



# YEAR 10 CURRICULUM LETTER: SPRING



Welcome to our Spring term Curriculum Letter. There are plenty of [extra-curricular](#) activities for students to get involved in this half term and many departments will be running exciting activities.

More general information about the curriculum can be found [here](#).

This half-term, students will take part in our 2nd Challenge Day. Year 10 will participate in a Codes and Cyphers Day on January 25th.

The departments that teach your child have contributed below to let you know what students will be studying this term.

## ART

Students are continuing their investigation into the work of the St. Ives' artists including a visit to Tate St. Ives. They have already completed a sketchbook submission and an academic poster for this. We now move into the phase where they will be working on preparatory sheets and on into compositional 'thumbnails' for possible final pieces. The final piece itself will be done in the Yr 10 Mock Exam (10 hours over 2 days).

## BUSINESS STUDIES

Making the business effective, Understanding the external environment.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

Communications - Computer networks  
Organisation and Structure of Data - Data representation systems  
Operating Systems - Computer software  
Algorithms - Programming constructs  
Python (Basics) - Developing Python Coding

## DRAMA

Set text 1 and scripted performances

## ENGLISH

After Christmas, pupils will complete their study of A Christmas Carol that they began in the Winter term.

We will then begin our study of the English Language GCSE, focussing on AQA Paper 1 in which pupils respond to a fiction extract from a modern novel and complete a piece of creative writing. Pupils are encouraged to pay particular focus to their writing skills and accuracy as well as exploring how different authors craft texts using language and structural devices to impact the reader.

Pupils will also prepare for and complete their Spoken Language Examination for which they must give a 10 minute presentation on a topic of their choice. In class, they will consider what makes an effective presentation topic, how to structure ideas and interest the audience as well as responding to questions. They will have the opportunity to watch and evaluate a range of speeches from celebrities, politicians, students and even teachers! They will record their SL assessment with their teacher and a small audience of friends before Easter.

## FOOD & NUTRITION

Students continue to develop their understanding around safely preparing, cooking and presenting nutritional dishes. Students will draw on their learning of different types of provision, as well as personal safety in their preparations. This helps build the foundations for the KS4 assessment objectives of: AO3: Plan, prepare, cook and present dishes, combining appropriate techniques. AO4: Analyse and evaluate different aspects of nutrition, food, cooking and preparation including food made by themselves and others

## GEOGRAPHY

Urban Issues and Challenges.

Coastal Landscapes.

## GEOLOGY

Dynamic Deposition - sedimentary rocks, water & oil

Magma on the Move - igneous rocks & volcanoes

## HISTORY

Students are continuing their work on GCSE Medicine, building on their knowledge of the Medieval Period and analysing the Renaissance, 19th Century and Modern Medicine, with an in depth focus on the British Sector of the Western Front 1914 - 1918.

## MATHEMATICS

Bounds - Using their knowledge of error intervals to allow them to answer upper and lower bounds questions within lots of different contexts.

Trigonometry - This is advancing onto non-right-angled trigonometry, using the sine and cosine rule to calculate missing sides, sides and the area of scalene triangles.

## MFL: FRENCH

### Là où j'habite:

Giving detailed descriptions of where you live

Revising the weather

Explaining how you would change where you live

Focusing on role play scenarios for the speaking exam

## MFL: GERMAN

### Healthy living and global events in the German speaking world:

Staying mentally and physically healthy

What you plan to do to stay mentally and physically healthy

What you should/could do to stay healthy

Current global events

Past global events

Advantages and disadvantages of global events

## MUSIC

Composition 1, AOS Exploration - exam preparation, Ensemble Performance 1.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### Core PE:

Students are offered a range of activities that develops their personal fitness and promotes an active, healthy lifestyle. They are able to choose 2 per week which they then develop skills in for half a term. They are taught to use and develop a variety of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in either hockey, badminton, volleyball, handball, rugby, netball, or football, depending of which of these they choose.

They can choose more aesthetics options like yoga or trampoline or they can choose to work on their own fitness in our fitness suite.

## GCSE PE:

Applied Anatomy and Physiology (Paper 1: Fitness and Body Systems)

Structure and function of the cardiovascular system

Arteries, capillaries and veins

Vascular shunting

Components of blood and their significance for physical activity

Respiratory system - composition of air; lung volumes

Location and roles of principal components of respiratory system

Structure and function of alveoli

Energy sources; aerobic and anaerobic exercise and short term effects of exercise

An introduction to using a PEP to develop fitness, health, exercise and performance

PARQs; warm ups and cool downs

Components of fitness

Fitness tests - theory and practice (i)

Fitness tests - theory and practice (ii)

Fitness tests - theory and practice (iii)

Principles of training

## PSHE

Year 10 has two strands this year: looking at the wider world including what is citizenship, human rights, role of the media, first aid, managing money. The other strand deals with RSE such as impact of cyber bullying, good mental health, healthy/unhealthy relationships, pornography, self examination to stay healthy, fertility and pregnancy

## RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

Jewish beliefs - In this unit, we look at some key Jewish beliefs including beliefs about God, covenants with God, key moral principles, the problem of evil, life and death and the sanctity of life.

Human Rights and Social Justice - In this unit we study religious (primarily Christian) and non-religious views on social justice, human rights, discrimination (racial, gender, positive), wealth, poverty and exploitation.

## SCIENCE

### Biology:

Students are finishing the unit on the nervous system, where they will then move onto the endocrine system. This involves looking at how hormones are used to control the body, particularly looking at the menstrual cycle. Students will also study plant hormones which will allow them to move onto a unit studying plants and photosynthesis.

We will then start a unit on plants and photosynthesis, before spending the rest of the year looking at the environment and the impacts of humans.

## Chemistry:

Structure and bonding: types of bonding; changes of state; properties of ionic, metallic, and covalent substances; nanoparticles

Periodic Table: development of the periodic table; Group 1 properties and reactions; Group 7 properties and reactions

## Physics:

Combined Science:  
Electricity in the home  
Forces as vectors

## GCSE:

Motion  
Forces and motion  
Pressure in fluids

