

Year 8	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
English	Non-fiction shorts - Students study a selection of non-fiction shorts on a range of topics. They will examine how writers adapt their work to suit different text types, audiences and purposes.	Shakespearean comedy - Students study either Twelfth Night or Much Ado and consider how Shakespeare uses dramatic effects to create humour. They consider how styles of comedy and attitudes towards comedy have changed over time.	Diverse Literary Shorts - students study a richly diverse range of texts to promote critical thinking. They analyse challenging material, examining the different methods writers use to explore issues to do with ethnicity, religion and identity.	WW1 Poetry - students explore the significance of poetry during WW1. They examine how it was used as a form of propaganda, and how soldier poets used it to reveal the true horrors of war.	Gothic Literature - students study different features of the gothic genre, exploring key characters, themes and motifs.	Of Mice and Men - students examine the methods Steinbeck uses to present the reality of the Great Depression and explore themes of friendship, loneliness, dreams and prejudice.
Cross-Curricular Links	Drama	Drama	RE, PSHE	History		History
RE	The Bible - Building on last year's education on the key beliefs and practices of Catholics, the study of Catholicism is explored further through examining the specifics of the Christian holy scripture and its importance.	Prophets, Life after Death and the Son of God - pupils focus on the key individuals who were chosen by God to spread the Word of God. Several of them predicted what will happen after death; which leads into religious and non-religious views about life after death.	Catholic Social Teaching - pupils have just learnt about what Jesus has told us to do in order to get into heaven. Pupils examine a variety of different examples of injustice. They finish the unit by preparing a presentation on an issue of injustice from today.	Hinduism - Year 8 now look at the other world religions and learn about their different practices. They compare Hinduism with Christianity; including the comparison of the Trimurti and the Trinity. They learn about 'karma' and how similar the concept is to the Golden Rule of Jesus.	Islam - Year 8 continue their education of other world religions by examining the key beliefs and traditions of Islam. They examine the Five Pillars of Islam, as well as the importance of the mosque, the imam and the Qur'an.	Sikhism - Year 8 finish the year by learning about another world religion. Cultural Capital is really celebrated here, since Slough contains the largest number of Sikhs in the UK. They learn about the Ten Gurus, as well as the 5 Ks and the Gurdwara.
Cross-Curricular Links						
PSHE	Relationship Skills - students learn how to have a positive relationship with themselves, how their relationship with themselves can impact on others, what personal space is, laws surrounding social media and the effect social media can have on our relationships.	Drugs and Alcohol - students learn the difference between medicinal and recreational drugs, the difference between habit and dependence, the dangers of energy drinks, the risks of alcohol, tobacco and nicotine including e-cigarettes.	Community and Careers - students learn about equal opportunities in the work place, the difference between employment, self employment and voluntary work, how to set aspirational goals and labour market information.	Bullying and peer pressure - students learn what bullying is, the difference between bullying and banter, laws surrounding cyber bullying, the difference between racism and stereotyping, how people are sometimes peer pressured into bullying others.	Government and democracy - students learn what democracy is, how the government works including devolution of power, key roles and responsibilities in government, how to access careers in politics and how citizens can get involved in the political process.	Emotional wellbeing - students learn about different attitudes towards mental health, how to challenge myths and stigma surrounding mental health, strategies for looking after our emotional and mental wellbeing, the difference between healthy and unhealthy coping strategies including self-harm and eating disorders.
Cross-Curricular Links		Science		Drama		Drama
French	Discussing television programmes, films, books, what you do on the internet (using expanded opinions, negative "ne... pas", "ne...jamais" etc.). Saying what you did yesterday evening (perfect tense).	Saying what you did in Paris, saying when you did things, asking for information about tourist attractions (interrogatives), saying where you went and how (using the perfect tense of "aller")	Talking about personality, relationships, clothes, plans for the weekend. Talking about your passions. Adjectival agreement, reflexive verbs (first person singular), near future tense (first person singular), perfect, present and future tenses together	Describing where you live (town/country), describing your home (using comparative adjectives), talking about meals (partitive article), talking about an event using three tenses.	Describing jobs, saying what you used to do (using the imperfect tense), discussing your plans for the future (near future, conditional, modal verbs).	Revision and grammar bootcamp.
Cross-Curricular Links			PSHE	Geography	PSHE	
Spanish	Talking about a past holiday, saying what you did, where, how and with whom you went - using the preterite tense. Saying what your holiday was like - using opinions, combining present and preterite tenses. Describing an ideal holiday (introduction of the conditional tense).	Saying what you use your phone for, what type of music you like, talking about TV (expanding expressions of opinions, revision of present tense, introduction of more irregular verbs, saying "uso...para..."). Saying what you did yesterday (using the preterite of irregular "hacer")	Saying what food you like (revision of "gustar"), describing meal times, ordering a meal and having problems in a restaurant (using formal language "usted"). Giving an account of a party (combining tenses)	Arranging to go out (conditional of gustar), making excuses (saying "I can't because...), talking about clothes (present and near future tenses), discussing sporting events (combining 3 tenses together).	Saying what you have to do at work (using "tengo que", saying what job you would like to do (using the conditional), talking about your future (using the near future). Describing your job. Adjectival agreement and spotting regular and irregular verb patterns.	Revision and grammar bootcamp.
Cross-Curricular Links	Geography					

History	The British Empire - 1. What were the origins of the British Empire, and its early colonies in North America? 2. How did the British Empire develop in the Caribbean and trade in the Atlantic? 3. What were the gains and losses of the British Empire in the 18th century?	The Slave Trade - 1. What were African kingdoms like before the transatlantic slave trade? 2. What was Britain's role in the transatlantic slave trade? 3. How did the slave trade triangle work? 4. What was life like for slaves on plantations?	Civil Rights Movement - 1. Why did slavery end? 2. Did life improve for Black Americans after slavery? 3. How have Black Americans fought for equality? 4. What is the legacy of the Black Americans fight for equality?	World War I - 1. What was the impact of the creation of a united Germany in 1871 on the balance of power in Europe? 2. How did tension increase between European powers between 1871 - 1914? 3. What were the causes of World War I? 4. What was life like in the trenches?	20th Century Conflict - by the end of this unit, students will be able to answer the following questions: 1. What do communists and fascists believe? 2. How did these beliefs cause conflict in the 20th century?	The Holocaust -1. How were Jews persecuted in Europe before the 20th century? 2. What was life like for Jewish people in Europe before the Second World War? 3. How and why did Jewish people face persecution in Nazi Germany?
Cross-Curricular Links		Black History Month; Music	Music, Black History Month, PSHE	English		RE, PSHE
Geography	Coastal Landscapes - builds on key processes from year 7 rivers learning. Develops knowledge of landforms and management strategies. Builds on regional and national locational knowledge.	Brazil- human and physical. Recalls and builds upon knowledge of development as a further push towards GCSE urban topics. Physical identifies ecosystems and the tropical rainforest for year 9 learning at GCSE.	Endangered Earth. Understanding of renewable and non-renewable energy. Evaluates our national and global usage and analyses the impacts upon our global climate.	Weather and Climate - preparing students with the physical processes, knowledge and application to how it impacts upon people, the economy and the environment.	Development and globalisation - Understanding of how the world is becoming more interconnected and how global trade shapes our lives. Key concepts built early for GCSE and then ALEVEL.	Revision of human and physical topics with a focus on what is needed at the start of the GCSE course is recalled.
Cross-Curricular Links	MFL, PSHE		Science	Science	History, PSHE, GCSE Business	
Maths	Laws of indices - multiplying, dividing as well as expanding expressions involving indices. Algebraic thinking - building on Year 7 content by exploring multiple brackets as well as quadratics (expanding and factorising). Averages and spread - recalling Year 7 content and exploring reverse averages with problem solving.	Fractional thinking - Recalling Year 7 content on calculating with fractions which then builds onto combining fractions with algebra and how the two processes are linked. Forming and solving equations - recalling year 7 content of utilising inverse operations in solving equations and then looking at creating equations from real world problems.	Sketching graphs - introducing Year 8s to the graphical representation of algebra through plotting and drawing straight line graphs and interpreting them. Initial exploration of quadratic graphs looks at the roots and shape of the graph and their implications. Exterior and Interior angles - calculating given angles as well as the sum of angles in polygons.	Probability and tree diagrams - single event and multiple event probability. Perimeter, area and volume - exploring rectangles, triangles, parallelograms, trapeziums as well as 3D prisms. Standard form - writing numbers in standard form as well as carrying out calculations.	Rearranging formulae - recalling solving equations and using such knowledge in changing the subject. Trigonometry - recall Pythagoras Theorem as well as use SOHCAHTOA on calculating information on right angles triangles.	Compound measures - using the formula triangles with speed, distance, time and density, mass, volume.
Cross-Curricular Links				Design & Technology	Science	Science
Science	Biology: Health and lifestyle. Chemistry: Separation Techniques	Physics: Electricity and Magnetism, Energy	Chemistry: Metals and Acids, Physics: Motion and Pressure	Physics: The Earth, Biology: Ecosystem Processes	Adaptation and Inheritance.	
Cross-Curricular Links						
	My Digital World 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Files and Folders Review of Year 7 My Digital World1 The difference between world wide web and the Internet Exploring Online Issues: Website Reliability and Quality of 	Web Programming Basic Graphic skills (Bitmap, Vector)- Creating a Logo using Fireworks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layers Formatting techniques Introduction to HTML: Basic Tags	Data Modelling: Spreadsheet Review of Year 7 Basic Spreadsheet skills from Intro@STJ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spreadsheet formulas Formatting Spreadsheet Functions: Sum, Average, Minimum, Maximum, Count 	Computer System 2: Data Representation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Year 7 Computer System1 The Binary Number System Why Binary? The need for Binary Binary – Denary Conversions Hexadecimal 	Text Programming 2 (PRIMM) Review of Year 7 Computational Thinking skills Revision of Programming Constructs Algorithms writing using flowcharts and Pseudocode Introduction to Python	Computer Systems 3: Networks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is a network? Advantages and Disadvantages of Network Components of a network- devices e.g router, Ethernet cable Different types of network- LAN, PAN.

Music	Ground Bass - Features of the Baroque period: Including the instrumentation, era and basic listening skills. Treble clef note reading revision: Reading exercises and following pitch and rhythm. Finger dexterity on the keyboard: Developing movement to improve fluency and accuracy in performance.	The Blues and Rock n Roll - The dawn of popular music: Understanding the history of African Americans, the impact of segregation and discrimination on rights of people, the power of music to motivate and overcome. Revision of keyboard note reading and rhythm. Understanding the notes of the keyboard and identifying flats.	Ragtime - Music for Entertainment: Exploring the development of music for entertainment and how this eventually developed into music for film, stage and musak. Treble clef note reading and bass clef note reading exercises to improve knowledge of pitch, rhythm (including syncopation, dotted rhythms and tied notes) and the pitch ranges of instruments.	Music and the Media: How music and sound have helped to forge the entertainment industry, including cartoons, film, stage, videogames, advertising and musak (music in the background) Composition Projects: Students learn a number of techniques and apply them to different media contexts. Students are encouraged to explore the elements to create short pieces of music.	Calypso and Reggae - The impact of Latin America: Revisiting our knowledge of The Blues and Ragtime to connect with South America and the alternative path music took following the slave trade.	Popular Music Styles: We explore how the history of all music has brought us to the popular music of today. We also reference the popular eras of the 20th century.
Cross-Curricular Links	History, Drama, Art, Physics (sound)	History, Art, Drama, Geography	History, Art, Drama	Media Studies, Drama	History, Geography, Drama, Art	
Drama	Commedia Del Arte - Students develop physical comedy skills over a series of teacher led workshops including the art of slapstick to retell lazis.	Seven Deadly Sins - Is it acceptable to have any of these traits in life? Applying these questions in using a variety of skills and techniques.	Woman in Black - What's in a name? Exploring the plot, characters language and structure of the play using a variety of techniques	Knife Crime - How does knife crime effect the community? Students will explore the issue of knife crime through flashback and emotional memory.	Practitioners - How can the use of drama practitioners enhance performance work? Students will develop skills using practitioners to create stylised and naturalistic pieces of drama	Devising - What makes good theatre? Students will explore a range of stimuli and use their knowledge of drama practitioners and techniques to devise a piece of theatre.
Cross-Curricular Links	History, English	RE, PHSE	English	PSHE		English, Art
Art	Art History: Drawing, painting, grid method. Cubism, De Stijl, Renaissance, Impressionism, Expressionism, Pointilism, OUTCOME: Combined development of Cubism and De Stijl	Art History: Stencilling, printmaking, drawing, painting. Street Art, Pop Art, Op Art, Surrealism. OUTCOME: Series of artist responses	Graffiti: Stencilling, layering materials, sponging, scalpels. OUTCOME: Banksy style stencilled artwork	Graffiti: Net drawing, papercraft, origami, stencilling, drawing. OUTCOME: 3D paper cube of graffiti styles.	TBC (Spring 2021)	TBC (Spring 2021)
Cross-Curricular Links	History	History	Design & Technology, History	History, Music		