

Faculty of English, literacy and communication

What will your child be learning?

During this term, your child will be studying a prose novel and exploring a key theme within that novel. We will look at characters, language and plot to track the theme.

During this term, we will be looking to complete two key assessments. The first is a thematic reading response in relation to the essay and the second will be an individual research presentation (speaking and listening), that will link to the theme of the novel.

How can I help at home?

Discussion of learning completed in schools. Independent research using BBC Bitesize. Completion of extra tasks on Google Classroom.

Faculty of mathematics and numeracy

Mathematics and numeracy

What will your child be learning?

During this term pupils will be finding volumes of shapes and calculating areas of circles, semicircles and compound shapes. They will be developing their proportional reasoning by looking at recipes and calculating when sharing into a given ratio. There will be opportunities to develop their financial education using real life examples and contexts in preparation for the numeracy aspect of their GCSE qualification. Work will be completed on transformation of shapes, including rotation and enlargements. They will also be completing their end of year national numeracy assessments during lessons.

What can you do to help at home?

You can support your child by discussing the learning completed in school and apply skills learnt in lessons to real life context. Ensure independent learning tasks that are given, set on Google Classroom and assigned on MathsWatch are completed by the set deadlines.

Encourage them to practise their times tables and use apps/games/competitions with yourself for fun to aid faster recall.

Financial education and work-related education

What will your child be learning?

Throughout the year, learners will be working towards a financial education qualification developing their financial understanding. During this term they will be developing their understanding of exchange rates and using them for calculations as well as learning about the sources of money and careers in finance. This will support your child in becoming ethical, informed citizens who are ready for all aspects of financial independence.

What can you do to help at home?

For the financial education qualification, your child will have been given a username and password to access all the material needed for the course. Included on here are all the class notes, short quizzes and mock questions; all of which can be accessed at home via the website www.tlm.org. Please encourage your child to complete all tasks on the Google Classroom.

Faculty of science and technology

What will your child be learning?

Science:

Over the course of the year pupils will study GCSE unit 1 across the three subject areas: biology, chemistry and physics. They will study the WJEC triple award unit 1 topics across the year and will be sitting GCSE assessments. All information on the assessment is shared with the pupils and yourselves via the Google Classroom and Classcharts. Within each of the three sciences they will complete all topics within the unit 1. The units of work are:

Biology: cells, organ systems and ecosystems

Chemistry: chemical substances, reactions and essential resources

Physics: electricity, energy and waves

Pupils will then move onto the WJEC unit 2 work and will complete the first four topics for each subject. The topics covered are:

Biology: the variety of life, cell division and stem cells, DNA and inheritance and variation and evolution.

Chemistry: bonding, structure and properties, acids, bases and salts, metals and their extraction and chemical reactions and energy.

Physics: distance, speed and acceleration, Newton's laws, work and energy and further motion concepts

Technology:

In year 9 pupils start to look at the GCSE courses available in the faculty, starting with the GCSE in food and nutrition. Pupils spend the autumn term learning all about dairy products. They will learn how to identify dairy products and its sources, alternatives to dairy products and lactose intolerance. Pupils develop an understanding of the role of dairy in the diet and nutrients provided and how an excess or deficiency of dairy can affect health. They use their knowledge of dairy products and apply this when develop food preparation skills and make a variety of dishes including: potato dauphinoise, buttermilk scones and cheesecake.

Information Technology (ITQ):

In year 9 pupils work towards a BTEC level 2 award for IT users. Pupils will work toward their qualifications within lessons. They will gain a nationally recognised vocationally specific qualification to enter employment in the IT sector or further education. They will develop functional skills and personal learning and thinking skills essential for successful performance in working life. In the last term pupils will look at software its design, imaging and multimedia content. All assessments completed within this term contribute towards the qualification.

How can I help at home?

Science:

There is a wide range of resources on the Google Classroom that will support and develop their understanding of the units of the GCSE at home. You will find the resources from the lesson, WJEC past papers and questions and there are even blended learning videos they can access.

If you could ensure they are accessing these regularly and using them to complete the independent work which has been designed to support them at home. Speaking with them about the work is also supportive, just having a chat over what they have learn using the Google Classroom together. Below are the links to the WJEC website for each qualification, they provide support for past paper questions and resources to discuss at home

Biology; https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/biology-gcse/#tab_keydocuments

Chemistry ; https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/chemistry-gcse/#tab_keydocuments

Physics; https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/physics-gcse/#tab_keydocuments

Technology:

Discuss in-school learning. Practise skills and techniques learned at home.

Visit the technologystudent.com website for information on materials and techniques. Complete the interactive activities.

Information Technology (ITQ):

All assessments are started within lesson but all work can be accessed at home to complete or improve upon. The work is located on the Google Classroom and pupil's own drive. At home pupils can be working on these assignments to ensure they have all the necessary ones completed to gain the qualification. As a parent you can be reviewing the work with your child and providing guidance on the improvement points. Discussing the work and ensuring that your child meets the deadlines is also important.



Learning in Year 9: Summer Term 2025-26

Faculty of language and culture

What will your child be learning?

Welsh:
This term, pupils are working on developing their grammatical and language skills whilst studying the topics of 'yr ardal' and the short story 'y Rhigos ar fan hufen iâ'. Pupils are developing their translation, correction, oracy and extended writing skills as well as their responses to a short story. During the year pupils will develop their skills in all 3 areas, oracy, reading and writing. Pupils will continue to develop key grammar terms and how to form the present, conditional, future and past tenses. They apply these rules to create phrases to write and speak about the topic as well as to understand written texts.

Spanish:
Your child will be learning about Spanish culture and traditions. They will be learning about El Salvador, researching both the tourism and the challenging past of the country. They will then study the topic of Spanish speaking countries, seeing how the Spanish language varies from one country to another, and how customs and traditions make these countries unique.

Expressive arts:
Your child will be exploring the theme of food. Pupils will be researching and evaluating the work of other artists, they will create and engage with art making processes and materials and refine their work into personal responses. Pupils will create a range of printmaking and 3d responses along with a development of drawing and painting in their sketchbook portfolios. Pupils will develop their performance skills and explore the world of special FX, stage and backstage design.
In Music pupils will be developing their knowledge of music theory through pop music.
In Media pupils will be looking at the world of video games.

How can I help at home?
Welsh:
Pupils should use the GCSE Pods on the Google Classroom to support the learning of topical vocabulary. They should also complete all independent learning tasks set; these will be uploaded to the Google Classroom and will support the development of skills as well as building vocabulary and improving grammatical accuracy. Pupils are also able to use free online learning resources such as Quizlet and Duolingo to build their vocabulary and gain confidence in speaking aloud.

Spanish:
Online language learning platforms such as Duolingo and Quizlet provide plenty of opportunities for language development. Pupils can also access Spanish language television programmes, films and music to become used to the spoken Spanish language. Independent learning tasks and further revision can be found on Google Classroom.

Expressive arts:
You can support your child at home by ensuring that all work set on Google Classroom is completed by the deadline, including learning lines and rehearsing for practical performance. Sketchbooks are expected to go home for tasks to be completed.

Faculty of life

Well-being:

What will your child be learning?
During term three, your child will be demonstrating an effective and creative performance used in individual sports such as badminton, tennis, athletics, table tennis, and gymnastics. Individual sports will help your child to emphasise on the training, dedication and resilience needed to succeed in sports where they only have themselves to count on. Within the classroom, we will cover lessons on internet safety and online technology. The internet and online technology topic provides new opportunities for our pupils to learn and grow in a safe manner but also investigates the variety of risks they could face online.

How can I help at home?
Please ensure that your child brings and wears the correct PE kit to these lessons. Please also discuss the benefits of regular physical activity and explain how this reduces the risk of illness both in the short and long term and how it is linked to positive mental health outcomes. You could also explore the type of physical activity that your child enjoys most and help them to incorporate that into their weekly routines.

Humanities

What will your child be learning?
During this term pupils will continue to have the opportunity to enjoy taster sessions of our GCSE subjects, in preparation for choosing their options. In health and social care lessons, your child will explore the differences between growth and development across our life span, and the factors that influence these. Whilst in history, your child will investigate the Holocaust, and in geography your child will explore the impact of deforestation. Your child will have the opportunity to develop the techniques required to be successful in these areas as GCSE.

How can I help at home?
Please encourage your child to complete their independent learning tasks, as these provide the opportunity to develop and practise humanities skills, alongside extending their knowledge of topics linked to our theme. Pupils will also benefit from watching or reading the news, for example watching Newsround or accessing The Day.

RVE:

What will your child be learning?
During the summer term we will explore our worldviews on a range of topics such as crime and justice. We will consider what influences us and the opinions that we have. We will explore how religious and non-religious people view the world and consider the influences that their beliefs may have on their behaviours, lifestyle and opinions. When investigating these ethical questions, we will consider the extent to which people are influenced by factors such as social media, religion and family. Further, pupils will undertake research into a range of laws and compare punishments in different countries.

How can I help at home?
You can support by watching the news and finding ethical stories within the media. Ask them to share their opinion and encourage them to listen to alternative points of view. Discuss in-school learning and share your opinions with your child. Talk about the factors that influence your opinions and why these may be different to other people