



HEART OF ENGLAND
Creating Futures

YEAR 8: CURRICULUM AND LEARNING



Year 8: Curriculum and Assessment

This booklet is to provide an insight into the curriculum your child will study in Year 8 and identify assessment points. Curriculum leaders have listed key topics covered in Year 8, highlighting key knowledge and skills they will develop.

Our curriculum at Key Stage 3 has been designed to focus upon the skills and knowledge that a student needs in order to fully grasp the key concepts and ideas, which will enable deeper appreciation and understanding within each subject area. To this end there will be a greater emphasis upon formative assessment (that is the type of assessment where teachers direct students on how they can improve a particular skill or aspect of understanding) with formal assessments (summative) taking place less often.

Progress Review:

There are two formal assessment points in Year 8, where you will receive a % score and report indicators in each subject for your child via Insight.

SPRING	SUMMER
March 2020	June 2020

In addition to this you will receive Report Indicators during the Autumn term.

What does the percentage tell me?

This indicates the progress your child has made. The assessment model is designed so it increases with difficulty. Therefore, if your child's % remains broadly the same (<5%>) then they are making progress. Any significant changes could indicate a dramatic improvement in progress or highlight a lack of progress.

What do Report Indicators tell me?

These inform you of your child's approach to different aspects of learning: Classwork, Homework, Personal Organisation and Work Ethic. For each subject these are graded in line with the criteria on the next page. They help to identify if there is a problem with homework in a particular subject or if your child is arriving to all lessons with a fantastic approach to learning. 'Excellent' is not given out lightly and therefore should always be celebrated.

Is my child set for all subjects?

No. This is dependent on the subject and indicated by an * in this booklet. Our philosophy at Heart of England is that all groups, no matter their ability, study the same curriculum and content. The groupings allow for teachers to cater more closely to those specific students' skills gaps and needs. There can be a need for these groupings to change during the year as we react to students' individual progress during the year.

Should you have any concerns about your child's progress during the year please contact the class teacher. Alternatively, Mrs Henton as KS3 Academic Co-ordinator will be able to direct you to other suitable contact points.

Report Indicators

	Homework	Behaviour	Personal Organisation	Work Ethic
EXCELLENT	Always completed. Consistently produces homework of the highest standard and quality.	An exemplary student who enhances their own and others' learning and contributes positively to the learning environment. Consistently makes the right choices.	Consistently prepared for learning by bringing all of the necessary equipment all of the time.	Strives to learn, improve and develop in the subject. Conscientious and hungry for knowledge.
GOOD	Always completed. Produced to high standard and quality. but does not necessarily aim for highest standard.	Demonstrates expected high standards in lessons contributing positively to the learning environment. Makes the right choices, showing self-discipline.	Brings all or almost all of the necessary equipment.	Cares about doing well, understanding and improving in the subject. Their effort and attitude is of the expected high standard.
INCONSISTENT	Lapses in punctuality of submission or quality. Quality varies dependent on task.	Behaviour in lessons is variable. Can behave in a way which distracts others in lessons which impacts negatively on the learning environment. Cannot always be relied upon to make the right choices.	Not always prepared for lessons, forgetting the necessary equipment which impacts on learning. Additionally, there might be issues with deadlines and punctuality.	Variable effort and attitude in lessons possibly dependent on task or topic. At times they might do the bare minimum and show little interest in excelling.
POOR	Not always completed or done with care. Completed tasks are below the standard expected.	Behaviour is below the expected standards of the school. Consistently has a negative impact on the learning environment. Rarely makes the right choice.	Consistently not prepared for lessons, not bringing the necessary equipment which impacts negatively on learning. Additionally, there might be issues with deadlines and punctuality.	Rarely shows an interest in learning. Consistently does not try in lessons. Their effort and attitude are below expectations. Passing the time.

English

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Gothic Genre Short story narrative writing	A study of the genre requirements of Gothic fiction leading to the production of a high-quality piece of narrative writing	Autumn
The modern novel Formal essay on an aspect of the novel	Analysing, interpreting and evaluating the writer's craft. Ability to synthesise ideas into a formal essay using quotations and precise analysis	
The Art of Rhetoric	Speech writing through the ages. Consolidate writing skills with a focus on audience, purpose, structural devices and language techniques	Spring
The Short Story	A study of the form and development of fiction writing techniques	
EXAM Unseen exam of reading and writing skills developed during the year.	Analysis of fiction Fiction writing: narrative and descriptive	Summer
War Poetry	Close analysis of a war poem studied focusing upon language, structure and poetic devices	

*This subject is set according to ability

Maths

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Number	Using primes and indices. Prime factorisation to find LCM, HCF, squares, cubes. Venn diagrams & numerating sets. Adding and subtracting fractions.	Autumn
Algebraic Expressions	Negative numbers and inequality statements. Formulating and evaluating expressions. Solving linear equations. Expressions and equations from real-world situations. Linear sequences: Finding n th term.	
2D Geometry	Drawing accurate triangles and quadrilaterals. Finding unknown angles, including between parallel lines. Converting between length and area units. Calculating areas and perimeters of composite figures. Calculating areas of parallelograms and trapezia.	Spring
Proportional Reasoning	Converting between percentages, fractions and decimals. Calculating percentage increase and decrease, finding the whole given the part and the percentage. Understanding ratio and rate. Solving problems involving speed, distance, time.	
3D Geometry	Rounding, significant figures and estimation. Calculating the circumference and area of a circle. Visualising and identifying 3-D shapes and their nets. Calculating the volume of cuboid, prism, cylinder, composite solids.	Summer
Statistics	Collecting and organising data. Interpreting and comparing statistical representations. Finding the mean, median and mode averages. Calculating the range.	

*This subject is set according to ability

Science

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Solutions and Separation	Elements, Compounds and Mixtures Separation of mixtures Solubility of substances	Autumn
Astrophysics	Earth, moon, seasons, solar system, threats to the Earth, stars, exploring space	
Gas Exchange	Lungs and Respiratory System of humans, respiratory systems of other organisms Effects of smoking and drugs	Spring
Atoms and Periodic Table	Elements, compounds and mixtures Chemical reactions and equations	
Food and Digestion	Diet, Digestive System and enzyme function	Summer
Light Waves	Properties of light, reflection, refraction, dispersion, colour, the eye	
Electricity and Magnetism	Voltage, Current, Circuits, Electromagnets and Magnetic Fields	
Metals and Materials	Types and structure of metal atoms Properties of metals Properties of other materials	

*This subject is set according to ability

Art

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Pop Art	Observational skills, Knowledge and understanding Exploring elements of Art history, pattern and experimental mark making, digital imaging, drawing and painting.	Autumn
Mythical Creatures	Developing research skills and preparation for the completion of final pieces based on artists work.	Spring
Art and Artists	Developing research skills, knowledge and understanding of a range of artists. Practical skills: painting, drawing, collage, sculpture.	Summer

Computer Science

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Baseline Assessment	Everything we did last year and everything we will do this year!	Autumn
Computational Thinking, Binary	Binary & Hexadecimal,	
Assessment	Computational Thinking	
Computational Thinking: Logic Gates	Sorting, Boolean, Logic Gates	
Python programming, debugging a program	Simple python skills developed using workbook. Test includes last term's work	Spring
Spreadsheets	SUM, relative cell references, Vlookup, If, charts	
Assessment	All of last year's work AND all of this year's new work	
HTML & Legislation	Review of and update to html from Year 7. GDPRs, Criminal Justice and Courts etc.	Spring/ Summer
Revision activities	Preparation for the final assessment	Summer
Assessment	Everything studied in Y7 and Y8, including some practical programming skills	
EOY review	Troubleshooting period – resolving issues that the EOY assessment has disclosed	

Drama

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Craig and Bentley	This unit explores the idea of capital punishment through the true story of Craig and Bentley. Building on the characterisation work done in year 7, students will also develop their knowledge and use of conventions as well as exploring a contentious issue.	Spring
Physical Theatre and script	Continuing to build on the knowledge of script learnt in year 7 students now explore a non-naturalistic play about anorexia. Explore the condition and learn to empathise with the characters, explore the form and style of Physical Theatre.	Spring
Brecht and Semiotics	After a brief introduction to theatre practitioners in year 7 we now learn in depth about Bertolt Brecht's ideology and influences on modern theatre. This unit is combined with semiotics and how technical aspects of theatre, such as lighting, can be used in a symbolic way.	Summer
Silent Movies	Focusing on developing control of physical expression through exploring the style and form of silent movies and mime. An end of year knowledge test will also contribute to the final percentage.	

Geography

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
<p>Hot deserts What are hot desert areas like? How are desert areas changing?</p> <p>Case Study: Dubai in the UAE</p>	<p>Decision making Effective Research Numeracy Making connections</p>	Spring
<p>Map skills OS map skills: map symbols, scale and height on maps, grid references. Using maps to understand place.</p>	<p>Effective research Map skills Making connections Perspectives Numeracy</p>	
<p>Population How are populations changing? Consider world and UK populations.</p> <p>Enquiry: Have birth rates fallen over time in the UK</p>	<p>Communication Making connections Perspectives Application Justification Numeracy</p>	
<p>Migration Causes and effects of migration Impacts of migration</p> <p>Case Study: Syria</p>	<p>Communication Making connections Perspectives Application Justification Numeracy</p>	Summer
<p>Glaciation Physical processes and the impact on humans</p>	<p>Map skills Making connections Application</p>	
<p>Urban Change Growth of cities in the UK Measuring and mapping change Changes in cities in LICs and NEEs</p>	<p>Map skills Numeracy Making connections Justification</p>	

History

Key topic	Skills covered	Progress Review
How much did power change in the medieval period?	Knowledge and understanding. Chronological understanding. Cause and consequence. Change and continuity. Significance Source analysis	Spring
Why did the English cut off the King's head?	Knowledge and understanding. Chronological understanding. Cause and consequence. Change and continuity. Significance Source analysis	
How did the people achieve the vote?	Knowledge and understanding. Chronological understanding. Cause and consequence. Change and continuity. Significance Source analysis	Summer
How did the slave trade show power in the world?	Knowledge and understanding. Chronological understanding. Cause and consequence. Change and continuity. Significance Source analysis	
How did African Americans gain civil rights?	Knowledge and understanding. Chronological understanding. Cause and consequence. Change and continuity. Significance Source analysis	

(MFL) French

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Celebrities & Superheroes/Paris/TV & Cinema	<p>Describing personalities, hair & eyes/clothes, language-time phrases, To use 'faire', 'avoir', 'être', 'aller' in full paradigm</p> <p>Using infinitives with 'on peut' To know how to talk about the weather in the past tense To know a range of irregular past participles</p>	Spring
House & Home/Environment	<p>To recall il y a/il n'y a pas de To know how to use prepositions like dans/à/en To know how to use prepositions like à côté de/en face de/derrière To build a greater range of infinitives To understand that they are able to use verbs in 4 tenses from the infinitive – Perfect, imperfect, present, near future tenses</p>	Summer

*This subject is set according to ability

(MFL) Spanish

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
School subjects/description of teachers Holidays & revisit all previous language	Opinions with impersonal verbs, adjectives, adverbs, 'me gusta', preterite tense, transposing verbs, To know how to describe the weather Verbs-radically-changing, preterite irregulars, extended questioning, Verbs radically-changing, future with 'ir'	Spring
House & Home	Comparatives, superlatives, expressions with infinitive Verbs – Reflexives – full paradigm in present and preterite	Summer

*This subject is set according to ability

Music

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Harmony & Rhythm: Reggae	Playing triads on keyboard, guitar or ukulele. Singing in tune with musical expression.	
Pitch & Timbre: Fanfare	Composing music that has a clear sense of style, structure and purpose.	Spring
Pitch & Texture: Indian Classical Music	Improvising simple responses with consideration to style.	
Harmony & Structure Harmony & Structure: The Blues	Understanding accompaniment. Know why structure is important in music. Understanding chords and chord sequences. Performing chords fluently on an instrument.	
Pitch & Structure: The Blues	Improvising in time with an accompaniment with stylistic awareness.	
Descriptive Music: Nocturnes	Understanding the principles of composing a melody. Developing an understanding of intervals and melodic devices.	Summer
Band Skills 3	Playing triads in an ensemble showing awareness of musicality. Singing a harmony line in a small group.	
Pitch & Rhythm: Music for advertising.	Composing using a limited range of musical ideas from given materials. Developing melody writing and exploring composing accompaniments.	

Physical Education

Key Topic	Skills Covered	Assessment Procedures
Team Games Football Netball Rugby Basketball Hockey Cricket Rounders	Attacking/Batting Skills Defensive/Fielding Skills Basic Rules Positional Play Strategy and Tactics Application of skills in game scenarios.	Throughout the year students are assessed in their performance across two strands: Competence in Performance (60%) and Character in Action (40%). For all sports and activities completed, students will be scored out of 10, and from these their top 6 performance scores will be taken to create a total from 60.
Individual Activities Badminton Tennis	Attacking shots Defensive shots Serving Skills Rules in play Tactical Play in competition Strategy development Application of skills in game scenarios	
Gym/ Strength and Conditioning Dance/Fitness to music	Floor and Apparatus Skills Body Management individual, paired and small group choreography Unison, Cannon and Mirroring Performance Skills Methods of Training For S&C Personal Training Skills	Character in Action is marked out of 10 awarded for student's ability to show: Their Personal Best Sportsmanship Teamwork Leadership
Athletics	Technique and Tactics for performance in track and field events. Rules of Events Strategy in Track and Field Competition	

*Students are set in single sex ability groups from year 7

Religious Studies

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Hinduism	Knowledge, explanation and evaluation Particular focus on 5 mark questions. <i>30 minute exam</i>	Autumn
Hinduism, Sikhism and Buddhism.	Knowledge, explanation and evaluation. Focus on 5 mark questions. <i>40 minute exam</i>	Spring
<p>Is war ever justified? Drawing on pacifism of Buddhism, Ahimsa in Hinduism, Sikhism right to defend oneself, Just War, Jihad</p> <p>Life after death</p> <p>Relationship between science and religion</p> <p>Church history: Great schism, reformation, different denominations (main differences) Builds on from year 7</p>	<p>Knowledge, explanation and evaluation. Emphasis on 5 mark questions and introduction of 12 mark responses <i>45 minute exam</i></p> <p>Links to year 7</p>	Summer

Product Design

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Picture Frame Project	Developing skills and knowledge of timbers. CAD/CAM skills are built upon and traditional workshop skills are enhanced.	Autumn
Torch Project	Developing skills and knowledge of plastics, including basic electronics and CAD/CAM. Students will learn how to design for others as well as how to analyse existing products.	Spring
End of Year Assessment	Will cover all work studied.	Summer

Food

Key Topics	Skills Covered	Progress Review
Packaging and Labelling	Understanding the importance of food and personal safety within the food environment, whilst applying them to making products using a range of technical skills, focusing on finishing techniques. Identify the issues surrounding packaging within the food industry.	Autumn
Technical skills	A rotation of Autumn term teaching, whilst enhancing practical technical skills	Spring
Menu planning on a budget	Continue to develop technical skills to make more complex dishes relating to menu planning.	Summer