

MARLWOOD SCHOOL

YEAR 9

KS3

CURRICULUM HANDBOOK

FOR PARENTS

Working together for excellence

Curriculum Handbook for Parents

We aim to work in partnership with parents and we try our best to involve you in the vital business of educating your children; since you are the key influences on your children it would be very foolish of us if we did not. In particular, we aim to keep you **informed** - about school policies and procedures, for example, through the *Parents' Handbook*.

We hope you will find this curriculum information useful: it sets out subject by subject the content of courses throughout the year and indicates ways in which you might consider helping your child. We hope we have made the information "user-friendly" and avoided educational jargon.

You will see too that there is a general reading list on the back page, which is relevant to this particular school year.

**KEITH GEARY
HEADTEACHER**

SUBJECT

ART

YEAR 9

Countries & Cultures – ‘Around the World in 80 lessons!’

Students will study many different approaches to Art & Design across the continents with the focus on individual / cultures and their creative practices, for example;

- Indian – Mehndi / Batik / embroidery
- Japanese - Watercolour painting / Calligraphy
- American Indian – Patterns / Geometry / Weaving / Printing
- Eastern – Patterns / Terrelations / Egyptian Tomb paintings

Students will realise their intentions through 2D / 3D / Craft / ICT / Art Research and Educational Visits.

Recommended Resources:

A set of colour pencils for using at home would be helpful.

How you can help:

Taking your child to visit a local art gallery/exhibition, eg Bristol City Art Gallery (Park Street - free admission with a Bristol leisure card), Arnolfini Gallery (a Modern Art gallery opposite the Watershed - free admission).

Relevant homework will be set regularly.

SUBJECT

DRAMA

YEAR 9

TERM 1	Murder Mystery	- Examining evidence and using role play to solve a murder.
TERM 2	Monologues	- Creating a fictional town using skills of characterisation to explore skills of script writing.
TERM 3	Street Gangs	- A physical theatre based scheme with stage fighting skills based on West Side Story.
TERM 4	Shakespeare	- Practical work to support the S.A.T's.
TERM 5	Joy Riding	- A PSHE scheme that looks at the potentially fatal consequences of joyriding.
TERM 6	Putting on a Production	- A script based unit of work that looks at all the aspects needed to put on a performance.

How you can help: Taking your child to the theatre
Encouraging participation in extra curricular activities

The following topics will be covered over the year, in an order to be decided by the teacher:

1. Writing to persuade – an opening transition unit in which pupils produce a persuasive speech.
2. Poetry – study of a selection of poetry, exploring poetic techniques and comparing two poems.
3. Shakespeare – extensive study of a Shakespeare play in preparation for SATs.
4. Writing skills – developing writing skills in preparation for SATs and study at GCSE.
5. Reading skills – developing skills in identifying and retrieving information from different types of texts and using evidence to support opinions.
6. Media – comparing the book 'The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy' to the recent film version and forming opinions about its success as an adaptation.
7. Novel – reading a substantial pre-1914 text and becoming aware of cultural and literary heritage

Recommended resources:

Pocket English Dictionary

A personal reading book (independent reading will take place in allocated library lessons).

How you can help:

Now and again, check your child's English book for accuracy.

Listen to your child read regularly and discuss his/her chosen reading material

Encourage your child to watch any Shakespeare productions on the TV or at the theatre.

N.B: our aim is to develop their skills in Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing as well as develop a cultural awareness of life in France and French speaking countries.

Term 1	<p>Unit 10 – Au collège</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School life, subjects and opinions • Daily Routine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future Plans • Why study languages
Term 2	<p>Unit 11 – En bonne santé</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parts of the body • Illness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the doctor / chemist • Healthy lifestyle
Term 3	<p>Unit 12 - Aux magasins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a department store • Buying souvenirs and presents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buying clothes
Term 4	<p>Unit 13 – Quand j’étais petit...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imperfect tense • Les sports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Les olympiques
Term 5/ 6	<p>Unit 14 – Les vacances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holiday destinations • Holiday activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campsites • Hotels

Recommended Resources:
 “The Collins Easy Learning French Dictionary” will be useful from Years 7 to 11
 Pupil guides are given to all children.

How you can help:

- Encourage pupils to learn vocabulary and test them at home.
- Encourage pupils to use the language learning websites to reinforce what has been learnt in class. Details and passwords can be found at the front of their pupil guides.
- Ensure that they complete all homework tasks.

Term 1	MYSPLACE - a personal Geography	Geography 2008 In Geography we have 7 KEY CONCEPTS - Physical/Human processes - Scale - Place - Interdependence - Cultural diversity and understanding - Space - Sustainability
Term 2	ATLAS SKILLS – understanding basic world Geography	
Term 3	RAGING RIVERS – why are we having more floods?	
Term 4	THE FOUR R's – Reduce, re-use, recycle and repair	
Term 5	RAINFORESTS – the global importance of	
Term 6	CONNECTIONS – my place in the world	
Recommended resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An atlas • Access to geographical websites like Google earth, maps.live.com • First news – children's newspaper 		
How you can help <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss news stories about the environment, other countries or hazards 		

SUBJECT

GERMAN

YEAR 9

NB: Our aim is to develop skills in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

Term 1	UNIT 1 - Freizeit und Medien Accepting and turning down invitations, Talking about different types of TV programmes, Talking about music, computers giving your opinion, Reviewing TV programmes and films.
Term 2	UNIT 2 - Meine Welt, deine Welt Talking about what is important to you, Describing your hopes for the future, Talking about the environment and what you can do.
Term 3	UNIT 3 - Gesund Leben Talking about healthy and unhealthy eating, Describing eating habits, Talking about fitness routines and healthy lifestyle issues.
Term 4	UNIT 4 - Die Zukunft Talking about your future plans, Saying why languages are important, Talking about different jobs, Deciding which job would best suit you and why, The world of the future.
Term 5	UNIT 5 - Zu Hause Describing your house and your room, Talking about what you do to help around the house, Comparing life in a town and in the country, Describing your ideal home and giving your reasons.
Term 6	UNIT 6 - Leute heute Saying how well you get on with your family, Talking about a "blind date" and what you would do, Giving an opinion on your "date".
Recommended Resources: "The Collins Easy Learning German Dictionary" will be useful from Years 7 to 11. Pupil Guides are given to all pupils.	
How you can help: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage pupils to learn vocabulary and test them at home• Encourage pupils to use the language learning websites to reinforce what has been learnt in class. Details and passwords can be found in the middle of their pupil guides.• Ensure that they complete all homework tasks.	

Each History teacher will plan a route through the following themes. Themes are likely to overlap between terms. Pupils will study at least one topic from each theme over the course of the year.

<p>Term 1/2</p>	<p><u>Theme 1- Slavery and Inequality</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Slave Trade from 1660 • Black Peoples of the Americas • Native Americans and the Struggle for the Plains
<p>Term 3/4</p>	<p><u>Theme 2- Protest</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Civil Rights Movements • Women and the Right to Vote • Protest Through History
<p>Term 5/6</p>	<p><u>Theme 3- International Conflict</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Great War 1914-1918 • Hitler and World War Two • The Cold War
<p>How you can help: Talk to your child about what they are learning and how they are learning in History. Encourage your child to watch any films or documentaries linked to their studies e.g. 'Schindler's List'. On the few occasions that homework may not be set (due to staff absence etc) encourage your child conduct independent research on any of the above topics.</p>	

SUBJECT

ICT

YEAR 9

Term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Control Systems• Integrated project where pupils use various applications to find solutions.• Transition for Nationals in ICT Year 10 units.
Term 2	
Term 3	
Recommended Resources: If you are thinking of buying a family computer - the school uses PCs with Microsoft Office software. Pupils have access to school files and their school e-mail account through the internet. A faster connection increases the usability.	
How you can help: Encourage your child to use the computer for purposes other than games. Perhaps some homeworks could be produced using ICT.	

SUBJECT**MATHEMATICS****YEAR 9**

Term 1/2	Number & algebra 1 Algebra 2 Shape, space & measures 1 Algebra 3 Handling data 1	Add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions. Use proportional reasoning to solve problems Generate sequences from practical contexts. Find the n^{th} term of an arithmetic sequence. Interior and exterior angles of polygons. Angles and parallel lines. Constructing triangles. Loci. Solve linear equations. Using trial and improvement for quadratic and cubic equations. A statistical investigation.
Term 3/4	Shape, space & measures 2 Number 2 Algebra 4 Handling data 2 Shape, space & measures 3	Circumference and area of circles. Surface area and volume of right prisms. Using approximations and calculations. Prime factor decomposition of numbers. Index notation. Finding the gradient of straight lines. Identify all outcomes using mutually exclusive events. Solving probability problems. Transformations, congruence and similar shapes.
Term 5/6	Algebra 5 Solving problems & revision Handling data 3 Shape, space & measures 4 Handling data 4	Factorising expressions. Using and changing the subject of a formula. A chance to prepare for the SATs A statistical investigation. Visualise and use 2-D representations of 3-D objects. Use and interpret maps and scale drawings. Probability experiments. Comparing theoretical and experimental probabilities.
Recommended Resources - Key Stage 3 Revision books. BBC Key Stage 3 Bite Size website. How you can help - Mental arithmetic: games, shopping, testing tables. Number / logic games: encourage your child to plan strategies, keep scores.		

SUBJECT

MUSIC

YEAR

9

Term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Song with a message
Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Romantic period
Term 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theme & variations
Term 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pop music
Term 5/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cubase
Recommended Resources: Access to a piano/keyboard Books/materials which reinforce topics	
How you can help: Ask your child what she/he is doing and show interest/encouragement. Encourage listening to all styles of music and attending concerts/performances of all sorts.	

SUBJECT PE

YEAR 9

	BOYS	GIRLS
Term 1/2	<i>Rugby</i> Volleyball Cross Country running	Cross Country running Fitness Gymnastics Netball
Term 3/4	Football Gym Fitness	Rugby Orienteering Badminton Netball Basketball
Term 5/6	Athletics Tennis <i>Cricket</i>	Athletics Tennis Striking / Fielding games

Recommended Resources:

As school uniform list. We also recommend gum shields and shin pads for contact sports.

How you can help:

By ensuring correct kit is available for each lesson and that transport is available after extra-curricular matches.

NB: These are the main areas of activity and your child will take part in them. However, due to timetabling implications terms may change. Extra-curricular activities are also on offer.

Module 1	Tales to tell <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do we tell stories? What is my story? • Looking at different stories from around the world - some true and some mythological or traditional. Use of metaphor and interpretation of myth. • Stories from the holocaust - despair and hope.
Module 2	Science and Religion (including a study of Medical Ethics) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the similarities and differences between science and religion? • An examination of the use of language and truth claims. What is real? How do we know? • Scientific and religious talk - a common language or cannot talk together meaningfully? • Creation – the big questions about our existence, our place in the universe and origins.
Module 3	Social Harmony (including a topic about War and Peace) Britain as a diverse, multi-faith community. What kind of world do we want to live in? Can we make a difference? What is our response to injustice? <u>Life after death (the final frontier)</u> Ultimate questions about the afterlife - are there any answers? What do religions believe and why?
Recommended Resources: The internet has lots of useful sites (e.g. the BBC and Wikipedia) to download pictures and information. Selective use of film and TV programmes can also deepen and widen learning. Anne Frank's diary is also good, and anthologies of folklore and poetry.	
How you can help: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give guidance and help with work when necessary and discuss with your child the idea that REP is a valuable subject (see http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=Cj1FF4CP5D4 for ideas) • Help pupils to revise for their summer term exam. • Check planners to see the set homework tasks and make sure they do at least one page of work (a quiet, undisturbed environment will help). A homework booklet should be kept at home to provide resources. 	

SUBJECT

SCIENCE

YEAR 9

Term 1/2	3 longer topics covering the areas of: Plants, Photosynthesis and Food Metals, Reactions and Reactivity Speeds, Gravity and Space
Term 3/4	Practice SAT exam in January 3 longer topics covering the areas of: Fitness, Health and Inheritance Environmental Chemistry and Using Chemistry Pressure, Moments, Energy and Electricity
Term 5/6	Revision for SATs and KS3 SATs exams Start GCSE modules: Environment Patterns in Properties Now you see it, Now you don't

Recommended Resources:

In class we will be using: "Catalyst" (Heinemann)
"Starting Science" (Oxford)
"Spotlight Science 9" (Thornes)

It may be useful to have a set of "Starting Science" for background reading at home.

How you can help:

- With the learning of scientific words
- With preparing for end-of-topic tests
- With preparation and revision for the SAT tests in May

SUBJECT

SPANISH

YEAR 9

N.B: our aim is to develop their skills in Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing as well as develop a cultural awareness of life in Spain and South America.

Term 1/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Free time activities• TV + Cinema
Term 3/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Holidays• Describing past holidays• Saying what you did• Opinions on past events• Spanish speaking countries
Term 5/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food and drink• Clothes
Recommended Resources: "The Collins Easy Learning Spanish dictionary" will be useful in Years 8 – 11. Pupil guides are given to all pupils.	
How you can help:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage pupils to learn vocabulary and test them at home.• Encourage pupils to use the language learning websites to reinforce what has been learnt in class. Details and passwords can be found at the front of their pupil guides.• Ensure that they complete all homework tasks.

SUBJECT

TECHNOLOGY

YEAR 9

**Terms
1, 2 & 3**

Throughout the year students follow a course which will support their progression into GCSE courses within Design and Technology. Students will work in a variety of areas, covering the following topics.

Students will make use of a range of equipment, tools and processes throughout the course which develop their existing knowledge.

Electronics - Circuit construction: controlling a circuit

Food Technology – Cooking for markets using the Eat Well Plate of dietary requirements to produce cultural foods using staple ingredients.

Resistant Materials - Product design and manufacture.

Textiles – making for a market using smart and technical textiles.

Recommended Resources:

Basic graphical equipment: pencils, coloured pencils, ruler, compass. Access to research materials: recipe books, encyclopaedia, library resources.

How you can help:

Discuss work done with your child - he/she may need this more around options time. Support homework tasks and remind him/her resources and ingredients are needed for practical lessons.

List of 13 books recommended for Year 9 pupils

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
Pride and Prejudice
Notes from a Small Island
The "Warlord Chronicles" series
The "Inspector Morse" series
The "Belgariad" series
Coram Boy
The Client
Across the Nightingale Floor
Animal Farm
All Quiet on the Western Front
Of Mice and Men

Douglas Adams
Jane Austen
Bill Bryson
Bernard Cornwell
Colin Dexter
David Eddings
Jamila Gavin
John Grisham
Liam Hearn
George Orwell
Erich Maria Remarque
John Steinbeck
