



Year 8

Curriculum Booklets

For support with your child's progress, please contact

tw_admin@swale.at



The Whitstable School
LEARN LOCALLY, THINK GLOBALLY

Autumn Term
2023



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In this booklet you will find important information about the curriculum followed by your child until the end of term 2 (December). Subject leaders have provided material which will help your child to prepare for their assessments and explained a little about how they can prepare. You can use the links on the pages to contact subject leaders if you have any questions. Teachers will set homeworks which help pupils to learn the material set out here.

We hope you and your child find the booklet informative and useful! Contact us here: tw_s_admin@swale.at

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In their English lessons, pupils will be exploring the Gothic genre, principally by studying Phillip Pullman's adaptation of Frankenstein and then move on to extracts from a range of classic and modern fiction, non-fiction & poetry. Themes include: religion, death, the supernatural, fear and otherness. Through their study of this modern play and other Gothic extract, pupils will investigate ways authors develop plot and character and use this knowledge to develop their own creative narratives. In the second term, pupils will explore a range of Gothic poetry reading for meaning and analysing poetic devices.

The Key Stage Three Co-ordinator of English at The Whitstable School is Mrs Day.

	Content of learning	Assessment
Term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: comprehension, analysing language and structure and applying contextual knowledge• Writing: developing voice and tone.	To write a letter to Victor Frankenstein arguing that he should show mercy to the monster.
Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: comprehension, analysing poetic techniques and considering the effects of grammatical constructions.• Writing: developing using punctuation and syntax for effect.	An unseen poetry question - interpretation and analysis



Maths 2023/24

In maths you will be covering the below topics over the course of Terms 1 and 2.

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12
Autumn	Proportional Reasoning						Representations					
	Ratio and Scale		Multiplicative change		Multiplying and dividing fractions		Working in the cartesian plane.		Representing data		Tables and probability	

We use the White Rose Maths mastery scheme of work which is available to view on the website:

<https://whiterosemaths.com/resources/secondary-resources/secondary-sols/>

At the end of every two units students will complete a joint unit key task, which will consist of a short one lesson test based on the unit studied. This will then be followed by a feedback lesson where the students will have an opportunity to look at their areas of strengths and weaknesses from the two units.

Mr Yates (Director of Maths)

Mrs E Bailes (2nd in Maths)



Science 2023-24

In Science we assess at the end of each topic. Students will complete a unit key task, which will consist of a part A test for one lesson based on the unit studied and a Part B test that assesses information studied so far in science. This will then be followed by a feedback lesson where the students will have an opportunity to look at their areas of strengths and weaknesses from the topic.

The lead for science at The Whitstable School is Mr S Baker.

	Topic	Assessment
Term 1	B4 - Community level systems	Pupils will learn about how organisms survive in a habitat.
	C4 - Predicting and identifying reactions	Pupils will explain the reactivity of particular groups within the periodic table.
Term 2	P4 - Waves	Pupils will explain the differences between transverse and longitudinal waves.
	B5 - Inheritance	Pupils will learn about variation within species and how characteristics are inherited

Homework is to complete at least two daily tasks plus bonuses per week on Tassomai.



Geography 2023–2024

In the first two terms, pupils will study two concepts within human geography; development and migration.

In development, pupils will learn about the inequalities and strategies to reduce the development gap. They will develop their place and locational knowledge by learning about Ghana in Africa.

In the migration unit, pupils will look at the cause and impact of migration into Europe, they will look at the opportunities and challenges for both donor and host countries. To develop their location and place knowledge pupils will also study the Rwandan Genocide and the migration causes from this.

There are some great resources and activities on Seneca Learning that will support students with their learning.

The lead for geography at The Whitstable School is Miss Gilbert

	Topic	Assessment
Term 1	Global development: why is the world unevenly distributed?	'Ghana is a developing country'. To what extent do you agree with this statement?
Term 2	Migration; A crisis in Europe?	Analyse the opportunities and challenges that migrants face migrating into Britain.



History 2023-24

In Year 8, pupils will further their knowledge of the history of Britain and abroad with themes of power, religion and expansion. Pupils will continue to develop vital skills in analysis, understanding different historical views and using sources to accurately interpret the past.

The lead for history at The Whitstable School is Ms Coleman.

	Topic	Assessment
Term 1	Late Tudor Dynasty: What challenges did the late Tudor Monarchs face?	We study the Tudor monarchs who came after Henry VIII. We learn about how they continued to make changes to the Church of England, their struggles and problems and how they have become the most infamous royal family in history. A 20 mark assessment on the knowledge and understanding gained in the topic will include knowledge questions and an extended writing task.
Term 2	The Stuarts: To what extent was the 17th Century a time of turmoil?	We look at the Stuart kings and the changes that occurred in England under their reigns. The 17th Century was a time of political and social upheaval in England. We study the key events that took place and the consequences of them. We decide if Charles I really deserved to lose his head. A 20 mark assessment on the knowledge and understanding gained in the topic will include knowledge questions and an extended writing task.



MFL – Spanish 2023–24

Spanish

In Spanish this term, pupils will learn how to describe their family members in more detail, as well as their homes and neighbourhoods. There will be regular translation assessments from English into Spanish. At the end of term 1 we will prepare and complete an extended writing task from memory.

The Subject Leader for MFL Spanish is Ms. Amboage

	Topic	Assessment
Term 1	Describing family members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- What are your family like?- What are you wearing?
Term 2	Describing homes and neighbourhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Where do you live?- What is your house like?- Do you like your neighbourhood?



Values 2023/24

In Year 8, students will be deepening their knowledge and exploring how they fit into their local community. They will be exploring key topics including family and discrimination.

The Subject Leader for Philosophy, Ethics and Values is Mr Waters.

	Topic	Assessment
Term 1	Being me in my world. Can I choose how I fit into the world.	Exploring how students fit into the world around them. Students explore different aspects of society, such as family, relationships, faiths and beliefs and culture and diversity. Assessed via end of unit assessment.
Term 2	Celebrating difference. How different are we really?	We also explore issues such as prejudice and stereotyping, as well as hate crime, and social justice. Assessed via end of unit assessment.



Art & Technology 2023–24

Art & Technology Carousel

In Year 8 students will complete a carousel of 3 art subjects and 2 technology subjects in a double and a single lesson throughout the year.

ART

Students will *complete a stand alone project on the themes of Human Form, Issues & Text in Art and Textiles: Colour and Pattern.*

Students are introduced to a range of artists and designers connected to their project themes and they develop ideas using a wide range of media and techniques including drawing, painting, printing, collage, sculpture and various textile techniques including weaving and batik.

For homework students will complete one task sheet for each project that will give them the opportunity to read, explore and create independently with video tutorial links to support learning in class. Students can use the knowledge organiser to recap the key terminology and extend their knowledge of the artists covered.

The Subject Leader for Art is Mrs Connell

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Students will be making an Art Deco inspired keepsake box from timber. The main focus will be practising different joining methods to construct their box. Students will also explore the Art Deco movement and use it to inspire a design for the lid of their box, to add a decorative feature.

For homework, students will be given the whole term to complete a drawing booklet, to practise those key skills that are needed within DT. For Year 8, the focus will be on isometric drawing.

The subject leader for DT is Mrs Newton.



Art & Technology 2023–24

Art & Technology Carousel

In Year 8 students will complete a carousel of 3 art subjects and 2 technology subjects in a double and a single lesson throughout the year.

Cooking & Nutrition

Cooking & Nutrition in Year 8 continues to develop students understanding of the Government's healthy eating guidelines through further study of the Eatwell guide and the function of nutrients. Food provenance & farming methods will also be covered.

Students knowledge and understanding of food safety will be deepened in order to ensure that they can produce a range of dishes safely. Students will learn about the 4 C's - Clean, Cook, Chill, Cross contamination. This enables students to prepare increasingly more complex practical dishes.

Students will also begin to study the science of food by completing food specific practical investigations.

Homework will consist of short quizzes to ensure retention of knowledge.

The Subject Leader for Cooking & Nutrition is Mrs B Harvey



Computing 2023/24

Pupils will explore what is inside electronic devices and how they work. They will learn about advanced hardware, how to categorise more advanced input and output devices, develop understanding of advanced internal and external hardware and practise identifying how and when devices are used. Pupils will develop an understanding the differences between data and instructions, what a CPU does, explore using Binary to create 4 bit and 8 bit numbers and logic gates. Students will also explore the fundamentals of data representation and explore how images and sound are represented through the use of binary.

The lead for Computing and Digital Media at The Whitstable School is Miss Depta

	Topic	Assessment
Term 1	How does a Computer work? Understanding hardware vs software. Categorising Input and Output devices.	End of topic online assessment
Term 2	The world of Binary Explore how binary works and the use of logic gates. Identifying how data is represented on a Computer	End of topic online assessment.



Dance 2023/24

Pupils develop their skills and knowledge in performing, creating and critically responding during dance lessons.

The Subject Leader for Dance is Miss Everson

	TOPIC	ASSESSMENT
TERM ONE	Hip hop, diversity and Black Lives Matters	Performance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication of dance theme - Safe working practice Creative choreography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selection and use of actions - Selection and use of dynamics
TERM TWO	Swansong Using a chair as a prop. Inspired by Christopher Bruce's 'Swansong' (1987)	Performance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safe working practice - Physical skills Creative trio choreography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of the chair as a prop - Form and structure

The FOUR Elements of Movement

Actions	What a dancer does.
Dynamics	The qualities of movement based upon variations in speed, strength and continuity.
Spatial content	The 'where' of movement.
Dance relationships	The ways in which dancers interact and the connections between dancers.



Drama 2023/2024

In Drama, students will be looking at various examples of storytelling and developing further their performance skills. They will also look in depth at Macbeth.

The Subject Leader for Drama is Mrs Freeman

	TOPIC	ASSESSMENT
TERM ONE	Storytelling Pupils use a variety of storytelling techniques to develop ways in which drama can be delivered, pupils consider the impact of pieces and consider ways in which these ideas can be furthered.	Pupils will be assessed in creating, performing and evaluating. Pupils will be asked to incorporate skills and techniques they have studied into their own ideas for practical storytelling.
TERM TWO	Macbeth Pupils will explore Shakespeare's tragedy through drama techniques such as sound collage, and conscience alley. Pupils will explore off text work to deepen their understanding of the text.	Pupils will take part in a range of practical assessments that cover creating, performing and evaluating. Pupils will be assessed on their use of drama terminology.



Music – 2023/24

In Terms 1 and 2 pupils will start to learn how to read music notation and improve their listening skills of different instruments from the orchestra. They will improve their piano playing skills with three note chord sequences, basslines and melodies, playing with both hands. Pupils will listen to different Film and Classical composers, learning how music is used to create mood, texture and emotion.

The Subject Leader for Music is Mr Cassini

	TOPIC	ASSESSMENT
Term 1	Piano Skills	Performance criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none">- I am able to form a three note chord without support.- I am able to play a chord sequence with some support.- I am able to play a chord sequence without support.- I am able to play a melody without support.- I am able to read notation with support.- I am able to read notation without support.
Term 2	Music and Media	Performance criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none">- I understand the role that music has in media, film and television.- I am able to read basic music notation without support.- I can recognise different note types such as crotchets and minims.- I can hear and name different instruments from the orchestra.- I can play popular theme tunes fluently, accurately and with expression.- I can evaluate music from film and TV, explaining what musical elements have been used to create texture, mood and emotion.



Physical Education 2023/24

In PE we will be developing skills in a combination of team and individual sports. Students will have the opportunity to cover a variety of sports (two each term). This will support activities that we will also offer in a competitive capacity and play against other schools, so opportunities will be provided for all to attend clubs.

We have different lead teachers for topics that extend out of the curriculum that will be shared with students and on the school webpage.

The subject leader for PE is Mrs Merrick

	TOPIC	ASSESSMENT
TERM ONE	Netball Football Climbing Basketball Badminton	Knowledge Practical ability (skill/tactics) Self assessment
TERM TWO	Rugby Climbing Basketball Badminton Table Tennis	Knowledge Practical ability (skill/tactics) Self assessment



Philosophy, Culture & Ethics (Key Stage 3)

The aims of the PC&E syllabus is to introduce pupils to the world of ideas. They will have an opportunity in lessons to learn that there are some questions that we have been asking for thousands of years, for which we still seek answers. In PC&E lessons, there is never one ‘right’ answer, so pupils are encouraged to express their view in a reasoned, polite manner.

We will look at the world and the riddle of existence from lots of different perspectives – those of philosophers (old and new), ethicists, artists and poets, and through religious teachings from the major faiths of the world.

Pupils will be encouraged to debate the big questions, in class, giving verbal presentations, asking each other questions, and discussing big ideas.

The lead for this subject in the school is Mr Williams

Some question examples:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
What is meant by ‘society’? What is power? Should happiness be the purpose of life?	Is religious belief another form of superstition? How do we know we exist? Can spiritual curiosity be bad for your health?	Are humans free to make themselves up as they go along? What does power look like?

Lessons will take place once a week

Assessments will take place at the end of term in the form of a digital questionnaire and at the end of the year in the form of a written assessment.