

# YEAR 9 WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN THIS TERM?

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Sixth Form

## ART

This term your child will be continuing to focus on a food project where they will focus on a selection of artists to help understand how different artists use different techniques to create a variety of outcomes and start to understand how artists work can be used for a variety of things such as advertisement. Their analysis of artists will help them to understand how to work in the artists' style before then applying what they have learnt to their own piece of artwork.

## COMMUNITY & PERSONAL

Students in Year 9 have already started the Risks and Safety topic last term. The topic focuses on managing dangerous situations. Students will look at what Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is and breast ironing and why they are illegal. Students will also discuss human trafficking, extremism, terrorism and how people can be radicalised. They will learn about the dangers of drink spiking and forced marriage and how to keep themselves safe. Finally, students will learn about personal safety including CPR and first aid skills.

After this topic, students will look at how to look after their mental health and well-being. Lessons will include the risks of extended screen time, social media and self-esteem, body image, eating disorders, stress and anxiety and grief and loss.

If time, students will complete a short politics at the end of the year.

## COMPUTING

This term your child will be completing their BTEC DIT and GCSE Computer Science taster lessons in preparation for their option choices. They will be designing and programming a text-based adventure game in Python. They will be focusing on the three pillars of programming; sequencing, selection and iteration. Pupils will also be introduced to the benefits of using subprograms and implement this into their text-based adventure game to improve the efficiency of their code.

## DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

In Design and Technology students rotate each term of the year to a different specialist area and this term will study one of the following:

### Rotation 1 (Design and Technology)

Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of the process that designers follow when developing and manufacture new prototypes. They will learn about historical design movements and how these influence future design developments as well as using their designing and manufacturing skills acquired throughout year 7 and 8 to design and manufacture a wall clock.

### Rotation 2 (Design and Technology)

Student will develop their knowledge and understanding of how fibres and processed from raw fibres into usable pieces of fabric as well as understanding a range of different fabric construction techniques. Students will manufacture a cushion themed around the iconic Eames Elephant using a range of textile techniques.

In addition to this students will build on their 3D drawing skills developed in year 7 and will use the two point perspective drawing technique to develop a drawing of a street scene which they will then render to add depth and detail.

### Rotation 3 (Food Preparation and Nutrition)

Building upon their knowledge of nutrition and health, healthy eating and macronutrients students are introduced to micronutrients, their sources and functions. Students learn about special diets, including allergens and reasons for food choice. Students build upon their knowledge of food ingredients, considering their functional properties and how these are used in cookery. Students learn about and apply their knowledge of gelatinisation and caramelisation.

Students continue to combine a range of food preparation skills they have developed in year 7 and 8 to make more complex dishes using electrical equipment and high-risk foods including enchiladas, chicken goujons and calzone pizza. Students are encouraged to adapt and develop recipes taking into consideration the nutritional profile of the dish and dietary needs of those that are eating it.

## DRAMA

Year 9 will be examining the work of a theatre practitioner called Bertolt Brecht, exploring his style of political theatre and learning the key techniques and conventions used within it. Students will analyse and evaluate their own society and create pieces of theatre employing the Brechtian style that communicate their own thoughts and opinions.

## ENGLISH

Students in Year 9 are completing their study of the historical novel 'The Book Thief', exploring the writer's use of language and structure. They will then study the play 'Noughts and Crosses', exploring the playwright's use of language and stagecraft to explore issues around racism. With their writing teachers, students will study the way in which language has been used to create social protest and cause change throughout history and use these examples of non-fiction to create their own.

## GEOGRAPHY

In Year 9, pupils will continue studying Tropical Rainforests, including their climate, location, threats and sustainable management. Students will then start to study Resource Conflict, which will look at the availability of resources globally, and the development of non-renewable and renewable energy. They will also study how the availability or sharing of resources can create conflict between countries or groups of people, such as water scarcity in Africa along the River Nile.

## HISTORY

Students will examine the final stages of the Second World War, focusing on the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They will consider the human cost for Japanese civilians and the wider geopolitical consequences, particularly how the event heightened tensions between the USA and the USSR. Students will then explore the early years of the Cold War, investigating key events such as the Berlin Blockade, the Arms and Space Race, the building of the Berlin Wall, and the Cuban Missile Crisis, to understand the causes and nature of superpower rivalry.

## MATHS

Pupils in year 9 will begin the Summer term studying Linear Graphs where they will consolidate knowledge from KS3 on coordinates, plotting graphs, finding the gradient and y-intercept of a line as well as finding the equation of parallel and perpendicular lines. Pupils will also learn how to solve simultaneous equations both algebraically and graphically. Following this unit of work, year 9 pupils will further develop their knowledge of shape and angles, with a specific focus on calculating unknown angles in polygons and on parallel lines.

## MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

In languages students will learn vocabulary, structures about jobs and the future.

## MUSIC

The Year 9 music curriculum builds on the practical and theoretical skills developed in Year 8, with a focus on band and ensemble work in popular music. Students will explore a range of musical styles and develop their skills on instruments such as guitar, keyboard, and drums. The theoretical component will prepare students for GCSE music study, with a particular focus on harmony, melody, and form. By the end of the year, students should have a solid foundation in practical and theoretical music skills and be able to apply their knowledge in a range of musical contexts.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students in Year 9 will take on a more advanced role within Games and PE. Students will focus on the advanced skills, looking at tactics and decision making within each sport. New Sports such as Volleyball and Climbing are introduced to give students the opportunity to access sports that are on the GCSE specification. Students are also graded in a 1-9 system, which is more reflective when assessing students at the start of the GCSE course in year 10. Within the year, students will get the opportunity to attend the GCSE open evening, allowing students to get a picture of the variety of courses offered in year 10-11. Students will have the option to choose either GCSE PE, Cambridge National course within year 10. Students will also be able to select a BTEC Dance course. Finally students will get the opportunity in April time to attend the annual Ski trip, developing their resilience, teamwork, and skiing ability. They students will get the opportunity to attend a sports tour in October, looking at building upon existing skill level, embracing the culture, and gaining experience of playing teams in another country.

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

In year 9 RS, students have just started a new topic looking at absolute and relative morality, ethical theories such as Utilitarianism, Kantian and Situation Ethics. Students will then explore issues surrounding scientific practices connected to the creation or altering of human life such as IVF, cloning, genetic engineering and saviour siblings and then apply ethical theories to them.

Next students will look at different types of evil and suffering including the Holocaust, life before the Holocaust, Jewish responses to the Holocaust and other responses. Within this we will look at who were the bystanders, rescuers, victims and perpetrators of the Holocaust.

# SCIENCE

In Biology, pupils will be learning about infections and responses, looking at diseases, human defence systems and vaccinations.

In Chemistry, pupils will be learning about the rates of chemical reactions and the factors that may affect the rate.

In Physics, pupils will be learning about energy, how energy is stored and transferred and non-renewable energy resources, before learning about different types of waves, including the electromagnetic spectrum.