



PAIGNTON COMMUNITY & SPORTS ACADEMY

Believe and Achieve

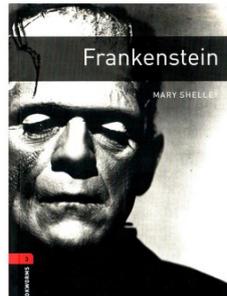


YEAR 9

ENGLISH

The focus of this final Key Stage 3 year is to ensure that students have all the skills needed for their GCSEs. Students will be engaging with GCSE texts and developing their skills in information retrieval, inference and deduction and language analysis. The Autumn term begins with a study of Gothic fiction, exploring a range of different texts including *Twilight*, *Frankenstein* and *Dracula* and students will complete a reading assessment (in the same format as the new GCSE 9 – 1 specification) in order to identify areas for where students will benefit from support.

The second half of the term is a study of the GCSE text *Rani and Sukh*, a contemporary text mirroring *Romeo and Juliet*. Students will explore cultural expectations, language analysis and theme before a transactional writing assessment based on the text. Students will continue with the Accelerated Reader programme and are expected to explore a range of different texts and genres. Regular homework will be set to develop students' skills and understanding. These can include Doodle homework, research projects or extended writing.



SCIENCE

This term students are beginning their GCSE AQA trilogy specification. All students will be following AQA Trilogy Science in preparation for taking the exam at the end of Year 11. GCSE Science has an emphasis on scientific literacy – the knowledge and understanding that learners need to recognise the impact of science and technology on everyday life. This term pupils will complete unit 1 of Biology which will include looking at cell biology. Students will also cover unit 1 of Chemistry: *Periodic table and the atom*, as well as unit 6 of Physics: *The particle model*. Assessment will take place on a regular basis and will include traditional end of unit exams with questions taken from past papers. There will be a formal end of unit exam in January, the results of which will be shared with parents later in the year. Further information is available on the AQA website:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464>



PSHE

September 2018 will be the first time that all PCSA students from Year 7 to 11 will take part in one Personal Social Health Education lesson a week. For year 9 this will cover areas such as citizenship, relationship and sex education, healthy lifestyles, life skills, careers and financial studies. The first half of the Autumn term begins with a citizenship. Students will explore legal ages, voting systems in the UK and other countries, Fair Trade and the issues surrounding asylum seekers and refugees.

The second half of the Autumn term will be looking at healthy lifestyles. This will include lessons on the dangers of smoking, drugs and alcohol, exploitation, HIV and AIDS and some input on financial matters. Students will take part in discussions and activities to raise their personal awareness of the importance of staying safe and healthy. This will include making students aware of where they can get help within PCSA for all sorts of issues that may crop up both in and out of school.



WELCOME back to all of our Year 9 students. I hope they had a fantastic summer break and are ready to get back into lessons. This is a very important year for our students who will be starting their journey towards their GCSEs. With this in mind it is vital students try their best in every subject area ensuring home learning is also completed to a high standard, as this will give them a huge advantage in Years 10 & 11. If you have any questions regarding the curriculum or any pastoral issues please feel free to contact myself or Mrs Gower on 403005.

Katie Hine, Head of Year 9

IMPORTANT DATES

2018	
5 th Sept	Year 9 school photos
15-26 th Oct	Half Term
29 th Oct	Return from Half Term
21 st Dec	Last day of Autumn Term

2019	
7 th January	First Day of Spring Term

CONTACT INFORMATION

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MATHS

Year 9 students begin the first year of their GCSE Mathematics course. Students will utilise a variety of resources which include GCSE textbooks and online resources utilising Google Classroom, Edexcel and Mymaths. There will be a combination of half-termly, termly and end of unit topic assessments which incorporate current and past Edexcel questions to familiarise students with exam style questions. Teachers will use question level analysis to accurately identify areas for development.

Topics to be taught this term will include algebra, interpreting and representing data, fractions, ratios, percentages, angle problems, trigonometry and graphs. There will be an emphasis on problem solving maths and building cross-topic and cross-curricular links to best prepare for the new 9-1 GCSE specification.



FRENCH

In Year 9 students start the GCSE course, which is differentiated and can be taught from EXPO GCSE Vert (foundation), or Rouge (higher).

This term students will be learning how to talk about themselves, their family and their relationships and exploring the themes of marriage and partnership.



FRENCH - How parents can help your child.

French - How parents can help.

We would love you to support your child with their home learning by regularly helping them to learn vocabulary in preparation for their vocabulary tests. Allow them to explore fun ways of learning from home, e.g. sticking post-it notes on the fridge, get them to teach you, rap it, sing it, dance along to it, record it ("pod-casting" as it's now referred to), watch it on "Paignton Online" and use the "look, cover, say, write, check" method. Only by experimenting will they discover which method works best for them.

They will be issued with vocabulary lists and any other homework will be either on worksheets, in their yellow book or on Linguascope. Thank you for supporting us with your child's learning.

Merci et Bon Courage!

SPANISH

In Year 9 students start an accelerated GCSE course. This term, students will be rapidly covering the basics of Spanish; vocabulary and grammar.

HISTORY

Students begin the new academic year, and their first year in their selected options, by investigating the impact of Victorians. They will address the question 'What did the Victorians ever do for us?' and begin to understand the wider impact of The British Empire. This is a study of major developments in technology, medicine and transport in the Victorian era. This module is assessed through the creation of a presentation on health heroes. Moving on to the gruesome case of Jack the Ripper, students will look into the evidence and determine what really allowed this dastardly event to occur.



GEOGRAPHY

Year 9 will begin the first year of a 3-year GCSE course in September. We begin the year identifying resources and how they need to be managed sustainably across the world. Students will develop an understanding of the significance of food, water and energy to economic and social well-being and pattern the global inequalities of access to these resources. For their GCSE exam students need to focus on one particular resource and so, having selected energy, they will study the areas of supply, increase of demand, and sustainable strategies through tasks that combine data skills, map skills and extended writing. All students are encouraged to buy the AQA revision guide that can easily be found on Amazon (New Grade 9-1 GCSE Geography AQA Revision Guide).

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Students will begin looking at more advanced Python programming skills such as 'lists' and 'while' and 'for' loops. These are key skills that are used at GCSE. This term students will be given programming problems and will create an algorithm as a plan to help solve these problems. This approach of planning and solving challenges is a method used by programmers and will begin to get students to collaborate and think critically to create solutions.

Students will also look at theoretical aspects like memory, including the use of 'RAM' and 'ROM' in a computer system, and the advantages and disadvantages of different storage media like SD cards found in cameras and CD storage used for photos and videos.

ETHICS



Students will have an exciting programme of study to follow. (Other students will have 6 lessons dedicated to ethical issues through PSHE lessons.) Year 9 will start the term by examining the issue of 'child soldiers'. They will be encouraged to formulate opinions and examine things from a different perspective. This will be followed by examining the Sho'ah – or Holocaust. Throughout study there will be several assessments, which are designed to mimic GCSE style exams. This is to ensure students are prepared for GCSE study at the start of Year 10. During ethics lessons students will be encouraged to examine ethical, cultural and religious issues and learn to express opinion and empathise with others.

FOOD

Students will participate in Food Preparation & Nutrition lessons for the duration of the year.



They will receive 2 lessons per week. One week lessons will be theory based; this will be used to further develop knowledge and create a foundation of knowledge that can be extended within practical activities. This will also be used to consolidate literacy skills and allow students to implement them in written, speaking and listening activities.

Students will get the opportunity to practise more advanced cooking methods to provide them with the confidence and skills to produce high level dishes in Years 10 and 11. It will also further develop the confidence of the learners to produce a wide range of dishes independently and so will support them in achieving a healthy and balanced diet. As part of their work with food this term, students will be taught how to cook and apply the principles of nutrition and healthy eating when making dishes predominately with the food commodity, fruit and vegetables.

ART

Year 9 students will be exploring the theme 'cells'. Students will be looking through microscopes, developing observational drawings, researching artists such as Bruce Riley, Rogan Brown, Heather Knight and Rob Kessler, conducting experiments with materials and techniques, coming up with design ideas and looking at different layouts and compositions leading on to making an outcome that relates to the theme 'cells'. This is a fun project that links Art & Design with Science and explores the visual elements of different cell types. There are lots of workshop type lessons where students experiment with exciting mixed media materials and techniques. Students will be working to a vocational brief and will need to develop an installation that meets the specification of the brief and relates to the theme 'cells' and all their developmental work.

Students use their sketchbooks to develop their ideas, drawings, research and experiments which will be self-evaluated, peer assessed and marked by the class teacher. Targets are regularly set and reviewed to help students to progress. KS3 Art Club runs on Monday lunchtimes where students have the opportunity to complete any unfinished work and enter competitions. Homework consists of research, collating information and drawings. It would be beneficial for students to have basic art equipment, including a black fine liner and glue stick, at home to help complete homework and encourage independent learning.

PE

Welcome! All the PE staff hope you are excited and ready for the start of a new academic year. In Year 9 we offer twelve different activities throughout the year, with additional activities available during lunchtimes and after school.

Students who have opted to study BTEC Sport will have an additional two lessons where they will study a further range of practical and theoretical topics throughout the year.

Parents – Please encourage your son/daughter to attend our sports clubs and look out for the clubs list that will appear on the website soon.

Students - Please ensure you have all the correct kit for your lessons:

- Academy blue PE shirt
- Academy blue rugby top
- Academy black shorts
- Academy blue socks
- Suitable footwear: Studded boots for rugby/football. Supportive trainers (NO pumps).

Gum shield and shin pads for football, rugby and hockey.

No hoodies or uniform will be allowed in PE lessons but in very cold weather it is advisable to wear extra layers: under-armor or alternatives are great worn under the Academy polo shirt or rugby top.

If students have PE lessons in the morning, we strongly advise that they have a good breakfast.

Finally, we are delighted to announce a new partnership with Exeter Chiefs Rugby Club next year. A qualified coach will be working with our students within curriculum time and supporting our extra-curricular rugby clubs!

The table below shows the sports that students will be covering in the Autumn term:

GIRLS	BOYS
Gymnastics	Gymnastics
Football	Rugby
Multi-skills	Multi-skills
Netball	Health Related Fitness

ENGINEERING STUDIES

Students studying engineering in Year 9 have opted to take this course which prepares them for the 'NCFE LEVEL 1/2 Technical Award in Engineering' which can be taken in Year 10. The course serves as an introduction to the engineering profession. The students have been given the opportunity to investigate, through modelling, the construction of the main bridge types; beam, cantilever, suspension and cable stayed. Parents and students are able to see the Year 9 tasks by visiting www.pcsaengineers.uk.

MUSIC

Students in Year 9 have 2 hours of music each a week. Homework is set fortnightly and it is essential that this is completed to reinforce key skills learnt within the lessons.

This term students will be working within groups to develop band, instrumental and vocal skills including singing and rap. They'll also be exploring blues/jazz scales and chords and looking at music for special occasions, exploring festival music and the Fanfare. Performance, composition and improvisation techniques are embedded into all aspects of the Year 9 music curriculum.

Students are encouraged to attend one of the many extra-curricular music clubs we offer at lunchtime and after school.

Instrumental lessons are offered by our excellent team of visiting teachers and students can sign up by collecting a letter from the Music department.

Our Christmas concert will take place on the 20th December at Paignton Parish Church and auditions for Year 9 performances will take place in W44.

Don't forget to encourage your child to attend one of the music clubs offered at lunchtime and after school.

Extra-Curricular:

Tuesday lunchtime – Rock School

Wednesday lunchtime – Choir

Wednesday after school (3.15 – 4.30) - Band

Thursday lunchtime – Karaoke Club

Practice rooms are available to book on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes.

There is also a Stretch and Challenge group held on Wednesday mornings before school where students can work towards music theory grades.

DRAMA

Students will complete two projects: 'What Makes Theatre & Devising' and a script based unit of work on a published play, developing key skills in characterisation and working with text. Students will be offered a trip to see a live theatre production as part of their course. They will study the work of theatre makers as part of the unit of study.

Devising original drama work and studying set texts are a key focus of the Year 9 curriculum in preparation for GCSE. Students will have a written exam on topics covered throughout the year.

Homework is set on alternate weeks in Drama.

Drama kit for Year 9 is a plain black short sleeved t-shirt with black trousers or leggings. All students are expected to bring this to lessons each week.

A Drama Club for all year groups will be taking place once a week in the drama studio at Waterleat Road.

MULTI MEDIA - PRODUCT DESIGN

Within this new course students will learn how to:

- design and make a product for a client
- use a range of specialist materials, techniques, equipment and processes.

The aim for the first term will be to explore the following units:

- methods of recording - drawing, sampling, modelling, annotation, digital photography, ICT
- design skills - drawing, sampling, modelling, image manipulation and materials – paper, card, textiles, digital, metal, plastic.

We will be entering the very exciting 'Ventura' Design Museum competition, an award winning national competition where emphasis is placed on imagination, experimentation and working in teams. This enterprise challenge places design skills in a real world context, developing student creativity and enterprise capabilities. All preparation work will be done in sketchbooks to support the final outcomes that they make.

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The second half of the term will focus on materials, their qualities and construction techniques. This knowledge will be used to design and make structures. The students will work in pairs.

Homework will be set fortnightly. All work will be assessed against the assessment criteria for Product Design and students will be given targets for improvement.

CAREERS

When exploring opportunities it is important to keep an open mind at first. You can decide whether your ideas are realistic opportunities at a later stage in the career planning process. Keeping an open mind may uncover a job you've never considered or even heard of before. There are two main ways to research future careers:

Desk Research

- Use the careers hub to discover more about the various options available to you. <http://careers.paigntonacademy.org/>

Active Research

- Speak to friends & family about their work
- Ask for 'information interviews' with people doing jobs that you are interested in.
- Attend careers events
- Book a careers appointment

During this term students will:

- be offered a variety of off-site university/ employer led activities
- participate in a number of employer/ future opportunities assemblies
- attend the Aim Higher Next Steps performance
- participate in a Royal Marines Activity.