



Year 8 Curriculum - Autumn Term

In order to support your child with their studies, we have put together a brief summary of the topics/themes which they will be studying this term in Year 8.

How could I use this to support my child?

- Start a conversation about one of the topics and see what they know
- If you have time, and it is possible, visit somewhere relating to the topic
- Choose a book which has similar themes or topics which your child could read.

English



Students explore an understanding of the gothic genre, using a variety of short texts to analyse, infer and create ambitious writing.

- Frankenstein (the play) is our core text;
- Introduction to The Industrial Revolution, Romanticism and The Age of Scientific Discovery

Extending Learning : Engage with films and texts that explore the gothic genre.

Mathematics



Students will be studying the following topics in their maths lessons this term:

- **Ratio and scale**
- **Multiplicative reasoning**
- **Multiplying and Dividing Fractions**
- **Working in the Cartesian Plane**

Extending Learning : Encourage regular practice using mental maths or real-life problems

Science



Students will be studying the following topics in their science lessons during this term:

- Ecology
- Periodic Table
- Forces and their effects
- Nervous System
- Crude oil, combustion, and resources.

Extending Learning: Practice recalling your powerful knowledge using your homework booklet.

Geography



Students will explore the UK's physical landscapes.

- **Rivers:** The processes taking place, the features found throughout a rivers course and how rivers can be effectively managed.
- **Coasts:** The processes taking place, different coastal landforms and how coastlines can be managed.
- **Glaciers:** The processes taking place and a case study of the Lake District.

Extended Learning: Visit sections of local rivers such as the River Wharfe to see some of the landforms and processes first-hand.

History



Students will start to explore the Power of the Crown, in which we examine in chronological order, the Kings and Queens of England. We elevate our students learning by finding key changes made to religion and society. In addition, they will focus on the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, the continent of Africa and the economic exploitation faced during this time.

- **Power of the Crown**, who had power in England and how did they wield it?
- **Atlantic Slave Trade**, the treatment, the economics, and the resistance against it.

Extended Learning: Read Historical articles on the topics above.

Art



As part of your carousel of subjects (Art, DT, Food and Textiles) you will spend between 18-20 lessons learning about Surrealism.

- what is it?
- what does the Artwork look like?
- what inspired them?

Students will use their knowledge of Surrealism and their own imagination to design and create a 'Surreal Eye' painting.

During this year you will work to secure and master some of the skills you explored in Y7.

Extended learning: learn how to draw accurate facial features:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ueWr2EseM0>

Sport



In Sport, students will rotate between different sports during the course of the year. During term 1, students will develop knowledge, skills and understanding in the following: Group 1: Cricket, netball and rugby. Group 2: Athletics (endurance training), basketball and table tennis. Group 3: Ultimate frisbee, fitness and volleyball.

Extending Learning: Develop your understanding of the rules for each sport.

French



Students will continue to develop confidence & accuracy in core language skills.

- **Vocabulary:** talk about where you live and give opinions
- **Phonics:** ou, ille, gn
- **Grammar:** regular *-er* verbs *aimer, detester, adorer*, negative *ne...pas*

Extending Learning : Research French-speaking countries in the world – where are they? Where would you like to visit?

Spanish



Students will continue to develop confidence & accuracy in core language skills.

- **Vocabulary:** talk about where you live and give opinions
- **Phonics:** ce/ci, que, co/ca
- **Grammar:** regular *-ir* verbs *vivir*; opinion verbs, adjective agreement

Extending Learning : Research Spanish-speaking countries in the world – where are they? Where would you like to visit?

Computing



Students will develop an understanding of responsible online behaviour and core computing concepts.

- Learning about cyberbullying, its impact, and how to stay safe and respectful online.
- Exploring computing basics including what algorithms are, how instructions are sequenced, and how computers process inputs and outputs.

Extending Learning: Encourage independent learning through algorithm-based puzzles (e.g. logic games or unplugged coding activities)

Music



Students will explore a wide range of styles of music over the course of year 8.

Over the Autumn term students will expand on their knowledge and understanding of the Elements of Music.

Students will start the year studying Classical music in its broadest terms looking at its impact on later styles of music. Then moving on to Jazz & the Blues

Drama



Students will explore a range of dramatic styles and conventions, investigating how different approaches to theatre influence the way stories, characters, and themes are presented to an audience.

Extended Learning: Watch a film and identify a stylistic feature that makes it distinctive.

Food and Nutrition



Students will learn developed cooking skills with a focus on dietary needs and choices and adapting recipes.

- Preparing dishes, including:
 - Soup
 - Bolognese
 - Bread Rolls
 - Shortbread

Extending Learning : Encourage your child to practise the skills and recipes they have learnt in school

Design Technology

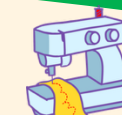


Students will continue to develop confidence & accuracy in making through the animal shelter project

- Students will tailor their designs to suit a specific setting
- Develop sketching and rendering skills to enhance design drawings

Extending Learning : Talk about design choices in everyday objects.

Textiles



The Pencil Case project builds on the skills and understanding gained in year 7, focusing on how to translate design ideas into made objects.

- Students will explore block printing to create a repeat pattern.
- Learn how to safely use the sewing machine
- Design for a client

Extending Learning : Practise simple stitching at home or look at textile products together.

Personal Development Time



Students will explore the following themes during PDT lessons this term:

- Challenging gender stereotypes
- Consent
- Marriage
- Spotting unhealthy relationships