

Year 9 Curriculum Overview 2026-2027

Subject	Overview	Autumn 1 (Weeks 1 – 7)	Autumn 2 (Weeks 8 – 14)		Spring 1 (Weeks 15 - 20)	Spring 2 (Weeks 21 - 25)	Summer 1 (Weeks 26 - 32)	Summer 2 (Weeks 33 - 38)		
English	Embedding – Year 9 students continue to develop and embed their English skills through a range of challenging topics and texts. Their writing skills become embedded through topics of creative writing (Dystopian/Strange Worlds) and non-fiction (The Language of Protest). They, also, learn to compare texts and enhance their cultural capital in the ‘London Across Time’ unit. They also study a range of challenging literature texts: Shakespeare’s <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> or <i>Twelfth Night</i> and American Literature: <i>Of Mice and Men</i> .	Prose Study: Animal Farm Students embed their understanding of writer’s methods to create meaning when studying this text. They will develop their knowledge of the impact of historical context and authorial intent. Students will embed these ideas into their analytical writing.	Exploration of Creative Writing: Dystopian/Strange Worlds Students study a range of extracts from Dystopian texts. They develop an understanding of key conventions of the genre and embed these by creating their own piece of Dystopian fiction.	Assessment	Shakespeare Study: Macbeth Students embed their understanding of Shakespeare’s plays by studying Macbeth. They develop their knowledge of context and writer’s methods used in plays.	Non-Fiction: Write Like You Mean It! Students study a range of non-fiction texts with thematic links of being able to change minds and voice opinions clearly. Pupils learn how to write persuasively and embed their writing skills into their own.	Assessment	Literature Study: Love and Hate Students study a range of poems linked to the concepts of love and hate. They embed their reading skills of how writers’ use both language and structure in their poems and make comparisons of how this is done.	Language Comparison: London Across Time Students study both fiction and nonfiction texts which have a setting of London, from Medieval to Modern day. Pupils draw upon their reading skills and develop their understanding of how to compare texts, as well as improving their understanding of how our capital city has changed over time.	Assessment

Mathematics	The year begins by consolidating key number skills and proportional reasoning, providing a strong foundation for GCSE study. Students deepen their understanding of percentages, multipliers, fractions, rates and standard form, while applying mathematics to real-life contexts through financial literacy and problem solving. Algebraic thinking is developed through equations, inequalities, formulae, algebraic manipulation and straight-line graphs, building fluency and preparing students for the increasing demands of Key Stage 4. Geometry is extended through surface area, volume, constructions, congruence, similarity, transformations and Pythagoras' theorem, strengthening spatial reasoning and mathematical communication. Students also explore probability and non-linear graphs, developing their ability to model and interpret mathematical relationships, before concluding the year with optional introductions to simultaneous equations and trigonometry to support a smooth transition into GCSE mathematics.	Properties of Number - Understand and use factors, multiples, primes, HCF and LCM - Draw and interpret Venn diagrams - Use Venn diagrams to find the HCF and LCM - Understand types of number	Equations, Inequalities and Formulae - Solve equations and inequalities - Substitute into formulae and equations - Solve problems with equations and inequalities - Change the subject of a formula	Assessment	Maths and Money - Use percentages in financial maths - Interpret bills, pay slips and tariffs - Use exchange rates - Solve budgeting problems - Explore investments, borrowing and insurance	Constructions and Congruence - Draw and measure angles - Accurately draw triangles and polygons - Construct angle bisectors and perpendicular bisectors - Identify congruent triangles - Use congruence conditions	Assessment	Pythagoras' Theorem - Identify the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle - Determine whether a triangle is right-angled - Use Pythagoras' theorem to find unknown lengths in right-angled triangles - Use Pythagoras' theorem on coordinate axes	Transformations - Reflect, rotate, translate and enlarge shapes - Describe transformations - Combine transformations	Assessment
		Percentages - Calculate percentage increase and decrease - Find percentage changes - Find the original value after a percentage change - Calculate simple and compound interest - Solve problems with percentages	Fractions - Four operations with fractions and mixed numbers - Calculate fractions of amounts - Solve problems with fractions		Straight Line Graphs - Draw and interpret straight line graphs - Use and calculate gradients and intercepts - Understand and use graphs of the form $y = mx + c$ - Find the equation of a straight line - Interpret real-life graphs	Similarity - Identify similar shapes - Use scale factors - Calculate lengths in similar shapes		Non-linear graphs - Substitute into quadratic expressions - Draw and interpret quadratic graphs - Draw and interpret reciprocal and exponential graphs - Link graphs and equations	Simultaneous Equations (Optional) - Solve simultaneous equations graphically - Solve simultaneous equations algebraically - Interpret solutions in context	
		Area and Volume - Draw and interpret nets - Find the area of 2-D shapes - Find the circumference and area of a circle - Calculate the surface area of cubes and cuboids - Calculate the volume of prisms and cylinders	Rates - Work with speed, distance and time - Draw and interpret distance–time graphs - Work with rates of change and their graphs		Ratio and Proportion - Solve ratio problems - Work with direct proportion problems and graphs - Interpret conversion graphs - Work with inverse proportion	Algebraic Manipulation - Expand and factorise into single brackets - Understand and use identities - Expand double brackets - Factorise quadratic expressions - Solve quadratic equations by factorising		Sets and Probability - Understand and use set notation - Calculate probabilities of single and combined events - Find probabilities using table and Venn diagrams - Work with relative frequency - Explore expected outcomes - Understand independent events	Trigonometry (Optional) - Identify the hypotenuse, opposite and adjacent sides in a right-angled triangle - Understand and use sine, cosine and tangent ratios - Find unknown lengths and angles in right-angled triangles	

Science	Year 9 students explore key aspects of the 3 different Sciences: Biology: Cells and transport; Organization; Communicative disease and preventing disease. Chemistry: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Structure and bonding, the atmosphere, and resources; Chemical reactions and change.	Biology: Communicative disease and preventing disease – Understand the different forms of disease that can affect humans and how our bodies fight the infections. Chemistry: Chemical reactions and energy changes – Investigate the different types of chemical reaction and the energy changes associated with them.	Biology: Communicative disease and preventing disease – Understand the different forms of disease that can affect humans and how our bodies fight the infections. Chemistry: Chemical reactions and energy changes – Investigate the different types of chemical reaction and the energy changes associated with them.	Assessment	Biology: Organisation – Looking at the large-scale organisation of the key organ systems in our bodies and how they work. Chemistry: Structure and bonding, the atmosphere, and resources – Investigate how compounds form and the properties compounds. Investigate the composition of our atmosphere and how we use the Earth as a resource.	Biology: Organisation – Looking at the large-scale organisation of the key organ systems in our bodies and how they work. Chemistry: Structure and bonding, the atmosphere, and resources – Investigate how compounds form and the properties compounds. Investigate the composition of our atmosphere and how we use the Earth as a resource.	Biology: Cells and Transport – Investigate the internal structures of cells and how materials are transported across the cell membrane. Chemistry: Chemical reactions and change - Explore the details of the different chemical reactions and the processes that are required to facilitate them.	Biology: Cells and Transport – Investigate the internal structures of cells and how materials are transported across the cell membrane. Chemistry: Chemical reactions and change - Explore the details of the different chemical reactions and the processes that are required to facilitate them.	Assessment
	Physics: Energy; Particle model of matter; Atomic structure and radiation.	Physics: Energy – Investigate the energy transfers that take place in the world around us and the impact they have on our society.	Physics: Energy – Investigate the energy transfers that take place in the world around us and the impact they have on our society.		Physics: Particle model of matter – Explore how materials behave at the particular level.	Physics: Particle model of matter – Explore how materials behave at the particular level.	Physics: Atomic structure – Explore the evidence for atomic structure and radioactivity.	Physics: Atomic structure – Explore the evidence for atomic structure and radioactivity.	

Geography	Students will investigate natural hazards and the influence of wealth on the impacts and responses to volcanic eruptions.	Tectonics and volcanoes	The Middle East	Assessment	Sustainability	Globalisation	Decision Making Exercise	Geographical Skills	Assessment
	Students will explore contemporary global issues, looking at economies, conflict, manufacturing, and sustainability	Students will learn about the structure of the Earth and examine Plate Tectonic Theory. Students will be able to recognise features of volcanoes and make comparisons between them. They will understand the effects and responses to volcanic hazards and understand why people still live near to them.	Students will explore the changing political, environmental, and economic landscapes in the Middle East. Economic – To explain the rapid development and globalisation of the UAE alongside the necessity to diversify away from oil as a source of income. We will assess tourism as an alternative economy. Political – To investigate causes of conflict and the impacts on affected Middle Eastern countries and the wider international community. Environmental – To explain how climate change and conflict over resources is affecting the Dead Sea.		Students examine the Sustainable Development Goals and assess the impacts of fast fashion and plastic pollution. Students will investigate different methods used to create a sustainable future at a local, national, and global level through evaluation of specific strategies such as tourism, transport, housing and energy.	Students will explore the role of globalisation in today's world and the part played by Transnational Corporations (TNCs). Students will learn about the reasons for the locations of TNCs and their local and global impacts. Students will then consider the role of technology in globalisation and assess other aspects including trade, culture and World Organisations such as the United Nations.	Students will use evidence from sources to make an informed judgement about a geographical issue.	Students will interpret different forms of data including: photo analysis mathematical skills GIS maps graphs	

History	By the end of the year, Year 9 students will have a sense of the challenges which faced Modern Britain, Europe and the wider world. Students will understand the political, economic, military, religious, cultural and social nature of the period. Furthermore, students will be able to analyse the usefulness of historical sources, make a judgement about interpretations of the past and construct their own analytical and narrative accounts. Year 9 students explore causes and consequences of challenges facing Modern Britain, Europe, and the wider world. They investigate both World Wars and their impact. They also explore post war events including the division of Germany and the Cold War.		Students will explore key events of World War 1 and the Interwar Years. World War 1: Students study the causes of war, the assassination of Franz Ferdinand, the Schlieffen Plan, propaganda, life in the trenches, the Battle of the Somme, changing technology in war and the role of the empire. The Interwar Years: Students study the Treaty of Versailles and the conditions it imposed on Germany, the impact of war including hyperinflation, the Wall Street Crash and Great Depression and the early rise of Hitler.		Assessment	Students will explore the key events of the Second World War – the causes, events and impact. Second World War: Students study the causes of the Second World War including Hitler’s foreign policy and appeasement, remilitarisation of the Rhineland, invasion of Czechoslovakia and Poland. Students will also study key turning points in the Second World War - Blitzkrieg, Dunkirk, the invasion of the USSR, D-Day, the launching of the atomic bomb and the impact of Second World War. Students investigate the impact of the war on the local area and the role Great Yarmouth played in the war. Students will also study events of the Holocaust.		Students will explore the key events post World War Two. Modern World Depth Study Cold War - Post-war division of Germany, the Cold War, Cuban Missile Crisis, Space Race, conflicts in Korea and Vietnam. Thematic Study – Medical developments over time. Greek medical ideas – Students study early Greek medical beliefs including the work of Hippocrates and Galen and their theories on the Four Humours and the Theory of Opposites. Students will also study living conditions and medical practitioners in medieval London, and medical beliefs at the time of the Black Death.		Assessment
	French	By the end of the year students will be confident with the comprehension and use of at least 3 tenses and opinions and be able to give reasons and justify them using complex language. They will take responsibility for their own learning, recognise strengths of their ability in the language and request help to strengthen areas for development. They will have a toolbox of strategies and techniques for memorising and applying the language that will equip them to be successful at GCSE.		Mon monde à moi Giving opinions on extra-curricular activities Describing friends & birthday celebrations, clothing, and style Present tense of reflexive verbs, Perfect tense, Near future tense.		Projets d’avenir Describing how to earn money, discussing future career & life’ plans Modal verbs, simple future tense, Asking & answering questions in 3 tenses.	Assessment	Ma vie en musique Higher level: Describing musical tastes Describing your former self Comparing secondary and primary schools Foundation level: Describing musical taste Describing a trip to a concert Interviewing a young musician Direct object pronouns Adjectival agreement Comparative structures Imperfect tense /Perfect tense.		

German	By the end of the year pupils will be confident understanding and producing sentences in at least 3 tenses. Pupils will be able to recognise irregular verbs in a range of tenses and will be confident with present tense modal verbs. They will be able to state and justify opinions using complex language and a range of structures. They have developed skills and techniques to complete GCSE style questions and will have developed strategies for memorizing and applying the language that will equip them to be successful at GCSE. They will be able to independently research vocabulary and use the dictionary to check how to conjugate verbs.	Vorbilder Discussing your role models, life experiences, body parts, overcoming misfortune. Using perfect, present and future tenses, imperative.	Meine Ambitionen Talking about your ambitions, jobs and reasons for doing different jobs, saying which job you'd like and why, describing work experience. Conditional tense, Ich würde gern, verb second rule, um...zu..., in and auf with cases, perfect tense separable verbs.	Assessment	Musik Discussing types of music and preferences, discussing bands, describing music festivals in present and perfect tense. Using verbs with a range of subject pronouns, direct object pronouns, seit, comparisons, asking and answering questions, switching between present and perfect tense, separable verbs.		Die Kindheit Talking about your childhood, childhood activities, comparing primary and secondary school, literary texts (Grimm's fairy tales). als, imperfect tense, modal verbs in the imperfect, superlative.	Rechte und Pflichten Age limits and laws, saying what's important to you and why, comparing life now and in the past, discussing how to make a difference in your school / community. Word order with conjunctions, weil, understanding and using past, present, and future tenses, um...zu..., developing ideas and justifying opinions, modal verbs.	Assessment
	By the end of this programme of study, Students will be able to talk about a variety of topics in Spanish, preparing them for GCSE Spanish in year ten. They will be able to express likes/dislikes using a wider variety of language. Students will also revise all three main tenses, in the context of work and careers, healthy lifestyles and wider world issues.	Somos así Students will be able to talk about their lives and their likes/dislikes using a wider variety of language. Pupils will revise all three main tenses. Me gusta(n)/chifla(n) + noun Present tense of ir, hacer, ser Present tense of regular verbs Near future tense Preterite tense of regular verbs Preterite tense of hacer and ser Using three tenses together	¡Oriéntate! Students will be able to talk about their hopes for the future, to coincide with option evening time of year. Emphasis will be made on the importance of languages for future careers. tener que + infinitive Near future tense Three tenses together Adjectival agreement		En forma Students will discuss the importance of a healthy lifestyle. They will be introduced to talking about wider issues and will have the opportunity to use new verbs. Stem changing verbs (jugar, preferir) Reflexive verbs Se debe/no se debe Me duele(n) The imperative Direct object pronoun	En forma Students will discuss the importance of a healthy lifestyle. They will be introduced to talking about wider issues and will have the opportunity to use new verbs. Stem changing verbs (jugar, preferir) Reflexive verbs Se debe/no se debe Me duele(n) The imperative Direct object pronoun	Jóvenes en acción Students will have an opportunity ahead of GCSE to talk about wider, global issues and to develop language for expressing their beliefs. Also, they will be introduced to the imperfect. Plus, their cultural capital will be developed by reading two poems by the Spanish poet, Gloria Fuertes and a traditional Peruvian folk tale. Stem-changing verbs (poder) Present tense verbs in the 3rd person (s/p) Se debería Imperfect tense	Una aventura en Madrid Students will develop language they would need for arriving in Spain and to learn more about Spain's capital city. Also, they will be introduced to the simple future. Expressions with tener Simple future tense The superlative The comparative	

Further reading:

English

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
Mortal Engines by Philip Reeve
Nineteen Eighty-Four by George Orwell
Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys
Once by Morris Gleitzman
The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
The Boy in Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne
Neverwhere by Neil Gaiman
How to Stop Time by Matt Haig
The Knife of Never Letting Go by Patrick Ness
Royal Shakespeare Company: www.rsc.org.uk

Mathematics

The Number Devil, by Hans Magnus Enzensberger
The Code Book, by Simon Singh
Alex’s Adventures in Numberland, by Alex Bellos
Cabinet of Mathematical Curiosities, by Ian Stewart

History

Michael Morpurgo, ‘War horse’
Michael Morpurgo, ‘Private peaceful’
Michelle Magorian, ‘Goodnight Mr Tom’
Thomas Kenealy, ‘Schindler’s Ark’

Science

Year 9 Knowledge organisers term 1
KS4 Homework support guide
Current ‘Science journals for kids’
Geography
<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvwt5bk>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcmfb9q>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zn476sg>
Revision Flashcards

History

Michael Morpurgo, ‘War horse’.
Michael Morpurgo, ‘Private peaceful’.
Michelle Magorian, ‘Goodnight Mr Tom’
Thomas Kenealy, ‘Schindler’s Ark’

French

BBC Bitesize KS3 French <https://www.duolingo.com/enroll/fr/en/Learn-French>
<https://www.thefrenchexperiment.com/learn-french>
<https://www.french-games.net/>
<https://www.digitaldialects.com/French.htm>
<http://www.hello-world.com/languages.php/?language=French>
<https://quizlet.com/gb/topic/languages/french/>
<https://uk.language-gym.com/>

German

Duolingo.com
Quizlet.com
BBC Bitesize KS3 German
<https://www.german-games.net/>
Senecalearning.com
<https://ukgermanconnection.org/kids>
<http://gut.languageskills.co.uk/index.html>
<https://uk.language-gym.com/>

Spanish

BBC Bitesize KS3 Spanish
<https://www.duolingo.com/enroll/fr/en/Learn-Spanish>
<https://www.spanish-games.net/>
<https://www.thespanishexperiment.com/learn-spanish>
<https://uk.language-gym.com>

Suggested family trips/activities to reinforce learning:

English

The Globe Theatre – London
Theatre productions – Norwich Theatre Royal
Reading a range of texts – newspapers/articles/letters/speeches

Maths

Science Museum
London STEM Centre in York
Bletchley Park
Royal Observatory at Greenwich

Science

Natural History Museum

French

Watching age-appropriate French series on Netflix.
Watching French sporting events online, such as Ligue 1.
Listening to French bands and singers on YouTube.

German

Watching age-appropriate German series on Netflix.
Watching German sporting events online, such as the Bundesliga.
Listening to German bands and singers on YouTube.

Spanish

Watching age-appropriate Spanish series on Netflix.
Watching Spanish sporting events online, such as LaLiga.
Listening to Spanish bands and singers on YouTube.