



**HOLMFIRTH
HIGH SCHOOL**
NATIONAL LEADERS OF EDUCATION AND LEADING EDGE SCHOOL

Holmfirth High School

Curriculum Guide

Year 9



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Introduction

This guide is intended to provide useful information for parents regarding the curriculum pupils are studying this year. Each subject section outlines the key topics covered in class throughout the year together with suggestions as to how parents can help support learning. If you have any queries regarding the content of this guide or if you'd like further guidance on how you can best support your child's learning, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance or the relevant Head of Department from the list below.

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Art & Design



Introduction

Pupils continue to build upon their acquisition of skills, techniques and processes using a range of materials and mixed media approaches. Greater individual and independent exploration of artists and artistic styles is expected in the development of their knowledge and understanding to make informed decisions and choices about their art.

Pupils will cover:

Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Ceramics, 3-D, Collage, Design, Photography, Mixed Media

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
Portraiture Extended Homework-Self-Image and Disguise Day of the Dead	Animals & Camouflage Extended Homework-Movement Image & Text/Book Art- Extended homework-Signs & Symbols	Structures and Landscapes Human Anatomy, Natural Environment, Sculpture, Building & Architecture Extended homework-Spirals in Art & Nature

Parent and child home learning opportunities

Local and national art galleries and museums for research of past and contemporary artists and exhibitions relating to the themes of the projects.

www.artchive.com, www.artcyclopedia, BBC Bitesize, You Tube, school art website resources

Computing



Introduction

In year 9 we introduce the pupils to a range of units with emphasis on the new computing programs of study.

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
COMPUTER CRIME AND CYBER SECURITY	FIRST STEPS IN SMALL BASICS	SPREADSHEET MODELLING
UNDERSTANDING COMPUTERS	HTML AND WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT	

Parent and child home learning opportunities

Extension work which can be accessed via individual websites.

Help with extended projects and homework sheets.

Emphasis of using computers safely within the home environment.

Design and Technology



Pupils study in 4 different areas across the year on a rotation system. The sub-subjects and teaching & Learning objectives for these units are as follows:

Sub-Subject	Pupils are taught and assessed in the following areas:	Home Learning Suggestions
Cooking & Nutrition	Building on the Year 8 Scheme of Work pupils will be taught more complicated cooking and preparation techniques through the production of a wide range of dishes including; bread, pastry, tarts, risotto, cheesecake and trendy bakes.	Encourage pupils to weigh their own ingredients for practical lessons.
Textiles – Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability – looking at ways to save the planet through design • Recycling and reusing • Independent designing • Independent use of Textiles equipment, based on previous experience. 	Ideas for living a greener lifestyle can be found at: http://www.greenfinder.co.uk
Electronics - Circuit Wizard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using circuit wizard to create working circuits using CAD • To determine technological development and its impact on the world • Mechanisms 	Parents could encourage pupils to watch the 'Earth 2050' documentary on you tube – this will help with their extended homework task.
Graphics - Adobe Illustrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will create a range of graphic artwork focused around geometric shapes and colour theory. • Learning is very pupil focused and much of the task is based around experimentation and independent learning. • Students will gain an insight in typography and successful typographical design. Using this information, students will complete a mini project on typography. 	Analysing packaging, magazine and newspaper layouts. Looking at fonts images etc. Google Sketchup is free to download – pupils could get ahead using this software at home along with the free tutorials online.

Drama



Introduction

In Drama, year 9 students explore and perform a range of Drama Conventions through the studying of particular stories and genres. They also focus on both realising a performance from a script, and devising their own unique performance from a range of stimuli.

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
<p>Exploring the Drama Convention of Synchronised Movement through various exercises and performances.</p> <p>Exploring and performing a parody of 'The 12 Days of Christmas' using Roleplay, Tableau and Cross-Cutting.</p>	<p>Realising and performing a script. Students will explore techniques for learning lines and developing character using Characterisation, Choral Speaking, Monologue and Roleplay.</p>	<p>Devising Plays. Students will explore the process of devising, rehearsing and performing a unique piece of Drama derived from a stimulus.</p>

Parent and child home learning opportunities

Students can rehearse their lines for up-coming assessments and develop their own characterisation.

English



Introduction

In year 9 a range of texts will be explored including non-fiction and literary fiction. Reading, writing and speaking and listening skills will be developed with an emphasis on language appreciation. The students will begin to start being prepared for their GCSE course in year 10.

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
<p>Modern Drama: A View from the Bridge - A study of Arthur Miller's play, set in 1950s Brooklyn, New York. This unit will focus on research skills, drama and in depth character analysis. The primary aims of the unit are to develop reading and speaking skills.</p> <p>Advertising - exploring the promotion and marketing of video games. Pupils will explore the issues behind video games and their</p>	<p>Exam Preparation - Within the unit, students will study and prepare for an unseen writing exam. Prior to the assessment, they will be given opportunities to develop writing techniques linked to descriptive, persuasive and informative writing. There will also be opportunities to continue to work on spelling, punctuation, vocabulary and sentence construction. Exam technique will also be</p>	<p>'How I Live Now' (Meg Rosoff) - a study of a modern novel about survival in a time of international conflict. Pupils will read the text in groups, as a whole class and individually, looking at themes, characters and considering how the writer uses language to present this gripping story.</p> <p>Preparing for new GCSE in English Language – Pupils will explore non-fiction texts</p>

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
<p>influence on young people, leading to a debate and a piece of discursive writing. They then work in groups on a campaign to market a videogame suitable for their age group, covering skills such as storyboarding, magazine advert design and slogans. Their work concludes with a 'Dragons' Den' –type competition to choose the best campaign.</p>	<p>considered. Shakespeare: 'Romeo and Juliet' - Students will analyse Shakespeare's use of language as well as considering the play as a performance by watching a film version and exploring one of the most dramatic scenes (Act 3 Scene 5) in detail. This will be developed into a Reading assignment based around the character of Juliet</p>	<p>from the 19th and 21st Centuries. They will explore how written language has developed and begin to analyse and interpret texts, focussing on how writers use language to shape our response as readers.</p>
<p>Parent and child home learning opportunities</p> <p>Modern Drama – Going to see a play and / or creating a treatment (summary) for a play.</p> <p>Advertising - Using examples of reviews from gaming magazines provided on Frog, help your child to write a review of their favourite video game. If they don't like gaming, then a review of a film or book is equally acceptable. Layout and language style are an important part of this task.</p> <p>Exam Preparation - Prior to the exam, it will be necessary for students to complete some practice exam questions under timed conditions.</p> <p>Shakespeare – research and discuss the context of the play, Shakespeare's life and times. Consider the role of the theatre in the sixteenth century and in the public domain.</p> <p>'How I Live now' - Support your child with writing a first person account of a dramatic incident – an opening chapter. Think about the use of characterisation, setting and the need to hook a potential reader.</p> <p>Preparing for new GCSE in English Language – Explore all kinds of non-fiction texts, from leaflets to newspapers. Consider the purpose and audience of different texts and how these influence the language that is used.</p>		



Introduction

Year 9 aims to build upon the foundations skills acquired during Year 7 and Year 8 and also prepare the students for GCSE study.

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
<p>Coasts In this unit you will explore the UK coastline, learning the key physical processes at work and resulting landforms. You will also investigate the physical and human interaction at the coast.</p> <p>Globalisation In this topic you will learn about what makes us interconnected with the rest of the world. You will learn where the clothes we wear come from, who the global producers of our food are and the places where technology is advancing rapidly.</p>	<p>Restless Earth In this topic you will investigate the physical processes at work at tectonic plate boundaries and the resulting impact on humans. The topic will look at volcanos, earthquakes and tsunamis.</p> <p>China In this topic you will investigate the rise of China as a world super power and focus on the physical landscape and its impact upon rural to urban migration.</p>	<p>Geography in the news In this unit you will develop a range of skills based upon collecting case study information about real life events.</p> <p>In this final topic you will complete a Geography decision making exercise (DME).</p>

Parent and child home learning opportunities

<https://www.bing.com/maps>
<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapzone/>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrw76sg>
<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/>
<http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lm0tHRs9Bng>
<http://www.stopdisastersgame.org/en/noflash.html>
<http://interactivesites.weebly.com/volcanoes.html>

History



Introduction

In Year 9 the focus is on world history, including some of the turbulent events of the twentieth century.

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The British Empire • The Abolition of the Slave Trade • Extended homework project: End of Empire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The First World War • Extended homework project: Remembrance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Second World War • The Holocaust • A study over time • Extended homework project: Twentieth century world events

Parent and child home learning opportunities

Places: Any war memorial, Imperial War Museum (London or Salford), the British Museum. Pupils have the opportunity to go on a school trip to the Imperial War Museum (Salford), although places are limited.

Films: Amazing Grace, The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas, any First or Second World War films.

Websites: Spartacus-Educational, National Archives

Maths



Introduction

These are the topics that Y9 students study in preparation for their GCSE years.

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
Sequences Proportional reasoning Functions and graphs Circles and polygons Solving equations Handling data	Powers and roots Transformations Calculating and order of operations Area, volume and measures	Formulae Pythagoras' theorem Probability Loci and constructions 2D, 3D and scale drawings

Parent and child home learning opportunities

Interacting with web-based resources for example BBC Bitesize or Mymaths for example. Read/view the content or podcast and ask each other what you understood by it. Is your son/daughter able to complete a sample question or questions?

If not, where does it break down? You may be able to generate a query that the student can take to a maths surgery (Mon/Thurs lunchtimes).



French

Introduction: In French this year, students will learn the basic vocabulary and structures to speak, write and understand others talking about the topics outlined. Basic grammar on the perfect past tense will be taught and all prior learning consolidated. The curriculum for pupils studying one language only is highlighted under **1FL**

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
Socialising: Facebook Music Going out	Health and Welfare Diet and fitness	A l'horizon? Future careers and aspirations
<u>IFL</u> Paris module Tourism & visits	<u>IFL</u> My identity Personality, music & clothes	<u>IFL</u> House & home

German

Introduction: In German this year, students will learn the basic vocabulary and structures to speak, write and understand others talking about the topics outlined. Basic grammar on the past tense (with consolidation of the present and future tenses) of weak and strong verbs will be taught

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
Hobbies (Exchange – Braunschweig)	Holidays Clothes and shopping	Town/country and environment Illness Lost property

Spanish

Introduction: In Spanish this year, students will learn the basic vocabulary and structures to speak, write and understand others talking about the topics outlined. Basic grammar on the preterite past tense (with consolidation of Y7/8 grammar) will be taught.

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
Town/weather directions	Holiday	Health Family

Parent and child home learning opportunities:

Use of Active Teach on VLE

Use of Linguascope, Username: Holmfirth1 – Password: mflgfs1

A section of bilingual readers in Library available to take home.

Parent and child vocabulary learning

Purchase a workbook – contact school

Have access to bilingual directory



Music

Introduction

In Music, Year 9 students explore a range of musical styles including Rock and Roll, Blues, Popular music and Film music. Work includes listening, performing and composing. Students also get an opportunity to compose using Music technology.

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
<p>Rock and Roll Exploring Rock and Roll looking at key performers such as Elvis Presley and Bill Haley. Group performance work looking at the 12 bar blues (chords C, F and G).</p> <p>Blues Understanding the development of Blues and Jazz through listening and composing own blues song and the use of improvisation as a performance technique.</p>	<p>Musical Futures Exploring popular music through musical futures work. Pupils will learn to research and resource songs to perform as part of a band. Pupils will be responsible for the time management of their chosen song/s. Final showcase performances to realise their work.</p>	<p>Film Music Exploring Film Music incorporating silent movie music, main title music and incidental music.</p> <p>Music technology unit to compose music for a cartoon sequence.</p>
<p>Parent and child home learning opportunities</p> <p>Students can rehearse their music for up-coming assessments and develop their own musicianship through extra listening.</p> <p>Click here to link to Music Year 9 webpage for more detail</p>		



Introduction

In Year 9 pupils have a choice of activity pathway. Each pupil chooses 6 activities from a list, with 3 choices per unit and follows a 7 lesson programme on each sport. The activities within the list are seen below. In the summer term pupils are able to opt to do a sports leader qualification.

Term 1 & 2 topics			Term 3 topics
6 activities from:			Choice from:
Football	Hockey	Trampolining	Sports Leader Award Level 1 Rounders/cricket Softball Athletics
Rugby	Netball	Handball	
Circuit training	Rounders	Basketball	
Pilates/zumba	Strength and core conditioning		
Knowledge and understanding:			
Pupil practise their skills and techniques at a higher level in year 9 on their chosen activities. They continue to build on their leadership skills within lessons and then have the option to further develop such techniques in the summer term.			
Parent and child home learning opportunities			
Watching any of the above sports – live performances/matches or programmes on TV. Joining a wide variety of community clubs in the Holmfirth and Huddersfield Area – ask your PE teacher for details or see notice board in PE block.			



Introduction

The Y9 RPSE curriculum examines responses to specific contemporary moral and ethical issues in society as well as exploring philosophical concepts of how the world was created. Pupils will also continue to cover topics within PSHE as well as having the opportunity to examine the foundations of belief in Abrahamic faiths and a study of a world religion; Islam.

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics: Matter of life and death • Environmental & medical ethics • Drugs Education- this will continue at the start to Term 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philosophy: Religion & Science • Abrahamic faiths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSHE: Relationships Education • Islam

Parent and child home learning opportunities

- The Abrahamic Faiths. Introducing students to the key beliefs of Judaism, Christianity & Islam. The BBC 'Religion & Ethics' website (www.bbc.co.uk/religion) is a great starting point for the study of different religious traditions
- Ethics: Pupils could read and research news articles about different case studies as well as looking at British Laws in connection to ethical topics such as euthanasia, Dignitas. 'Me before you' (euthanasia) and 'Day after tomorrow' (global warming) (12) are a good starting point to understand the ethical topics that will be covered.
- Philosophy: Pupils will examine the argument of how the world was created. They will examine whether Religion and Science can agree. Pupils could research teachings and various religious statements about the acceptance of Science as to how the world was created. Pupils could also research who Charles Darwin was and what he believed about evolution.
- Islam: the topic will include an introduction to the world religion Islam, pupils will examine the Five Pillars, Hajj, Holy books, festivals, religious figures in Islam as well as practices within this religion. For those pupils wishing to choose RPSE as a GCSE option this will be a good support to their studies in Key Stage Four, AQA syllabus, Specification A.
- Drug Abuse. This topic centres on the ethical dilemmas relating to drugs and the law as well as looking at the dangers of different drugs and their classifications. Talk to Frank is a good website for facts and information.



Introduction

In Year 9 we continue to build on our ‘WORKING SCIENTIFICALLY’ skills and hope that pupils are able to use all the terms that are required by the GCSE specifications. We cover many more topics from the three disciplines; **Biology**, **Chemistry** and **Physics**. You can find more detail in the Science folder on Frog. There will be 2 formal topic assessments in each of terms 1 and 3 and an exam in term 2.

Term 1 topics	Term 2 topics	Term 3 topics
<p>Respiration</p> <p>Periodic table</p> <p>Pressure and moments</p>	<p>Electricity</p> <p>Reactions of metals and patterns of reactivity</p> <p>Heating and cooling</p>	<p>Chemical reactions</p> <p>Plants</p> <p>Energy</p>

Parent and child home learning opportunities

Your child should be using their ‘Kerboodle’ login to access lots of revision material and the KS3 text books; <http://www.kerboodle.com/users/login> . BBC bitesize is also a useful resource full of revision notes and video clips; <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zng4d2p>. Pupils can also purchase a revision guide from school.

To help your child day to day ask them to try and explain why they think things happen eg. Why does water spin as it goes down the plug hole? Why does your stomach feel funny if you go over a hump quickly in the car.

Encourage your child to watch Science programmes on TV; Dara O’Brian’s ‘Science club’ and the children’s Christmas lectures are both interesting and challenging. Some students may also find the programmes that Brian Cox presents make them think carefully about the world around them.

Work related learning



Building on the experiences provided by the enrichment programme last year, students in year 9 study four units which are designed to help prepare them for the world of work and life after school. The first two units are delivered as part of the fortnightly work related learning lessons. The second two are covered as part of the whole school ‘ACE’ days. The courses in italics lead to students achieving externally accredited certification.

- Careers- preparing for and choosing options
- *Health and Safety at work certificate*
- *Level 1 or 2 Food Hygiene certificate*
- *First Aid*