency in complex situations, both in isolation and when under pressure. - Successfully lead and motivate a small group, demonstrating confidence and good organisational skills. - Sustain exercise for duration of activity demonstrating good levels of cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and power. - Successfully employ more complex tactics or creative processes and adapt them to changing environments. - Understand more complex tactics or creative ideas and communicate effectively using verbal and non-verbal skills	- Accurately explain and evaluate performances and suggest appropriate improvements. - Lead by example through enthusiasm and determination to progress towards ambitious personal challenges and goals. - Know and explain components of fitness and apply them to sport, whilst understanding what is required to be a successful athlete. - Successfully lead and motivate a small group, demonstrating confidence and good organisational skills. - Sustain exercise for duration of activity demonstrating good levels of cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and power. - Know and explain the importance of nutrition and activity levels to mental, social, and physical well-being.	- Perform skills with proficiency and fluency in complex situations, both in isolation and when under pressure. - Successfully employ more complex tactics or creative processes and adapt them to changing environments. - Understand more complex tactics or creative ideas and communicate effectively using verbal and non-verbal skills - Accurately explain and evaluate performances and suggest appropriate improvements. - Successfully lead and motivate a small group, demonstrating confidence and good organisational skills. - Lead by example through enthusiasm and determination to progress towards ambitious personal challenges and goals	- Sustain exercise for duration of activity demonstrating good levels of cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and power. - Know and explain the importance of nutrition and activity levels to mental, social, and physical well-being. - Know and explain components of fitness and apply them to sport, whilst understanding what is required to be a successful athlete. - Perform skills with proficiency and fluency in complex situations, both in isolation and when under pressure. - Successfully employ more complex tactics or creative processes and adapt them to changing environments. - Understand more complex tactics or creative ideas and communicate effectively using verbal and non-verbal skills	- Accurately explain and evaluate performances and suggest appropriate improvements. - Understand more complex tactics or creative ideas and communicate effectively using verbal and non-verbal skills - Lead by example through enthusiasm and determination to progress towards ambitious personal challenges and goals. - Successfully lead and motivate a small group, demonstrating confidence and good organisational skills.	- Perform skills with proficiency and fluency in complex situations, both in isolation and when under pressure. - Lead by example through enthusiasm and determination to progress towards ambitious personal challenges and goals. - Sustain exercise for duration of activity demonstrating good levels of cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and power.
Drama	Topic	Performance Skills 3	Creating and Devising 2	Theatre Histories 2	Performance Analysis 2	Performance Skills 4	Theatre Histories 3
	Content	- Acting - Characterisation - Physicality - Gesture and movement on stage - Use of voice	- Devising skills - Improvisation skills - Text in performance - Public performance opportunity	- Early Shakespeare - Contextual studies - Performing selected scripted extracts	- Shakespeare performance focus - Reviewing live theatre performances - Looking at how the history of the text is performed and presented, through staging, set, lighting and costume.	- Physical theatre skills - Physicality - Dance - Movement - Group collaborative production - Workshops on each of the skills, learning about professional practitioners and exploring their practice. - Performance opportunity at end of term.	21st Century Performance types - Studying selected 21st Century practitioners - Consideration of post- modern performance styles and contemporary, new theatre works. - Use of evaluation of practitioners styles and works seen to inform creative planning for a potential devised performance.
DT/Food	Topic	Food: Cooking Skills/Nutrition	Graphics: Designing for clients	Textiles: Designing for clients	Food: Cooking Skills/Nutrition	Graphics: Designing for clients	Textiles: Designing for clients
	Content	- Eatwell guide & introduction to micro & macro nutrients - Cooking skills will include: - knife skills, weighing, measuring, - baking, frying, boiling	- Responding to a brief - Design ideas - Food packaging production - Evaluate	- Responding to a brief - Hand sewing skills - Design ideas - Felt Monster outcome - Evaluate	- Eatwell guide & introduction to micro & macro nutrients - Cooking skills will include: - knife skills, weighing, measuring, baking, frying, boiling	- Responding to a brief - Design ideas - Food packaging production - Evaluate	- Responding to a brief - Hand sewing skills - Design ideas - Felt Monster outcome - Evaluate
PSHE	Topic	Building perspectives	My Place in the world	Changing Bodies	Everyday Safety	Making Good Decisions	Intimate Relationships
	Content	- Judging information - Hate Crime - Growth mindset	- Identity - Prejudice - Discrimination	- Unhealthy Coping behaviours - Managing Puberty Gender and Sexuality	- Road Safety - Water Safety - Hazard signs	- Health Services - Diet - Physical exercise - Carrying a weapon - Drugs and Alcohol	- Peer Pressure - Consent - Healthy relationships

