



HAZEL GROVE  
HIGH SCHOOL

# Curriculum Booklet

## Year 8

2018 / 2019

## Introduction

This booklet has been produced to provide you with information about your child's learning in school during the current academic year. It provides information about each subject studied in the spring term, how progress will be measured and information about homework. Your child's chances of a successful education will be greatest where an effective three-way partnership between student, parent/carers and school is established. This booklet is an important tool for developing and maintaining that partnership. The more information you have about how your child is learning and what she/he is learning, the more you are able to support and enhance the learning. This may be through support with homework, discussion, identifying relevant books, websites and television programmes or through family outings. Since the Curriculum Booklet is designed solely as a resource for parents/carers, we welcome feedback and suggestions for how it might be developed in future years.

## Lessons Studied in year 8

Subjects	Number of periods
English	7
Mathematics	6
Science	6
Art	2
Design Technology	3
Drama	2
Computing	2
History	3
Geography	3
MFL	5
Music	2
PE	4
RE	2
PS	1
Mentoring	1

## National Curriculum Levels

In Years 7, 8 and 9 we regularly measure students' attainment. These attainment levels show the particular skills, knowledge and understanding which a student has reached in each subject. Teachers will regularly assess each student's progress using these levels and their current attainment will be reported through our monitoring sheets. You will also have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with subject teachers at the Parents' Evening. However, if you have any concerns before the evening please contact us and we will be more than willing to discuss these with you.

## Homework

All staff will set homework on a regular basis. To keep a record of homework set, students have a planner in which teachers will ask them to write down the homework and the date it is due in.

Parents/Carers can help their child with their homework by checking their planner daily for homework entries. It can also be very helpful to students if parents/carers discuss work with them on a regular basis. Please ensure they have somewhere to work quietly, away from distractions.

Subject: English

Year 8

## Course Overview

Throughout the year, students will revise and develop their writing skills with a focus on technical accuracy and using extracts to explore different styles of writing. In addition, students will develop their reading skills through the study of Poems from Other Cultures, the study of Shakespeare and Of Mice and Men. With reading, students will explore plot, characters, settings, themes, language and structure. All schemes of work have been devised in line with the new GCSE specifications to engage, offer challenge and prepare students for Key Stage Four.

## Content covered

Term	Topics taught
Autumn	Reading Skills: Of Mice and Men Writing Skills: Descriptive Writing
Spring	Reading Skills: Poems from Other Cultures Reading Skills: Short Story Anthology
Summer	Reading Skills: Shakespeare's speeches Writing Skills: Discursive and Narrative Writing Spoken Language: A persuasive speech

## How are they assessed?

Students are assessed every half term based on the skills they have studied with each unit of work. All assessment tasks mirror the style of GCSE questions. Students are awarded a KS3 grade, as well as targets for improvement, on purple sheets. Students are given the opportunity to re-draft in class and then bring their books home to share with parents/carers.

## How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?

The purple feedback sheets will indicate what the students' target grade and current working at grade based on their assessed work. Teachers will also indicate whether the grade is 'developing', 'secure' or 'mastered'.

Students are set weekly reading and spelling homework and are tested on their spellings each week in class.

## Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home

Students should use the BBC Bitesize website to consolidate all of the reading and writing schemes taught in class. In addition, student should be reading a variety of both fiction and non-fiction texts for at least 10 minutes every day.



For more information contact Mrs Mather (Head of English)

## Course Overview

Over the course of this year, pupils will be building on their knowledge from year 7 and working on one of three tiered schemes of work.

## Content covered

Term	Tier	Topics covered
Autumn	Pi	Number properties and calculations, decimals, fractions and percentages.
	Theta	Number, ratio decimals, fractions, percentages.
	Delta	Factors and powers, fractions, decimals, percentages, scale drawings and measures.
Spring	Pi	3D shapes and measures, angles and statistics.
	Theta	Area, volume, lines , angles, statistics, graphs and charts.
	Delta	2d shapes and 3d solids, transformations and probability.
Summer	Pi	Sequences, expressions, equations and probability.
	Theta	Real life graphs, expressions, equations and straight-line graphs.
	Delta	Real life graphs, construction, loci and graphs.

## How are they assessed?

Students will be assessed at the end of each half term. The half termly tests cover their work completed in that half term and the termly tests cover all the topics they have studied throughout Year 7 and 8. Students also complete end of unit 'open book' assessments once or twice each half term.

## How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?

After each assessment, students will complete self assessment sheets which highlight topics that they can improve on for next time. Each 'open book' assessment gives specific targets on the topic they have just covered. Maths homework is set each week. The focus will vary from topic based work to work based on weaker areas from their assessments. Maths Homework club is available every Tuesday lunchtime for any student who needs help or support.

## Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home

In the front of their class books is a list of topics covered, the students self assessment of that topic and a MathsWatch clip number. We would strongly encourage all students pupils to go above and beyond the homework set in lessons and revise each of the topic on this list after the lesson. The 'open book' assessments also highlight video clips to support further work needed on the topic covered. Other free resources available are Seneca, BBC BitSize, MrBartonMaths, MrCorbettMaths.



For more information please contact Mrs Doregos

## Course Overview

Over the course of this year, pupils will build on their knowledge from year 7 and start to further explore exciting strands of biology, chemistry and physics. Crucially, students will continue to develop their practical and analytical skills.

## Content covered

Term	Topics taught
Autumn	Physics: Light Biology: Food and digestion Chemistry : Periodic table Biology: Respiration
Spring	Physics: Materials Chemistry: Fluids Biology: Plants
Summer	Chemistry: Combustion Physics: Energy and electricity Biology: DNA and unicellular organisms Physics: Forces and Space Science: Fossils

## How are they assessed?

Pupils will sit 7 assessments throughout the year that will test their knowledge and scientific skills. These assessments will either be an extended piece of writing or a more traditional 'test'. After each assessment, pupils will receive individual targets on how they can improve for next time.

## How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?

Homework booklets will be self-assessed in lesson time and your child will have a quantitative score from each of the spelling tests (every other homework).

Assessments are kept in a file at school for safekeeping and your child can request to take these home if you would like to see them. A summary sheet of their score and feedback is stuck in their exercise book to provide a comprehensive overview.

## Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home

We would strongly encourage all pupils to go above and beyond the homework set in lessons. The CGP revision guide and workbook are a great place to start as they will help pupils to begin applying their knowledge, a key skill in GCSE.



For more information contact:  
Miss B Greenwood (KS3 coordinator for Science) or Mrs J Thomas (Head of Science)

**Course Overview**

In Year 8 students learn about how data is represented on a computer. This covers binary arithmetic, storing images and sound, and logic gates. They then learn to create computer games using a visual programming language called Kodu. They will complete a project on how to plan, create and edit a video and sound. Finally they will learn about different Cyber Security issues and how we can protect ourselves when online.

**Content covered**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Topics taught</b>
Autumn	Data Representation Kodu
Spring	Kodu Video and Sound Editing
Summer	Video and Sound Editing Cyber Security

**How are they assessed?**

At the end of the Data Representation and Cyber Security units students will complete a written assessment testing the knowledge they have gained throughout the topic. For the Kodu and Video and Sound Editing units the end products will be assessed based against success criteria the products need to meet.

**How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?**

Each student receives monitoring three times a year. These monitoring reports are based on the grades achieved in the unit assessments. Alongside this at the end of the assessments and homework, students will receive individual grades and feedback on how to improve.

**Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home**

Students can use BBC Bitesize to help revise topics that have arisen during the year. To help with their programming they could use websites such as Kodu, CodeCombat, Scratch or Hour of Code.



For more information contact Mr Richardson (Head of Computing)

## Course Overview

Year 8 students will continue to build upon their learning from last year. They will continue with this language all the way through their time at HGHS and currently, they are working towards sitting their GCSE in year 10 as an early entry. Studying a language in year eight delves deeper into the essentials such as mastering three tenses, healthy living, holidays and much more. Each language offers has a slightly different route through year eight. Across all languages, all students are exposed to the culture of the language they are studying. This is often built into most lessons and may take the form of- songs, videos, cultural information, food tasting and much more.

## Content covered

Term	Topics taught
Autumn	German: Holidays and Media. French: Holidays and Sports/Hobbies. Spanish: My town/city and Holidays..
Spring	German: Daily Routine and Healthy Living. French: Daily Routine and House and Home. Spanish: Healthy Living and Daily Routine.
Summer	German: Jobs and 'Live, Breath, Speak- Cultural and Key Skills'. French: Jobs and 'Live, Breath, Speak- Cultural and Key Skills'. Spanish: Jobs and 'Live, Breath, Speak- Cultural and Key Skills'.

## How are they assessed?

Year eight students will be assessed at the end of each half-term, after completing each of the topics listed. They will be assessed on a different skill each time. Each assessment will usually consist of two or three skills. The skills which are assessed in MFL are- reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar application and vocabulary use. All assessments are cumulative and as such, will go back to prior learning and not solely assess on the topic they have just done. Assessments will also build upon the work they have done in year seven.

## How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?

After completing each assessment, all students will be provided with a 'raw score' for each section of their assessment. Their mark will usually be broken down into skills. Students will then have a good idea of how well they have been performing across each skill across the year. This will give both them and their teacher an opportunity to strengthen skills if/when needed. Homework will often be in the form of a 'learning' homework, for example a vocabulary test. An appropriate target will be set for each student and these will be checked in lessons. Where students fall below their expected standard, their teacher will provide timely intervention to help them get back up to speed.

## Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home

Students should use their vocabulary booklet to help learn key words. If they don't have this booklet or don't know where it is, they can contact their MFL teacher. Students have a range of apps/websites at their disposal. Our recommended ones are listed below-

[www.duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com)

[www.revisioncentre.co.uk/gcse](http://www.revisioncentre.co.uk/gcse)

[www.s-cool.co.uk](http://www.s-cool.co.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk/education](http://www.bbc.co.uk/education)



For more information contact Mr Quaynor (Head of MFL)

## Course Overview

Over the course of this year, pupils will complete schemes of work that will develop the skills needed to create theatre from the perspective of a performer, director and designer. These units are designed to ensure pupil's depth and breadth of learning across different styles and genres. Pupils will have the opportunity to devise their own pieces and work with script.

## Content covered

Term	Topics taught
Autumn	Commedia dell'Arte: Using the conventions of the genre to devise comedy. A Christmas Carol: Working as an ensemble and with script.
Spring	Blood Brothers: Working with script and naturalistic characterisation. Curious Incident: Using lighting and physical theatre to create atmosphere.
Summer	Sweeney Todd (Victorian Melodrama): Using the conventions of the genre to devise work. Too Much Punch for Judy: Using the conventions of Epic Theatre to stage a production.

## How are they assessed?

Pupils will sit six performance assessments; one at the end of each unit. After each assessment, pupils will receive a grade, individual successes and targets to help them improve in the subject.

## How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?

Each pupil has an assessment and feedback sheet, which we will return to for each assessment. This means pupils can clearly see how they are progressing and how to improve. These assessment sheets are kept on file within the department and will be shared with parents at parents evening. Monitoring successes and targets will also correspond to these sheets. Terminology homework will be self-assessed in lesson time and your child will have a score from each of the terminology tests.

## Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home

The best way for students to develop their Drama skills is to get involved with all the extra curricular clubs and shows we have running in the department. Y7 and Y8 Drama club runs from September-April on Tuesday 3-4pm in A1. Y8/9/10 Drama club also runs on a Tuesday lunch time in A1. Opportunities to sign up for the school Musical will begin in April (performance and design roles available). Any opportunities to attend shows both inside and outside of school will also go a long way to help students get inspired and understand production elements.



For more information contact: Miss Hopkin (Head of Drama)



**Course Overview**

During Year 8 students study each individual continent. The study of each continent follows a range of Geographical themes which each enhance students' knowledge, understanding and Geographical skills. Over the year students are assessed against their GCSE flight path, in a range of assessments which focus on different Geographical skills. Homework is used to build students' confidence and independence and is set according to a time table.

**Content covered**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Topics taught</b>
Autumn	The Geography of South America
Spring	The Geography of North America
Summer	The Geography of Antarctica

**How are they assessed?**

Students are assessed every half term based on the GCSE assessment objectives, which assesses a range of skills, knowledge and understanding developed through that unit of study. All assessment tasks mirror the style of GCSE questions. Students are awarded a KS3 grade.

**How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?**

Students are given detailed feedback on their assessed work and these will be self evaluated by the students. Following this students will be clear on specific areas to develop in the next assessment.

**Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at**

Students should use the BBC Bitesize website to consolidate all of the knowledge and understanding taught in class. In addition, student should be watching the news, making revision cards of units covered, attending boost sessions with Miss Bell for any content they are unsure of.



For more information contact Ms A Carter (Head of Geography)

**Course Overview**

In the core Pe course, students are taught how to lead a healthy and active lifestyle. They will increase their knowledge and understanding further of how physical activity benefits them not only their health and wellbeing, but also offers opportunities to develop leadership and officiating skills. Students will also develop strategies and tactics within games and secure their knowledge of rules and regulations. Students are offered a wide range of activities including Netball, Basketball, Football, Badminton, Fitness, Dance, Gymnastics, Rugby, Softball, Volleyball, Rounders, Athletics, Cricket and Outdoor Adventurous Activities. Students will do 2 activities per half term from this list.

**Content covered**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Topics taught</b>
Autumn	Fitness, Badminton, Netball, Football, Rugby, Basketball, OAA, Dance, Gymnastics,
Spring	Fitness, Badminton, Netball, Football, Rugby, Basketball, OAA, Dance, Gymnastics,
Summer	Cricket, Softball, Tennis, Rounders, Athletics

**How are they assessed?**

Students are assessed every half term based on the sports they have studied within each unit of work. Students are awarded a KS3 grade, as well as targets for improvement. Assessments are practically based but involve elements of coaching and leadership also. Students record their assessment grades in their learning journeys.

**How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?**

Students can take home their learning journeys after each assessment and bring back into school. Students are given target grades at the start of the year and throughout the year, monitoring takes place, whereby subject teachers identify if students are exceeding their target, working at target, working towards target or working below target.

**Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home**

Students should endeavour to attend extra curricular clubs to further develop their fitness levels and skill levels further. The extra curricular timetable can be found on the school website. The department can also recommend clubs in the local area that would support and enhance sporting prowess further



For more information contact Mrs Biggar (Head of Physical Education)

**Course Overview**

In year 8 students will take part in three exciting art projects. The first project will see students developing their artist research, painting and 3D making skills. They will study the work of James De Rosso before creating paintings and a ceramic model inspired by his work. Students will then be introduced to the world of illustration developing ideas from Steven Butler’s book “Odd Bods”. Finally students will engage with the world of sculpture creating their own 3D droids and robots from recycled materials.

**Content covered**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Topics/skills taught</b>
Autumn	Artist Research: Techniques & Presentation Watercolour skills & techniques Ceramics
Spring	Illustration: What is it? Mixed media techniques & mark making skills Collage techniques.
Summer	Observational & creative drawing Model making.

**How are they assessed?**

Students are assessed every half term based on the skills they have developed or key works that have been completed in class. The department mark in a number of ways to help, support and engage our students. Not only do staff provide detailed written assessments of work but we also expect students to independently review and analyse their work or peers to promote progress.

**How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?**

Detailed teacher assessment can be found inside students Art folders. This provides both praise and challenge based on the current task or task completed. Teachers will also provide a level and indicate if the level is ‘developing’, ‘secure’, or ‘mastered’.

Student/peer feedback can be seen on the front of students art folders along with further teacher assessment and student targets.

**Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home**

- Firstly, the Art department run an extra curricular art club on Monday evenings. All students are welcome.
- The art department often run a series of gifted and talented workshops to stretch our most able students.
- We also recommend that students partake in art and craft activities in their own time. We encourage students to keep their own sketchbooks, create models or even visit galleries to enrich their learning.



For more information contact Mr M Jones (Head of Art)

## Course Overview

Year 8 is split into four 10 week project areas: Resistant Materials, Product Design, Textiles and Food Technology. These are mirrored in Key Stage 4 courses to provide students with a better understanding of the options available to them. During the year the students will all have the opportunity to have to try each Technology subject in the carousel system.

## Content covered

- The **Resistant Materials** project involves designing and making a Mild Steel Coat hook. During this project students develop a deep understanding of the material properties and characteristics of ferrous and non ferrous metals. Students continue to develop their knowledge of different materials and tools, as well as an understanding of environmental factors when working with non renewable materials like metals, and they learn how to make them more sustainable. Students also learn a new heat treatment processes: Dip coating using the fluidising bath. This puts a protective paint coating on their metal to protect it from rust.
- In **Product Design** students learn about different electronic components and create a night light. Students learn about circuits and soldering. They also learn about the use of CAD and CAM, and learn how to use CAD software: 2D design to program a drawing which is then laser cut to their design (CAM).
- During the **Textiles** project students design and make a draw string bag. Students work on behalf of a company and create a bag to reflect a theme which can be sold in retail . They get the opportunity to develop their textiles skills through carrying out techniques such as tie-dyeing fabric, transferring images to fabric, use of computerised sewing machine, adding pockets etc.
- In **Food Technology** students continue to develop their knowledge and skills in food preparation and cooking The project is based on students designing a range of healthy school canteen meals which must be low in fat and sugar but also appealing to high school students. Students produce a range of dishes using a variety of skills and techniques e.g. flavoured breads, fresh pizza, cold and hot pasta dishes, salads, etc.

## How are they assessed?

The design and make process in Design and Technology is divided into six focus areas of assessment: Researching a design brief, exploring a range of ideas for a particular target market, development, planning, making and evaluation.

During each project students are assessed on each of the focus areas and awarded a National Curriculum level.

Each project is assessed on the theory work produced in the booklet and the practical product made. Assessments are averaged over the course of the year to provide students with an end of year level for all areas of the subject. Focused interim targets are also given to students. This allows them to improve the quality of the work further and this personal target allows them to independently work towards achieving their personal goal.

## How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?

Assessments are kept in a zipper wallet at school for safekeeping and your child can request to take these home if you would like to see them. A summary sheet of their score and feedback is stuck in their work booklet to provide a comprehensive overview.

## Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home

[www.technologystudent.com](http://www.technologystudent.com) - great for supporting with homework  
[www.designandtech.com](http://www.designandtech.com) - good examples of work and revision materials



For more information contact Miss Kress (Head of Design and Technology)

## Course Overview

Year 8 RE is all about exploring BIG questions such as do we exist? Why did the holocaust happen? Is there a God? What is wisdom? And what is right?

## Content covered

Term	Topics taught
Autumn	Did Jesus exist? Philosophy & ethics
Spring	Judaism Women in Islam
Summer	What is wisdom? Spirited Arts

## How are they assessed?

Year 8 RE assessments focus on developing pupils' written and verbal communication skills. They look at developing essay writing skills as well as their ability to evaluate.

## How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?

Pupils' books are marked twice during a half term, feedback is given for their homework and their book work. After each assessment, pupils are given a feedback sheet explaining the grade they achieved and how to improve. They are provided with opportunities to make these improvements when the feedback is given.

## Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home

Pupils should take their books home regularly and make sure their notes are completed and all feedback is responded to. They can use the BBC religion website to explore more about the religions studied (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/>) and, to explore philosophy and ethics in more detail they can use <https://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/sections/big-questions>



For more information contact Mrs H Bowe (Head of RE)

**Subject: History**

**Year: 8**

## Course Overview

The year 8 History course mainly focuses on modern History and extended writing skills to prepare students for their GCSE option choices this year.

## Content covered

Term	Topics taught
Autumn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The Trans Atlantic Slave Trade and its abolition</li><li>- The origins of the First World War</li></ul>
Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Life on the home front during World War One</li><li>- Trench life and the Battle of the Somme</li><li>- The women's suffrage movement in Britain</li></ul>
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The rise of Hitler</li><li>- Life in Nazi Germany</li></ul>

## How are they assessed?

There are 4 assessments throughout the year at designated times in the topics. The majority of these are "open book" and help with preparing their extended answers will be given. The assessments use GCSE style question stems to eventually allow students to become confident in understanding GCSE exam technique. These will be complemented by knowledge tests, for which students will have to revise.

## How do you know how well they have done in assessments and homework?

Assessment feedback with teacher comments and improvement targets will be in student books. Homework (set on a cycle) will also be marked with comments and targets in books.

## Suggested activities and revision materials to aid and stretch students at home

BBC bitesize has some excellent resources for KS3 History including videos and quizzes



For more information contact Ms L McIntyre (Head of History)