



WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL



Curriculum Guide

Year 9

2007- 2008



Science



VOCATIONAL



CURRICULUM GUIDE

Year 9

Dear Parent,

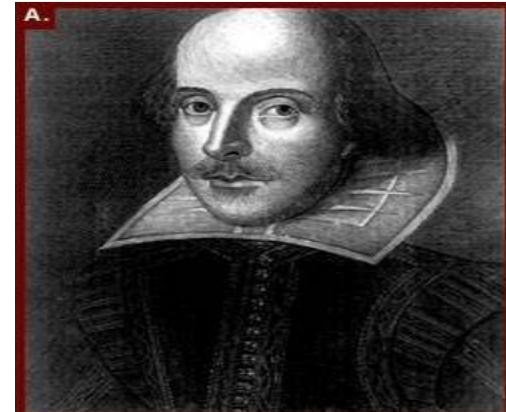
At Windsor, we are proud of the support and guidance we offer our students and their parents. We place great importance on our home school links and consider it very important for students to know that home and school are working together in their interests.

We hope you will find this booklet useful. Please keep this booklet safe and read it in conjunction with your child's report when you receive it.

It is our aim to keep you fully informed concerning the curriculum your child will be following this year.

Mr K. W. Sorrell

English



What will I be studying?

Clearly the most important aspect of learning in Year 9 is focused on the writing, reading and Shakespeare skills required for the SATs examinations. Through studying 'Much Ado About Nothing', developing skills from Years 7 and 8 and completing trial examinations, you will be familiar with the requirements of SATs. Alongside this, you will study a post 1914 novel and play, complete speaking and listening tasks, as well as analysing cultural texts and media.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment covers the three aspects of English; Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. Key Assessment Tasks are identified in each of these areas with assessments occurring half termly. Trial SATs examinations will take place and from these, target areas identified to improve your attainment. End of KS3 Teacher Assessment will also inform you of your progress.

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How are teaching groups organised?

Teaching groups are organised into three bands with teaching groups reviewed at the end of year 8 and changes made according to performance during KS3.

Provision for Gifted and Talented students

Through challenging texts: writing sustained pieces; working independently and achieving the Gold Award in Reading, Gifted and Talented pupils can access an extended Curriculum and develop their talents and skills.

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

Hear your favourite author talk about their latest novel or experience professional actors perform the key Shakespeare scenes needed for your SATs examinations. Whether it's the cinema, theatre groups or visiting authors, a whole range of extra curricular activities are available to extend learning.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning.

www.englishresources.co.uk

www.poetrysociety.org.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/sosteacher

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize

Mathematics



What will I be studying?

In year 9 you will be preparing for your SATs in May. You will sit a trial SAT in January.

You will continue to build upon your number and algebra skills and will be introduced to work on properties of 2D shapes, explore the work of the mathematician, Pythagoras and further work on statistics.

How will I be assessed?

Autumn 1	Mental Maths
Autumn 2	Non calculator
Spring 1	Trial SATs
Spring 2	Calculator
Summer 1	SATs
Summer 2	Algebra project

How are my teaching groups organised?

You will be taught in one of six sets depending upon your mathematical ability.

Provision for Gifted and Talented students

The most able pupils will be entered for the UK Intermediate Mathematics Challenge and the UK Mathematics Team Challenge.

Extra Curricular opportunities

Pupils in year 9 are invited to attend an after school revision club.

In addition there will be opportunities for extra revision sessions targeting raising attainment with particular levels.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning

We subscribe to a website called my maths found at www.mymaths.co.uk. Pupils will be given a personal login and password so that they can access this at home. The website contains revision packs with games, explanations and online worksheets that your teacher can get feedback on.

Science



Year 9

What will I be studying?

The Year is divided into 12 modules:

Inheritance and Selection
Fit and Healthy
Plants and Photosynthesis
Plants for Food
Metals and Metal Compounds
Patterns of Reactivity
Environmental Chemistry
Using Chemistry
Energy and Electricity
Gravity and Space
Speeding Up
Pressure and Moments

After the SATs, a module on 'How Science Works' is covered to prepare pupils for the GCSE course.

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Provision for Gifted and Talented students

- ♦ All schemes of work are fully differentiated including independent work.
- ♦ Specific science enhancement trip for gifted and talented pupils.
- ♦ Extra curricular gifted and talented science club with opportunity to gain bronze crest award and attend Science crest festival.

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

- ♦ Science club once a week with the opportunity to gain bronze crest award
- ♦ Science trip for all students to National Space Centre
- ♦ Competitions when available

How will I be assessed?

Each module is assessed by:

- ♦ SATs style module tests and mock exams marked by the teacher and analysed by the pupil
- ♦ Key assessment tasks marked by peers and teacher and analysed by the pupil
- ♦ Continuous professional opinion of teacher

How are teaching groups organised?

Students are taught in groups with others of a similar ability

Useful resources and websites to support my learning.

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks3bitesize/science

Art & Design



What will I be studying?

In Year 9 you will continue to rotate around the three main areas of drawing and painting, 3D studies and mixed media. However, you will be encouraged to work more independently, and will be given considerable choice in the development of ideas and the media used. You will study the work of artists and relate their work to your own making connections of purpose, style and media. You will work with your teacher and peers to set targets for improvement.

How will I be assessed?

Your work will be assessed in relation to its starting point, connections made to the work of artists and crafts persons, the development of ideas and the final presentation. You will be given a level of attainment and an effort grade every half term. To complete your art profile you will be given a drawing test at the beginning of the year and will be given recognition for extra curricular activities and work selected for display.

How are teaching groups organised?

You will be taught in mixed ability groups of 24. In your art lessons you will work both independently and in groups.

Provision for Gifted and Talented students

Pupils who show particular talent in art will be encouraged to work more independently. They may be encouraged to work on a larger scale and to use more challenging materials. Talented pupils will be encouraged to develop greater breadth and depth to their projects. There may be the opportunity for talented pupils to study for an early GCSE

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

- ♦ AA Clubs both after school and at lunch time.
- ♦ Visits to art galleries and exhibitions
- ♦ Working with pupils of different ages
- ♦ Working with artists

Useful resources and websites to support my learning.

[The@rtroom](http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/rt_room)
www.arts.ufl.edu/art/rt_room
The Tate Britain
www.tate.org.uk
RIBA Architecture Gallery
www.architecture.com
Design Museum
www.designmuseum.org



Geography



What will I be studying?

Japan
Tectonics
Population
China
Environmental Studies
Global Issues

How will I be assessed?

Formal assessments take place at the end of each module of work and informal assessments are ongoing, through a range of group, paired and individual tasks. Assessments include written tests, group work presentations.

How are teaching groups organised?

Taught in sets. Two higher ability sets in each year half and four mixed ability.

Provision for Gifted and Talented students.

Specific activities are provided for the Gifted and Talented pupils to help them work independently to achieve their potential. These may be involved in tasks using websites (shown opposite) and exercises where they have to use their initiative to solve problems.

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

Year 9 pupils are encouraged to seek assistance in their Geography work both before and after school using the school network Geography websites and via the Dudley Portal.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning.

An Atlas
School Intranet
www.heinemann.co.uk
www.corpwatch.co.uk
www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz
www.unorg/pubs.hotlinkscyberschoolbus
www.news.bbc.co.uk
www.multimap.com
<http://maps.live.com>
www.cia.gov/library/publications
www.geogense.net.com

History

What will I be studying?

In Year 9 we begin by studying why Britain was able to have such a great empire in the 19th Century and the technology that led to the Industrial revolution. Students will also have a chance to test their understanding of Victorian Britain with a case study on the Jack the Ripper murders. After Christmas, students will complete a depth study on the Great War (World War I) and in the summer term, students will investigate the important changes in the 20th century, in particular they will complete a study of the Holocaust.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in two ways, mainly through two key-assessment tasks each term. You will also have presentations to do on some key topics.

How are teaching groups organised?

Groups are based on ability and are banded into three sections.

Provision for Gifted and Talented students

We offer a variety of enrichment activities and there are several extra curricular visits.

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What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

In the Autumn term we offer an enrichment visit to the Black Country Museum. In the summer term we have guest speakers to talk to students about evacuation during World War II and the Holocaust.

There will also be an enrichment visit to the Imperial War Museum.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning.

www.schoolhistory.co.uk
www.windsor.dudley.gov.uk
www.bbc.co.uk
www.activehistory.co.uk

Information Communication Technology (ICT) Year 9



What will I be studying?

The Scheme of Work followed in Year 9 is based on the following teaching units

Unit 9.1 Control systems

Unit 9.2a – Systems – integrating applications to find solutions

Unit 9.2b – Global communication

Unit 9.3 – Systems – managing a project

It also includes a preparation module for the ICT online testing.

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

ICT Club is on a Monday, Thursday and Friday

How will I be assessed?

- On going assessment in lessons
- Self and peer assessment
- National curriculum Assessment after each module

How are teaching groups organised?

Pupils are divided into four more able groups and eight mixed ability groups

Provision for Gifted and Talented students

More able pupils will be stretched with a range of extension material which will increase their ICT capability and the quality of their thinking.

There is also after school provision.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning.

www.howstuffworks.com

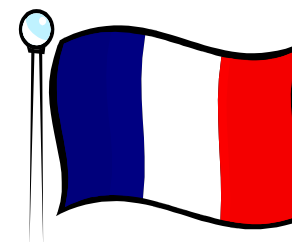
<http://www.ttsonline.net/>

<http://www.dida-delivered.org/>

School intranet

Year 9

French



Pupils cover such topics as:

- ◆ Environment
- ◆ Pocket money & jobs
- ◆ Going out
- ◆ Health eating
- ◆ Holidays
- ◆ Illness
- ◆ Clothes
- ◆ Blind Date

You will be taught how to refer to events in the future and conditional tenses, and you will have the chance to practise GCSE-style exercises and exam papers. We aim to increase your comprehension skills and your confidence in using French for everyday situations.

You will be formally assessed once every half term in one skill from listening, speaking, reading, and writing. We will also assess your skills informally when you create presentations or posters, write texts, or hold conversations in class. By the end of the year, you will have had the chance to achieve up to Level 8 of the National Curriculum.

You will be taught French in one of two ability bands based on your performance and skills from Year 8. The band you are in will offer you the best support for your own needs, and can be reviewed throughout the year.

Gifted and Talented students will have the chance to put their skills to more practical use, to study the language in more detail, and to hold longer, more spontaneous conversations.

You will have the opportunity to have a pen-pal of a similar age in a French school and the chance to take part in a Language Exchange. An Activities Week trip to France is also offered for you to experience the culture of the country you are studying.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning.

www.livinglibrary.co.uk/s_browse.asp
www.tout.le.monde.co.uk
www.french.about.com/library/begin/fun/b1-gameindex.htm

Year 9

German



What will I be studying?

In Year 9 we aim to increase your comprehension skills and your confidence in using German for everyday use. You will study topics in detail such as your free time, holidays, personal identity, career and future plans, and healthy living. You will be taught how to refer to events in the future and conditional tenses, and you will have the chance to practise GCSE-style exercises and exam papers. At the end of the year, you will have all the skills you need to be able to make the grade at GCSE.

How will I be assessed?

You will be formally assessed once every term in all four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. We will also assess your skills informally when you create presentations or posters, write texts, or hold conversations in class. By the end of the year, you will have had the chance to achieve up to Level 8 of the National Curriculum.

How are teaching groups organised?

You will be taught German in one of two ability bands based on your performance and skills from Year 8. The band you are in will offer you the best support for your own needs, and can be reviewed throughout the year.

Provision for Gifted and Talented

Gifted and Talented students will have the chance to put their skills to more practical use, to study the language in more detail, and to hold longer, more spontaneous conversations.

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

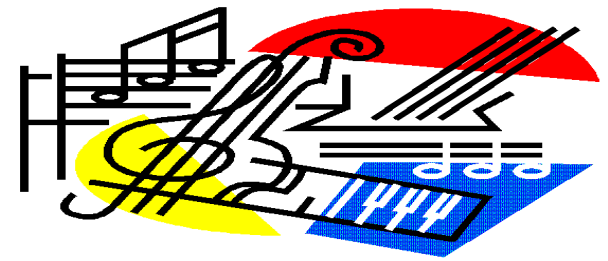
The Two Nations Tournament Exchange is offered to students from Year 9, giving you the chance to spend a week with a family in Germany and improve your language skills with German partner during a two-part sporting competition. An Activities Week trip to Germany is also open for you to experience a new culture.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning

A German dictionary
Unterwegs computer package
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
www.channel4.com/modernlangauges
Schuss magazine (available from School)

MUSIC

YEAR 9



What will I be studying?

At Windsor High School, pupils will continue to develop their musical skills through studying six half termly topics which require pupils to draw on prior knowledge gained in years 7 and 8 as well as continuing to learn about musical styles that may be more unfamiliar to pupils.

The topics studied are as follows:

1. Music and the Media (Advertising)
2. Composing at the keyboard
3. Composing a pop song
4. An introduction to the value of creativity in music
5. The music of latin America
6. Music and dance

How will I be assessed?

Opportunities for assessing pupils are built into every topic studied. Key skills for each unit are shared with pupils and pupils will receive a four coded music system which indicates whether pupils have met objectives/skills/tasks with success. The progress of pupils across the whole year and key stage is tracked using National Curriculum levels. All pupils are issued with an individual assessment booklet which enables them to keep a record and plot their progress over the course of a year.

How are teaching groups organised?

Music is taught for 1 x 50 minute lesson per week.

The pupils are taught as mixed ability groups and are seated in boy/girl pairs. Group work that takes place is also made up of mixed boys and girls.

Provision for Gifted and Talented

In lesson time, there are a range of extension tasks that have been developed for our 'talented' pupils.

Pupils are encouraged to lead rehearsals or run their own music club, take part in concerts, workshops etc. We also have a key stage 3 'Gifted and Talented' composition group aimed at our very 'talented' musicians. Peripatetic tuition (instrumental lessons) are also available from our Dudley Performing Arts staff on a wide range of instruments

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

Pupils are invited to participate in our extensive range of music clubs that run weekly pre-school, lunchtimes and after school. Clubs are available for all ability levels from the absolute beginner to more advanced music groups.

Our activities are publicised around the Music department on an extra-curricular timetable.

An example of some of our clubs are listed below

- ♦ Intermediate and Advanced orchestras
- ♦ Intermediate and Senior Choirs
- ♦ Samba drumming band
- ♦ Keyboard club
- ♦ Guitar club
- ♦ Rock bands
- ♦ Beginner an advanced recorder group and many more....

Useful resources and websites to support my learning

Pupils who receive music tuition are encouraged to use their own instruments in lesson.

www.themusicland.co.uk

www.musicatschool.co.uk

www.wipe.org/terminology

www.datadragon.com/education/reading

Physical Education including Dance



What will I be studying?

Pupils will participate in a range of activities, following the four standards of the PE National Curriculum. They will develop skills, tactics, compositional ideas and understanding of physical activity through:

Football/Rugby/Netball/Hockey/Tennis/Athletics/ Dance/Basketball/and Golf.



How will I be assessed?

Assessment is continuous, from the initial base assessment through to the formative feedback and target setting in every unit of work. There are also summative, end of unit assessments where pupils are given attainment level (based on the four strands) for each activity. Pupils also use self-assessment throughout each activity

How are teaching groups organised?

Pupils are taught in single sex groups, which are set by sporting potential ability to ensure fair competitiveness. Pupils have 1 x 100 minute lesson per week.

Provision for Gifted and Talented

Differentiation in lessons – extension tasks
Peer coaching in lessons
Umpiring an officiating responsibilities in lessons
School-club links
District/county trials and teams
School Sports Co-ordinator (developing G&T in primary and secondary).

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

Clubs and teams are available in a range of activities, for anyone to join: Netball, Hockey, Football, Rugby, Cross-country, Athletics, Rounders, Basketball, Dance, Golf and Cricket.

There are also links with local clubs to promote further participation in sports.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning

www.sportengland.org.uk

www.sheu.org.uk

www.uk.athletics.net

www.wsf.org.uk

www.bbl.org.uk

www.uksports.gov.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/pe

www.netball.org

www.lta.org.uk

www.laaf.org

www.ncf.org.uk

www.the-fa.org

Religious Education



The hand of friendship has no color.

What will I be studying?

The RE Schemes of Work have two attainment targets:

AT1 – Learning about religion

AT2 – Learning from religion

In Year 9 we cover topics called:

- ♦ **Religion in today's world:** a study of the teachings and actions of religious people in response to poverty and environmental problems.
- ♦ **Looking for God:** a study of beliefs about God and life after death.
- ♦ **Values and Lifestyles:** a look at what we value as individuals and how we show this in our lifestyles.
- ♦ **Marriage and alternative relationships:** a study of our romantic attachments and choices

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

We enter a team of KS3 pupils in the regional RE quiz. Pupils interested in taking part should see their RE teacher for details.

How will I be assessed?

There are assessments at the end of each unit. These assessments are either of a formal written nature or project work. These assessments are used to help establish the pupils' current National Curriculum Level. Targets are then set to help pupils to work towards the next level.

How are teaching groups organised?

Pupils are taught in sets as in other Humanities' subjects. They have two 50 minute lessons per week.

Provision for Gifted and Talented

Individuals are identified. Extension work is offered in lessons and for homework.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning

www.re=xs.ucsm.ac.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/religion

www.reonline.org.uk

Learning Support



What will I be studying?

The Learning Support Department offers support to all year groups in line with the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice. Any pupils who requires additional support in the development of literacy and numeracy skills will be placed at the School Action Stage of the Code of Practice. If further intervention is needed they will receive additional support and be placed at School Action Plus. Some pupils will require even more support through a Statement of Special Educational Need.

How will I be assessed?

Regular assessment through reviews for pupils on the register of Special Educational Needs.
Some pupils may be assessed for 'Special Arrangements' in SATs or GCSE.
Specific SEN parents evenings are held.

How are teaching groups organised?

Pupils are supported by Teaching Assistants in curriculum areas. Depending on the areas of need, they will provide in-class and/or one to one support as appropriate.
Youngsters are usually taught in groups based on ability in Year 9. Teaching Assistant support continues as appropriate.

Provision for Gifted and Talented

In curriculum areas, Teaching Assistants work with pupils who may need further challenge, either in the subject classroom or with specified groups.
Extra or modified resources are also provided to meet individual need.

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extended learning?

A series of activities run from 8am every day. We also hold daily lunch and after school clubs.
Support/advise for option choices is ongoing via SEN staff and Connexions.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning.

www.dfes.gov.uk/sen
www.parentcentre.gov.uk
www.dyslexia-inst.org.uk
www.dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk
www.afasic.org.uk
www.nas.org.uk
www.rhid.org.uk
www.scope.org.uk/earlyleavers
www.nasen.org.uk
www.parentsforinclusion.org
www.youngminds.org.uk
www.ace-ed.org.uk

Parents How Can You Help?



At Windsor, we want your child to succeed. You can help us to help your child to settle in to Year 9 in the following ways:

Please work with us to make sure that your child:

- Has a suitable bag for books and equipment (check their bag with them the night before to make sure they have what they need)
- Always brings the correct equipment to school
- Does homework regularly (Check and sign their homework planner at least once each week)
- Reads regularly (encourage them to use the school and public library)
- Talks to you about progress in school and targets set
- Attends regularly and is always punctual.
- Participates in out of hours learning opportunities and House activities.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Head of Hanover - Miss Y Grant
Head of Lancaster - Mrs L Baker
Head of Stuart - Mrs S Leacy
Head of Tudor - Mr M Buckley
Head of York - Mrs D Rhooms

Key stage 3 Director – Mr B Thomas
Assistant Headteacher – Pastoral – Mrs K Farrington
Deputy Headteacher – Pastoral – Mr D Kearns





Teaching Groups

At Windsor English and Maths classes are grouped according to student ability in literacy and numeracy after assessments carried out during Year 8. Science and Humanities groupings are also based on prior attainment on assessments during Year 7 and 8.

The groups are arranged in 3 bands:

- ♦ Working above national expectation
- ♦ Working at national expectation
- ♦ Working below national expectation.

Rewards

Praise and rewards are frequently used at Windsor. They enable us to value students and have high expectations of them. Merits are awarded for: work of an exceptional standard for that student, consistent, positive effort, or worthwhile community service. The number of student merits is recorded in planners. These merits accumulate leading to further awards. These awards are presented during assemblies.

Homework

Homework is regularly set and recorded for all subjects in student planners, which should be signed by parents each week. Students receive their homework timetable in September, which they copy into their planners. The average amount of homework per night ranges from about 1 hour in Year 7 to 2 hours in Year 9.

Windsor supports homework because we believe it encourages a mature attitude to studying as well as providing opportunities for independent learning. Homework also allows students to practice skills acquired during their lessons and it helps them achieve higher standards of achievement.

Notes



Notes



Drama



What will I be studying?

You will continue to build on your skills in responding, devising, rehearsing, performing and evaluating. As you work through Year 9 the points of reference become more challenging to encourage greater sophistication in your response. Topics include 'Shadowfall', 'Blood Brothers', 'War & Conflict' and 'Comedy'.

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extend learning?

- ♦ Weekly Drama Club
- ♦ Curriculum Enrichment Day

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed practically on how you rehearse and perform at the end of each term. You will have a 'base line' test at the start of Year 9 to work out your current and target level.

How are teaching groups organised?

In mixed ability groups of approximately 24. You will have 1 x 50 minute lesson per week.

Provision for Gifted and Talented students

There is differentiation in all tasks of the lesson. You can also attend Drama Club to push yourself further.

Useful resources and websites to support my learning.

<http://members.aol.com/nebula5/costume/html>
www.talkingto.co.uk/ttws
<http://www.theatrelinks.com/>
<http://theatremuseum.vam.ac.uk>
<http://www.nayt.org.uk>
www.stagework.org

Design & Technology Year 9



How will I be assessed?

The department carries out a baseline assessment at the beginning of the year, against which we judge your progress as the year progresses.

Tasks and activities are assessed using a variety of techniques – some by observation, some by judgement against the given criteria for the task and others are key assessments for which we use the National Curriculum criteria.

How are teaching groups organised?

The Design and Technology groups are made up of mixed tutor groups.

The groupings tend to stay the same for the duration of key stage 3.

What Extra Curricular opportunities are available to extend learning?

A Technology club is organised after school hours and all pupils are welcome to join in the fun.

What will I be studying?

The school year is divided into six modules of work. You will cover the modules in a different order to other groups but everyone covers the same experiences

- ☺ Food Technology – Celebrate
- ☺ Resistant Materials – Games and toys
- ☺ Graphics – CD designs

Provision for Gifted and Talented students

- ☑ Attending Technology club will improve both your designing and making skills
- ☑ You can complete a Gold DATA award in Food (Jamie Oliver inspired!)
- ☑ You will be given extension tasks in lessons in order to further develop your understanding

Useful resources and websites to support my learning.

www.nutrition.org.uk

www.digitalbrain.com

www.data.co.uk

www.foodtech.org.uk