



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

Year 9 Curriculum Information Booklet

Lent Term 2022



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 continue to study their depth study of America in the Twentieth Century. 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:

During the Lent term, students will study English Language. Students will be given the opportunity to engage with fiction and non-fiction as a reader and then to create their own fiction and non-fiction texts. They will be studying writer's methods and the impact of writer's language choices upon the reader. .

Languages:

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 practise, even if in short bursts, the more confident they will become!

In French, German, Italian 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, Italy and Spain, from Christmas and Easter to Valentine's Day and Carnival.

Faculty of Mathematics and Science

Biology

Exam Board: OCR

Specification: Gateway Science Suite Biology A

Gateway Science Suite – Combined Science A

Head of Biology: Samantha Jones, email address Samantha.Jones@st-pauls.org.uk

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

	Module Contents	Assessment Points in Lessons
	<p>Lent Term</p> <p>1. B1.1 Cell structures Lessons will be on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal and plant cells • Cell Structure • Microscopes <p>2. B2.1 Supplying the cell Lessons will be on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport through cells • Mitosis and Meiosis • The cell cycle • Specialised vs Stem cells 	<p>Your approach to learning will be assessed each half term with a book check. You will sit a six mark question and a multiple choice quiz each half term to assess your understanding of the content covered in lessons. These assessments will be synoptic, including previous content covered.</p> <p>Your practical skills will be assessed in Practical Assessment Group tasks, completed in lessons. You will also be given examination questions based on the practical's you conduct in order to assess your understanding. These may happen more often than once per half term.</p>

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

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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

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Head of Chemistry: Naomi De Steunder, email address Naomi.DeSteunder@stpauls.org.uk

In this unit students will be looking at the elements of the Periodic Table in greater depth, including how their structure affects their properties and bonding.

C2 Elements, Compounds and Mixtures	C2.2 Bonding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ionic, covalent and metallic bonding • How atomic structure affects bonding
	C2.3 Properties of Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How properties of materials depend on the type of bonding present • Metals and non-metals • Allotropes of carbon • Polymers and nanoparticles

Physics

Exam Board: OCR

Specification: Gateway Suite of Sciences A

Qualifications: GCSE Physics, GCSE Combined Science

Head of Biology: Naadu Lawson, email address naadu.lawson@st-pauls.org.uk

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

Head of physics: Naadu Lawson, email address Naadu.Lawson@st-pauls.org.uk

	Module Contents	Assessment Points in Lessons
Unit 2	<p>Matter and Electricity</p> <p>Lent Term</p> <p>P1.2 Changes of state</p> <p>You will learn the relationship between the states of matter which will help you to explain the different types of everyday physical changes that we see around us.</p> <p>P3.1 Static and charge</p> <p>You will learn about how electron transfer leads to objects becoming statically charged and the forces between them.</p> <p>P3.2 Simple circuits</p> <p>You will be introduced to the measurement of conventional current and potential difference in circuits. You will develop a fundamental understanding of how to assemble series and parallel circuits and of how they differ with respect to conventional current and potential difference.</p>	<p>Your approach to learning will be assessed each half term with a book check.</p> <p>You will sit a six mark question and a multiple choice quiz each half term to assess your understanding of the content covered in lessons. These assessments will be synoptic, including previous content covered.</p> <p>Your practical skills will be assessed in Practical Assessment Group tasks, completed in lessons. You will also be given examination questions based on the practicals you conduct in order to assess your understanding. 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.mathswatch.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 Manufacture.

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



The material specific areas offered are:

1. Electronic design (*leading to GCSE D&T*)
2. Graphics, cards papers and boards (*leading to GCSE D&T*)
3. Fashion and textiles (*leading to GCSE D&T*)
4. Woods, plastics and metals (*leading to GCSE D&T*)
5. Engineering design (*leading to OCR National(s) in engineering*)
6. Engineering manufacture (*leading to OCR National(s) in engineering*)
7. Food preparation and nutrition (*leading to GCSE FP&N*)

Computer Science

By the end of Year 9 students will have a basic understanding of designing solutions to programming problems. They will also know the fundamentals of programming at a basic level which will allow them to go onto more intermediate techniques in programming.

The following term students will develop an understanding of computer architecture. What are the different components of a CPU and what hardware is needed to allow productive use of a PC.

The final term will explore the fundamentals of networked computers and be able to explain the benefits and problems of different set ups.

Faculty of Expressive Arts

Art:

During this term pupils will study the work of a range of different artists. They will develop their understanding of the techniques used and the colour theory employed by this group of artists. 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 to produce a range of inspired pieces of Art.

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:

Lent 1:

Students spend this term focusing on developing their composing skills from year 8; students develop the skills to compose their own original piece of music or song, and do this through GarageBand, Logic or Sibelius.

Lent 2:

Students study the topic 'Bach to basics' where they develop their understanding of Baroque and Classical music. Students do this through listening, appraising, performing and composing. The focus of the term is around understanding the history of music so that students broaden their musical repertoire.

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, softball, 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. If they are studying GCSE PE they will focus 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. The other option is the vocational course, OCR Sports Studies which consists of coursework units, a sports leadership unit (practical) and a practical unit in a sport of their choice and external examination worth 25%.