



Year 8 Curriculum Overview, 2026-27

	Autumn			Spring			Summer			
English	Long Way Down - Jason Reynolds Full text study, contemporary author Links to poetic terminology Analysing authorial intent	Gothic Fiction Genre Study Extracts from classic texts Creative Writing focus Sensory, figurative language Reader response		Conflict Poetry Continued study of conventions and interpretations of poetry Poems linked by common theme	Narrative Writing – Dystopia Extracts from a range of contemporary texts Creative writing Emulating writers' styles		Mystery Genre Study Extracts from classic texts Sensory, figurative language Reader response Comparison with earlier genres studied		Transition Unit Created in collaboration with Trust Upper Schools Assessment of a range of key skills in reading, writing, oracy	
History	The English Civil War		Castles through Time (Badbury Rings and Corfe Castle)		Empire		The Industrial Revolution: Changes to Britain		Votes for Women	
Geography	Population, Urbanisation and settlement: Where do we live and why?		Weather and Climate			Glaciation		Retail: How does the way we shop impact the planet?		
Science	Digestion Breathing Respiration	Periodic Table Elements Metals and Non-Metals		Sound Energy and Work Types of Reactions		Chemical energy Heating and cooling		Photosynthesis Magnetism Electromagnetism		Contact forces Working Scientifically Skills Ecology (recap)
Art	Still Life					Identity				
Design <i>(taught in rotation throughout the year)</i>	Food: Global Food			Textiles: Head Phone case			Product Design: Acrylic and Pine Speaker			
Music	Cover Song 1	EDM		Cover Songs 2		African Drumming		Song Writing	Battle of the Bands	
Computing	Spreadsheets Online safety	Encryptions, Cyphers & Stenography Online safety		Python Online safety		Python Microbit Online safety		Multimedia Project Online safety		
RE	Religion in the Media		Christianity: What's so radical about Jesus?		Judaism: Where were religion and God in the Holocaust?		Moral Debate: is it ever right to fight?		Christianity: What do Christians believe about God's kingdom, and life after death?	
PE	Leadership: How to lead a coaching session			Core Performance: Outdoor Education	Net & Wall Games: Table Tennis	Core Performance: Gym/Dance/Parkour: Learn how I can support others?		Athletics: How to take on responsibility to lead an activity?		
	Invasion Games: Football, Netball, Rugby, Hockey: Learn how to lead a team or game		Core Performance: Gym/Dance/Parkour: Learn how I can support others?			Core Performance: Outdoor Education	Net & Wall Games: Volleyball	Striking & Fielding Games: cricket, rounders Net & Wall Games:Tennis/Pickleball: How to guide and encourage others to success.		
PSHE	Emotional Wellbeing	Discrimination Parliament and Democracy		Community & Careers		Digital Literacy		Identity & Relationships		Drugs & Alcohol
French	My free time	making usual choices -Weather		Making future plans and arrangements		Recounting past events		Food and culture deep dive (Film Ratatouille)		Retrieval reading for Upper school

Maths	Using ratio and scale factors to solve various problems including more complex speed, time and distance questions. Understand proportion and solve simple proportional reasoning problems including scale factor enlargement. Manipulate algebraic expressions including applying to area and perimeter problems..	Calculate with fractions and mixed numbers including applying powers to fractions and mixed numbers. Understand linear functions as they apply to graphs on the coordinate plane; solve associated linear function problems Draw shapes using a scale factor and a centre of enlargement. Reflect and rotate shapes on the coordinate plane.	Understand and apply the relationship between mass, volume and density. Manipulate algebraically and solve equations. Apply simple inequalities when working algebraically	Calculate percentages using a calculator State any value as a percentage of another; work with percentage increases and decreases. Use indices and apply the rules of indices. Use and apply standard form. Select the appropriate measure of average in the context of a problem and work with grouped frequency tables.	Solve problems involving missing angles, including parallel lines and interior / exterior angles Understand and use probability	Find the area and circumference of a circle Draw and interpret pie charts Find the nth term of a linear sequence Complete Year 9 transition units
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