



Curriculum Overview
Year 8 (AP+) Summer Term
April - July 2026

Form/ Year Group / Section Events	Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE)	Computing
<p>Term begins: Wednesday 21st April</p> <p>Pupils will sit the UKMT <i>Junior Maths Challenge</i> on Wed 29th April.</p> <p>Half-term begins: Friday 22nd May (4.05pm)</p> <p>Half-term ends: Sunday 30th of May.</p> <p>Year 8 AP+ exam week: Monday 1st June - Friday 5th June</p> <p>Senior Section drama performance: Tuesday 16th June (7pm) at Amey Theatre</p> <p>Sports Day: Saturday 20th June</p> <p>Year 8 Residential Trip to Rockley: Monday 22nd - Friday 26th June</p> <p>Term ends: Friday 3rd July (12.00pm).</p>	<p>Pupils will continue to learn skills to help them revise effectively for their end of term exams. After half term, pupils will complete a number of lessons about local government and understand the difference between this and central government.</p> <p>They will also take part in a careers fair and will think about employability skills such as communication and teamwork.</p>	<p>Mobile app development: Pupils will learn how to create their own mobile app.</p> <p>Introduction to Python programming: In the final half of term, pupils will be introduced to text-based programming with Python.</p>
English	Mathematics	Science
<p>Reading: Pupils will continue to study 'Midsummer Night's Dream'. They will develop their skills in analysing text, devices and themes. Pupils will also be encouraged to take out books from the library or bring in their own reading books to develop their love and aptitude for reading. Following the exams pupils will study poems about and by women throughout history, exploring representations of women.</p> <p>Writing: Pupils will continue to develop their analytical writing skills, mostly in connection with their analysis of 'Midsummer Night's Dream'. The pupils will write one more creative composition on a given theme and receive further guidance in employing key language and devices in their compositional writing. Following the exams, the pupils will focus on some non-fiction persuasive writing.</p> <p>Spelling, punctuation & grammar: Pupils will receive further revision and practice in targeted activities involving spelling, punctuation or grammar.</p> <p>Assessment: Later in the term they will complete the Year 8 Progress Test in English (PTE) which tests them on their knowledge and understanding of these key components of the English Language. As part of this assessment, they will also complete two comprehension tasks one involving a fiction text, the other a non-fiction text. They will also write a long composition on a given theme.</p>	<p>This term, pupils in Year 8 will continue learning across the curriculum and will revisit key topics in preparation for end of year exams. Completion of exam style questions in class and for preps will reinforce their knowledge and skills.</p> <p>Measures: Compound units Pupils explore and solve problems involving speed, distance and time.</p> <p>Algebra: Graphing equations Pupils will develop learning begun in Y7 to explore linear equations (straight line graphs) and, post-exams, will begin to explore simultaneous equations.</p> <p>Geometry/ Measures Pupils will revisit reflections, rotations, translations and explore enlargements. They use circle theorems, including application of pi, to calculate area and perimeter of circles, semicircles, quadrants and sectors. They will apply knowledge to calculate the volume of a cylinder. They use compass and ruler to construct shapes and explore geometric relationships such as tangents, bisectors and loci.</p>	<p>The pupils will spend the first part of the term revising the Science topics for the AP+ Science exams. This will start with a review of the Year 6 topics of electricity, cells and separating mixtures. They will then move on to reviewing the Year 7 Chemistry topics of chemical reactions and metal reactions,</p> <p>There will be plenty of opportunities to develop their exam technique, for example by concentrating on the terminology of the questions. Exam style questions will be used to help reinforce their understanding of the topics.</p> <p>Post-exams the pupils will spend time building boats and then racing these against other Year 8 teams in a cross curricular topic with DT.</p>
Geography	History	Religious Education (RE)
<p>Pupils will also continue to practise their locational knowledge and map skills, including how to produce maps on ArcGIS.</p> <p>Pupils will study a new topic on Fast Fashion looking into sustainability in the production, manufacture and distribution of clothing.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will study the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, examining the slave triangle, transportation of enslaved people and the factors that led to the eventual abolition of trafficking. Ahead of the Summer Exams, pupils will engage with revision sessions and take part in activities to help their analysis of source questions and their essay writing techniques.</p>	<p>Pupils will be spending time considering the format of the AP+ examination and how pupils might approach the various question types that they might encounter. The pupils will also be exploring a range of philosophical and ethical issues.</p>

French	Latin	Core Skills
<p>The pupils will initially look at rules in school and chores at home. The pupils will then revise the topics covered over the year. In preparation for the AP+ exams they will be practising listening papers as well as the dialogues prepared last term which will be used for the speaking exam. The key areas of French grammar needed for the Summer AP+ exams will be covered so that pupils will be able to write a short article about the key topics they have looked at over the year as well as translating sentences from French into English as well as English into French.</p> <p>After the AP+ exams the pupils will be introduced to the novel '<i>Le petit Nicolas</i>' and will begin to read the novel as well as watching a recent film based on some of the stories in the book.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will revise and consolidate their learning from the previous three years in preparation for their examination in June. A particular emphasis will be placed on the revision of tense and case as well as ensuring vocabulary is of the level expected. The concept of neuter nouns is introduced and participles, which were introduced to pupils during the Spring Term are also re-visited.</p>	<p>A five-week overview of revision skills for Year 8, introducing a variety of strategies to help students develop effective study habits. The programme explores a range of techniques, allowing students to practise different approaches and identify the methods that work best for their individual learning styles.</p>
Art	Design & Technology (DT)	Music and Drama
<p>Year 8 pupils will begin a Personalised 4 week Project.</p> <p>Activism in Art The pupils will utilise the skills workshops from last term to research, design and make a project of their own.</p> <p>Next steps preparation: To prepare the pupils for more independent learning they will be using National Curriculum assessment objectives to guide them in creating their project.</p> <p>Presentation: They will have the opportunity to present their protest banners during an assembly.</p>	<p>This term those pupils in the Year 8 DT set will study the following topics:</p> <p>Sling puck games: Students will be making sling shot puck games using their workshop skills. They will be working independently given only working diagrams to go by.</p> <p>Bedroom Design: Students will explore perspective drawing and use this skill to create a bedroom design complete with a CAD version.</p>	<p>MUSIC - Songwriting: In this creative composition project, pupils will explore the conventions of contemporary pop song writing through practical group work.</p> <p>DRAMA - This term, pupils will be focusing on learning songs and developing performance skills in preparation for their musical production of 'The Lion King' at the end of term.</p>
Games	Physical Education (PE)	Swimming
<p>This term's major team sport will be cricket. The pupils will consolidate and develop the following skills:</p> <p>Batting: They will learn to play leg and offside shots, forward and back foot attacking and defensive shots. They will learn to run between the wickets. They will learn to make appropriate shot selections and read the game.</p> <p>Bowling: They will be taught how to bowl spin and seam bowling. They will learn to bowl with line and length, and at different speeds. They will be taught to disguise and refine their bowling action.</p> <p>Fielding skills: They will develop their knowledge and understanding of the roles of different fielding positions and the principles of good fielding. They will develop their throwing, both high and low, and practise their catching in the deep and close-in. They will improve their ground fielding and practise run-outs, as well as improve their wicket-keeping.</p> <p>Pupils will be given the opportunity to participate in House and inter-school matches. Coaches will refer to the ECB Coaching Initiative.</p> <p>Tennis: Some pupils will be selected for inter-school matches.</p>	<p>Year 8 pupils will develop their knowledge and skills in the following areas this term:</p> <p>Athletics: The pupils will be coached and have the opportunity to practise a variety of track and field disciplines. Times and distances will be recorded for evaluation purposes.</p> <p>Some pupils will be selected for inter-school competitions.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will develop and be assessed in the following skills:</p> <p>Water polo: They will develop their passing and shooting techniques.</p> <p>Race swimming: They will practise relays and different strokes in preparation for internal and external galas.</p>