

What will my Year 11 child learn this term?



A summary of learning for the Spring Term 2025

Art

Pupils are now in the final stage of their GCSE art course (EXAM PREPARATION). Last term the pupils worked hard to complete their 60% coursework. The remaining 40% of their final grade starts this term and is an external set assessment. This requires the pupils selecting from the exam board's themes. They will have a period of 14 weeks to research their chosen theme, analyse artists' work, work in the style of an artist by using a range of materials and then create a final outcome over a two day period. This is completed under controlled conditions and is commonly referred to as the exam which is timetabled for the 25th and 26th April in their art room.

BTEC Digital Information Technology

All students continue working on the knowledge and theory unit (Component 3) which makes up 40% of their final GCSE grade. This will then be consolidated with exam practice techniques and questions towards the end of March in preparation for their exam

Business

Students have recently finished topic 2.3 - Making Operational Decisions and will then move onto unit 2.4 - Making Financial Decisions, before then completing the final 2.5 unit which is 'Making Human resources decisions'

Computer Science

In the past half term, our focus was on Python programming. As we progress into this half term, we are elevating our curriculum by delving into the most complex elements of Python programming. Students will engage with advanced Python features, enhancing their problem-solving and coding skills. Alongside this technical advancement, we are also introducing a critical component to their learning – Legal, Ethical, and Environmental issues in computing. This segment will cover the important considerations and responsibilities that come with technological expertise, such as data privacy, digital ethics, and the environmental impact of technology.

Creative iMedia

Students have just completed Topic 2 - Factors influencing product design and will be moving onto Topic 3 next week which is 'Pre-production planning'. There will then be a relatively short Topic 4 before we move onto

consolidating their theory by way of exam practice techniques and practice papers before they sit their final exam which is 40% of their total GCSE grade in this subject.

Design & Technology

Pupils studying GCSE D&T are now in their final 12 weeks before their final coursework deadline (worth 50%). This term, pupils will be continuing with their NEA coursework write up, discussing and planning suitable materials, processes and design developments for their final prototype, before manufacturing and evaluating their prototype. Theory topics will also continue to support pupils in preparation for their final two hour exam paper. Pupils sat their mock exam in December and will receive marks for this in the coming weeks. Pupils still have the opportunity to attend D&T sessions on a Monday lunchtime weekly, in order to ensure that coursework tasks are up to date and as thorough as they can be.

Drama

Pupils have been completing Component 1 of their Drama GCSE which makes up 40% of their final grade. Last term they completed the performance element and they will be required to complete the portfolio and evaluation within the few weeks of the term. Students will then start Component 2 where they will be rehearsing and performing script extracts.

Engineering Design

Pupils studying Engineering Design are continuing working on their R039 - Communicating Designs NEA (non-examined assessment). The deadline for this NEA is 9th April 2024. Pupils have been tasked with designing a wireless phone charger with a secondary function. This unit develops skills in technical drawing methods, rendering, CAD (computer aided design), and design annotation. Pupils recently sat a R038 mock exam paper and will be receiving results in the coming weeks along with continuing theory learning to support their exam preparation. Pupils will sit the R038 exam on the morning of 9th May 2024.

English

Year 11 pupils will be re-visiting the plot, themes and characters in Romeo and Juliet in preparation for their Literature Paper 1 mock on January 30th. Pupils will also look at the Power and Conflict poetry cluster to help prepare them for their GCSE Literature Paper 2 exams. Pupils will also be re-visiting skills needed for their English Language Paper 1 GCSE exam.

Geography

During the Spring Term, the GCSE Geography (Edexcel A) course will continue to explore a range of topics which are connected to the three main areas of study; The Physical Environment; The Human Environment; and Geographical investigations including fieldwork and UK Challenges. Pupils have now completed both Paper 3 fieldwork investigations (York and Hornsea), and during this term will complete the final unit linked to Paper 3 which is 'UK Challenges'. At the end of the Spring Term, pupils will sit a full practice Paper 3 in lessons, which will be marked and graded, with feedback given to the pupils about how their performance could have been improved. Pupils will also complete the final unit of the course, Resource Management, which is from Paper 2 The Human Environment. The Geography course will be completed by Easter.

Health & Social Care

Year 11s have now learnt all the content for TA1 and TA2. They will now be looking at TA3 and 4 over the next few weeks and start revision of all 4 topics. Students are welcome to attend revision sessions on Monday dinner times in 3015. This will be time for them to create revision resources with a teacher present.

History

Throughout the first month of the Spring Term of Y11, pupils will begin their final topic for the GCSE - Early Elizabethan England 1558-88. The first two units focus the enquiry on how Elizabeth I was able to maintain her position on the throne of England, despite opposition from both within England and from abroad.

Maths

Year 11 have now completed their GCSE course. From now until the exam period, they will be following a bespoke revision timetable in preparation for their GCSE exams. Pupils will continue to receive a past paper homework each week to keep up their exposure to typical exam questions. These will be given out on the same day and expected the same day in a weeks time. 11a pupils will receive past papers on Wednesday and 11b on Thursday. These will be marked and feedback given in lessons on key questions. We have found these to be a really useful tool in making the best progress possible. Further after school extra revision sessions will be made available but will be confirmed in due course.

MFL

GCSE French & Spanish: Pupils in Y11 will continue their language journey with the topics of education post 16 and work. Pupils will discuss career options and be able to justify their opinions about jobs and explain what they would like to do when they finish school. At this stage in the course, the pupils will be able to use at least three tenses to talk about the topic of work and will need to extend both their verbal and written responses to include detailed opinions on the topic alongside the use of a range of verb forms. During the second half of the Spring term, pupils will start their revision programme that will see them revise all the units of work covered in Y10 and Y11. Pupils will practice exam style questions on all 4 skill areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing on a regular basis and will learn strategies to develop their accuracy and competency with their tenses. Pupils will be taught how to effectively revise vocabulary and grammar and will be set independent work via Languagenut that will support their home learning throughout the revision programme. Having ample practice of assessment tasks, pupils will feel confident approaching their language exams and will be able to articulate how they are awarded marks in each exam paper and will be ready to approach the summer exams.

Music

Pupils are working to complete their composition to a brief set by the exam board, spending one period each week on this. Pupils are encouraged to attend Composition Club on a Thursday lunch time to supplement the time allocated in class to this piece of coursework. Pupils should be working outside of the classroom with their instrumental/singing teacher to prepare for their performance exam. This will take place in school on Thursday 29th February. Pupils must perform one solo and one ensemble piece. In addition to work on the performance and composition NEA's pupils are studying the final Area of Study: AOS4: The Western Classical Tradition Since 1910.

GCSE PE

During this term pupils will be finishing their NEA Coursework ready for final submission dates. Following this they will begin to revise all topics that will come up in their final examinations.

Personal Development (PSHE)

This term, pupils will be exploring whether death is the end. They will have a look at beliefs around the afterlife, near death experiences and rebirth and reincarnation. Pupils will then explore whether religion causes conflict, looking at censorship and freedom of speech.

Photography

Pupils are now in the final stage of their GCSE art course (EXAM PREPARATION). Last term the pupils worked hard to complete their 60% coursework. The remaining 40% of their final grade starts this term and is an external set assessment. This requires pupils selecting from the exam board's themes. They will have a period of 14 weeks to research the theme, analyse photographers' work, work in the style of photographer by using a range of techniques then create a final outcome over a two day period. This is completed under controlled conditions and is commonly referred to as the exam which is timetabled for the 1st -2nd May. To support your child, it's important they attend every lesson. They are likely to want to take photos outside and in their own time. This could mean they may call upon you to take them to places.

† Religious Studies

This term, pupils will be exploring the final two themes on the religious paper. Pupils will finish exploring Theme E: Crime and Punishment focusing on the aims of punishment and treatment of criminals. They will explore religious and non religious responses. Pupils will also look at Theme D: Religion, Peace and Conflict which will explore justice, forgiveness and reconciliation. Pupils will explore different types of protest and the impact of war on religious communities.

Science

This term the pupils will be studying immunity and the nervous system in biology. In chemistry the pupils will be focussing on the greenhouse effect, climate change and global warming. In physics the pupils will complete a unit on waves, including how waves transfer energy and the property and uses of electromagnetic waves.

Sociology

Pupils will be working through the last of four topics: Social Stratification. This topic discusses the nature of power and hierarchy in society and ultimately aims to evaluate one key question: if you work hard every day, can you achieve what you want out of life? After this, pupils will begin comprehensive revision for the summer exams, with particular focus on revision strategies, evaluation, and essay writing.

Sports Studies

Pupils will be focusing on the exam element of the course. Pupils will be learning the relevant exam content and exam technique for unit R184 Contemporary Issues in sport. Pupils will cover the following topic areas, Issues which affect participation in sport, the role of sport in promoting values, the implications of hosting a major sporting event for a city or country, the role National Governing Bodies (NGBs) play in the development of their sport, the use of technology in sport

Textiles

Pupils studying Textiles have now completed their second project for their coursework portfolio and have now been introduced to the set assignments for their exam unit (component 2 worth 40%). Pupils now have preparatory time to explore their selected design brief and produce experiments, before their final 10 hour practical exam takes place in the final term, on the 7th and 8th May.