



Ministerium Tuum Imple Love | Serve | Do the best that is possible

Year 9 Curriculum Information Booklet

Lent Term 2019



Faculty of RE, Geography and History

Religious Education:

Pupils will study the concepts of Modern Responses to Religion focusing on the question 'Is it possible to be a Christian and believe in science?' which will include the following aspects:

- Creation stories from the bible
- Big Bang and Evolution
- Charles Darwin
- Abortion
- Euthanasia

Pupils will then begin their GCSE Edexcel Religious Studies course. They will first study Judaism: Beliefs and Teachings from Paper 2. This will include the following aspects:

- The Almighty
- The Shekinah
- The Covenant with Abraham
- The Covenant at Sinai with Moses
- The Sanctity of Life and Pikuach Nefesh

Geography:

Tectonic hazards

Students start the unit on "Challenge of Natural Hazards" by focussing initially on tectonic hazards (earthquakes and volcanoes).

Weather hazards

They continue learning about natural hazards through the study of weather hazards (tropical storms and extreme weather in the UK).

History:

In the Lent term students will begin the final section of the GCSE unit on America – 1920-1973: Opportunity and Inequality. They will evaluate life in post war American society and the impact on the economy. They will investigate racial tension and development in the 1950s and 1960s, examining the extent of success for the Civil Rights campaign.

Faculty of Languages

English:

As Year 9 students move into Lent term, there will be a specific focus on 'Poetry' in preparation for the GCSE specification for English Literature study. As an introduction, they will be exploring a selection of 'Power and Conflict' poems from the GCSE Literature syllabus. They will consolidate key skills required in the analysis of unseen poems and comparing poems.

Languages:

This is an important term, as we begin the GCSE syllabus. Between now and the end of Year 11, students will be learning and practising the language they will need to perform well in their exams. This will include the ability to ask and answer questions (an important new element of the new-style GCSE) and to respond spontaneously.

At home, parents can help students to embed their learning by testing vocabulary, whether formally, or at other times such as when in the car. The more often students practice, even if in short bursts, the more confident they will become!

In French, German and Spanish, we will be talking about our social lives and what we like to do in our free time, be it going out or watching TV or films. After half term, we will be learning about the different festivals and traditions in France, Germany and Spain, from Christmas and Easter to Valentine's Day and Carnival.

In Italian, we will be talking about presents we have received and will learn what to say when there are problems with items that have been bought. This will enable us to study some grammatical structures that will make our writing and speaking very impressive: direct & indirect object pronouns. After half term, pupils will learn how to talk about their future plans using a range of time markers that will make their writing more interesting.

Faculty of Mathematics and Science

Biology

Biology

Exam Board: OCR

Specification: Gateway Suite of Sciences A

Qualifications: GCSE Biology, GCSE Combined Science

How can I find out more? www.ocr.org.uk We follow the Gateway Suite of Sciences.

Topic	Topic	Incorporating Lessons on...
B1 Cell Level Systems	B1.1 Cell structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal and Plant Cells • Cell Structure • Microscopes
	B1.2 What happens in cells and what do cells need?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNA as a molecule • Protein Synthesis • Enzymes •
	B1.3 Respiration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiration and Exothermic reactions • Carbohydrates, Proteins and Fats •
	B1.4 Photosynthesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photosynthesis • Photosynthesis limiting factors
B2 Scaling Up	B2.1 Supplying the cell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport through cells • Mitosis and Meiosis • The cell cycle • Specialised vs Stem cells
	B2.2 The challenges of size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size of cells and SA:Vol ratio • Blood vessels • The Heart • The Heart and Double Circulation • Components of blood • Plant specialised cells • Transpiration and translocation

Chemistry

Exam Board: OCR

Specification: Gateway Suite of Sciences A

Qualifications: GCSE Chemistry, GCSE Combined Science

How can I find out more? www.ocr.org.uk We follow the Gateway Suite of Sciences.

Topic	Topic	Incorporating Lessons on...
C1	C1.1 The Particle Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes of state• Chemical and physical changes• Limitations of the particle model
	C1.2 Atomic Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Models of the atom• Structure of an atom• Charges in an atom• Mass number, atomic number and isotopes
C2	C2.1 Purity and Separating Mixtures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using melting points to determine purity• Balancing equations• Empirical formulae• Alloys and useful materials• Separation techniques• Paper and thin layer chromatography
	C2.2 Bonding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Metals and non-metals• Arrangement of the Periodic Table• Ionic compounds, giant covalent structures, polymers, metallic bonding• Dot and cross diagrams• Groups and periods
	C2.3 Properties of Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carbon chains and rings• Allotropes of carbon• Bond energies and energy transfers• Properties related to bonding• Nano dimensions and nanoparticles• Properties and risks of nanoparticles

Physics

Course title: OCR Gateway Physics A

Head of physics: Emily Guinness, email address emily.guinness@st-pauls.org.uk

	Module Contents	Assessment Points in Lessons
Unit 2	<p>Module P2: Forces</p> <p>Lent Term P2.1 Motion You will calculate speeds, distances, time and acceleration, linking these to graphs which describe the motion of objects.</p> <p>Pentecost Term P2.2 Newton's Laws You will develop your fundamental understanding of how force and motion are connected, describing the effect of forces on the motion of a range of objects both quantitatively and qualitatively.</p> <p>P2.3 Forces in Action You will explore the effect of forces in a range of different situations, looking at deformation of solids, force due to a gravitational field, hydraulics and gears.</p>	<p>Your approach to learning will be assessed each half term with a book check. You will sit a written paper each half term to assess your understanding of the content covered in lessons. This assessment will be synoptic, covering content from the entire course so far.</p> <p>Your practical skills will be assessed in Practical Assessment Group tasks, completed in lessons. You may be asked about these practical activities on exam papers. These may happen more often than once per half term.</p>

Mathematics:

In the Lent term, pupils will study mathematics in the context of science where they can encounter:

- BMI
- DNA
- Astronomy

Year 9 will also be studying the application of mathematics in the context of Citizenship. This will include topics from the following range:

- Statistical analysis tools
- Financial management
- Health management tools

Pupils will have in-class assessments on what they have covered in class and feedback will be given in their mathematics exercise books.

Some websites which may be of interest in helping them to further develop their understanding:

- www.mymaths.co.uk
- www.connect.collins.co.uk
- www.mathsbot.com
- www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
- www.corbettmaths.com

Faculty of Communication and Design

Design and Technology

All pupils at St Paul's Catholic School follow a Design and Technology programme of study at Key Stage 3.

In year 9 pupils are studying further one of the material specific areas they have had previous experience of during year 7 and 8. This allows pupils to enhance their Technical Skills and understanding of in depth Technical Principles further in their chosen area. Pupils continue in their area of study from year 9-11 and, depending on the choices they have already made, go on to study GCSE Design and Technology, GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition or OCR National(s) in Engineering.

Design and Technology courses are based around the Iterative Design Process.



The material specific areas offered are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Electronic products and systems | <i>(leading to GCSE D&T)</i> |
| 2. Graphics, cards papers and boards | <i>(leading to GCSE D&T)</i> |
| 3. Fashion and Textiles | <i>(leading to GCSE D&T)</i> |
| 4. Woods, plastics and metals | <i>(leading to GCSE D&T)</i> |
| 5. Engineering | <i>(leading to OCR National(s) in engineering)</i> |
| 6. Food preparation and nutrition | <i>(leading to GCSE FP&N)</i> |

Computer Science

Students will be working on various aspects of the new DIT course. They will continue developing their websites however they will add on to key learning parts of the new curriculum which include Design Principles, Design Layout, User Requirements, User Interfaces, & Project Management principles.

All the new topics are part of the BTEC DIT Level 2 course and will allow the students to work to the higher levels.

Faculty of Expressive Arts

Art:

Kew Gardens Project

Following their trip to Kew Gardens, Year 9 pupils are creating work inspired by several artists that have explored the theme of 'Knotted and Twisted'. The aim of the work covered in class is to focus on developing their technical skills and to effectively experiment with a variety of media, including photography, printmaking and drawing. Students will create their exciting and imaginative developments through the use of their first hand resources and independent research of the artists.

Drama:

Initially, Year 9 students will be exploring the play *An Inspector Calls*. This is a GCSE set text and ultimately they will be answering questions about how they would direct, perform and design certain scenes. At this stage they will be focusing on practical interpretation and gaining a well-developed understanding of character, theme and plot. Students will use a range of approaches to the text and experiment with stylistic and realistic portrayals.

Secondly, students will be focusing on refining their characterisation skills. They will be using music as a stimulus to explore different roles and then adopt and develop their use of body language and voice in order to depict their character. They will consider the background of their character and create histories and past experiences for them. They will explore their attributes and emotions by using spontaneous and rehearsed improvisation. Much of the work will be based around the techniques of Stanislavski and after exploring their role in great detail they will write and perform a monologue.

Music:

During the Lent term, students in year 9 will continue to look at Area of study one of the GCSE Music syllabus: Musical Forms and Devices. Students will become familiar with keywords and terminology through listening, performing and appraising. Students will learn about the history of music from the Baroque period through to today. Students will also develop their theory skills to support their understanding of the GCSE listening paper – this is done during lessons as well as independent learning at home. They will develop their compositional skills by starting to compose a Blues, Pop or Waltz composition. This is composed by using the software, Sibelius and Logic. Students will perform in the Lent term to continue to develop performance skills and techniques.

Physical Education:

During the Lent term the pupils will follow a programme of study which will include team games, net games, dance, gymnastics and health related exercise. Throughout Key Stage 3 the pupils will work in mixed and single gender groups to develop their communication, thinking, analysis and evaluation skills. During Year 9, students focus on maximising performance by developing tactics introduced in Year 8, by refining skills learned in Year 7, and by developing their own personal fitness. Within physical education, the pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own personal organisation perseverance and development of care and concern for others.

This term there will be lots of different opportunities for the students to extend their skills outside normal school hours through the extra-curricular programme which includes badminton, rugby, netball, football, basketball, dance, trampolining and health related fitness training, handball and table tennis. Inter-form fixtures also take place through the Burditt Cup Inter-form Competition which includes football, rugby, netball, cricket, rounders, cross country and sports day.

All pupils should be encouraged to attend at least one club session in at least one sport. For those pupils who have chosen PE in year 9 they will have an extra triple lesson per week focusing on both the theory and practical content, which is assessed 70% theory and coursework and 30% practical sport. The theory aspect of the course will cover anatomy and physiology, biomechanics, the respiratory and cardiovascular systems as well as training and fitness and contemporary issues. At the end of year 9 pupils will continue to study GCSE PE in years 10 and 11 or the OCR Nationals Sports Science Course.