



# YEAR 9

## ENGLISH

In the summer term, Year 9 students will begin to study Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'. Through the study of one of Shakespeare's most famous plays, students will sharpen the skills learned at the start of the year and apply them to a GCSE text. Students will develop their analytical and interpretive skills and broaden the range of authorial techniques they can comment on and use within their own writing. This early exploration of the play will necessitate the production of neat, well-ordered revision notes, modelling the skills required for GCSE study. Students will have an opportunity to buy their own copies of the play to annotate for later study.



## MATHEMATICS

In Mathematics Year 9 students will learn to identify and calculate the  $n$ th term of quadratic sequences. They will gain skills in determining the volume and surface area of prisms and cylinders, as well as calculating reverse percentages and using multipliers for compound interest. The curriculum will introduce them to personal finance concepts, enabling them to compare the best purchasing options. Students will also learn to represent and solve linear inequalities both on number lines and graphically, while being introduced to fundamental circle theorems. As the term progresses, they will delve into GCSE topics, including surds and indices, and will learn to express variables in ratios and manipulate these ratios algebraically. Additionally, they will explore all four types of transformations, including rotations around any point and enlargements with negative scale factors. Essential tools for this learning will include calculators, protractors, and compasses.





## DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

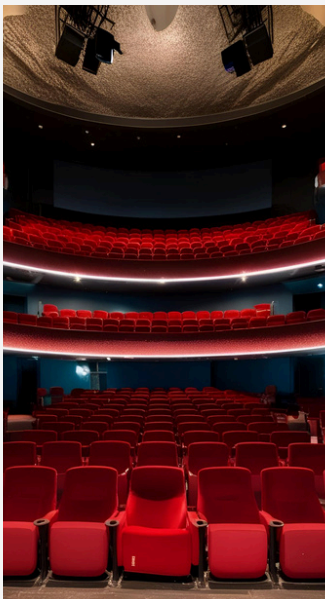
In the Textiles course, students will explore fashion trends from various eras and genres to enhance their design skills, focusing on both iterative and innovative concepts. They will choose fabrics and materials for creating skirts and trousers, followed by hands-on experience with block patterns and pattern cutting techniques. Additionally, students will learn how to measure and fit patterns to different body sizes. To wrap up the project, they will assess their workflow and maintain a reflective diary.

In the Systems and Control unit, students will gain insights into the inputs and outputs of electronic circuits, researching speakers across different genres to inform their casing designs. They will consider material properties, size, and structure as part of their project brief, while also honing their 2D and 3D drawing skills, including the use of isometric paper for perspective. Soldering will be a key component in building their circuits.

In Food Science & Nutrition, students will examine portable electrical equipment in the kitchen to streamline energy use and preparation time for various dishes. They will deepen their understanding of dietary requirements that necessitate recipe modifications, such as those for Coeliac disease, diabetes, and vegetarian or vegan diets. Working in groups, they will investigate how ingredient substitutions, particularly in flours, sugars, and fats, affect recipes. The course will involve extensive practical work, including taste testing, culminating in a report detailing their findings.



## DRAMA



In the summer term of Year 9, students delve into Verbatim Theatre, exploring its documentary style through hands-on engagement with verbatim texts to develop their own devised projects. Each week introduces a new text that highlights significant themes, allowing students to identify various forms and techniques within the genre. They will gain an understanding of the unique style and structure of Verbatim Theatre and its influence on modern audiences. The assessment process consists of three stages: Explorative Assessment, where students rehearse in small groups; Performance Assessment, where they present their final piece; and Responding Assessment, which involves an evaluative verbal presentation. Homework tasks will include transcription, memorization of lines, and preparation of mind maps.



## **ETHICS & PHILOSOPHY**

In the summer term, Year 9 will explore various societal beliefs about the afterlife, following their examination of crime and punishment in contemporary society. They will discuss how perceptions of wrongdoing and its consequences in this life may influence views on what lies beyond.



## **GEOGRAPHY**



Year 9 students will be exploring the effects of ice on the physical landscape. They will investigate the presence of mammoth bones at the bottom of the North Sea, connecting this discovery to various periods in Earth's geological timeline. Students will gain insights into the processes of glacial erosion, transportation, and deposition, as well as the glaciers' role in shaping landforms seen today, particularly in the Lake District.

They will also learn to identify these landforms using Ordnance Survey maps. The curriculum will then shift to resource management, addressing the challenges surrounding energy, water, and food insecurity. Students will examine the adverse effects of resource exploitation in fragile environments like Alaska, with a particular emphasis on energy insecurity. They will be encouraged to evaluate and discuss potential strategies for enhancing energy supply, including investments in renewable energy, fracking, and nuclear power.

## **HISTORY**

During Terms 5 and 6 of Year 9, History students focus on the Holocaust, which is the sole mandatory topic outlined in the National Curriculum. They also delve into the consequences of World War Two, exploring events from the Cold War and examining how historical events shape our contemporary society. Additionally, an optional trip to the Battlefields is offered in Term 5, enhancing their earlier studies of World War One.





## ART

Students will delve into the world of pattern and abstract art by examining the works of artists like Xenobia Bailey, Orla Kiely, and Emily Cartwright. They will investigate the cultural importance of pattern creation while experimenting with mixed media collage and various printing techniques.



## MUSIC

In the Summer Term, Year 9 students refine their understanding of popular music through performance and composition. In Term 5, students focus on performing popular songs in ensembles, developing musicianship, rehearsal strategies and confidence.

In Term 6, students use BandLab to create their own original music, applying their knowledge of chord progressions, melody and structure to produce a complete popular music track.

To enhance their learning experience, students are encouraged to visit Teaching Gadget, a resource-rich website, using the username KSHS and the password 456music.



## PSHE

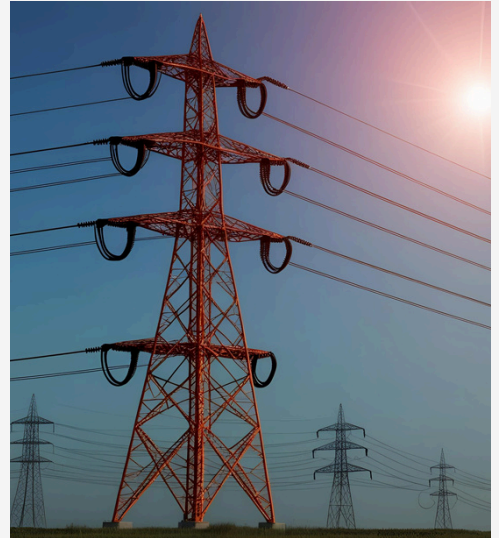
In Year 9 PSHE classes, students will delve into the origins of the modern vaping industry, examining its risks and consequences while evaluating the marketing strategies employed by vaping and e-cigarette companies. This analysis will draw parallels with the marketing tactics of the 20th-century tobacco industry. Discussions will also focus on the influence of peer pressure and social dynamics related to vaping. As the summer term progresses, Year 9 will transition to a Financial Literacy unit, where they will reflect on the importance of financial success and learn to identify potential threats to financial stability, such as online scams and exploitation. Additionally, the curriculum will cover essential topics like money management, budgeting, and saving strategies.





## SCIENCE

In Biology, students will explore communicable diseases, focusing on various pathogens such as viruses, bacteria, fungi, and protists. In Chemistry, the curriculum covers different bonding types and connects these concepts to the properties of various substances. Physics lessons will introduce students to electricity, starting with electric circuits and direct current (DC) before progressing to alternating current and household electricity. Engage your child in a discussion about the required practicals, encouraging them to explain the procedures and share their findings.



## LANGUAGES

Students will further enhance their language abilities in French and German by engaging in comprehensive practice across all skills. In French, they will study the 'Around The World' topic where they learn how to plan a journey in French and find out all about holidays and festivals in French-speaking countries. As the year concludes they then focus on the future tense to talk about their dream jobs and future aspirations. Meanwhile, in German, they will be talking about health and lifestyle. They will learn to explain aches and pains to a doctor and give opinions on healthy eating and other lifestyle choices. They then end the year by developing their speaking skills to express their views on environmental issues. To support their learning at home, students are encouraged to practise regularly on [www.languagenut.com](http://www.languagenut.com). Additionally, watching French or German shows with subtitles can serve as excellent practice.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

Students will acquire skills in safe and effective technology use, starting with touch typing, and will conclude the year with a focus on cyber security, relevant legislation, and strategies for maintaining safety in the digital landscape. For touch typing practice, we will utilize <https://www.typingclub.com/>.





## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

In Terms 5 and 6, Year 9 students will enhance their performance skills by exploring new striking and fielding games, specifically cricket and softball, while learning about updated rules and strategies. In rounders, they will emphasize tactical gameplay to gain a competitive edge and will take the initiative to organize and run their own tennis tournaments, boosting their confidence in officiating. The athletics unit will challenge students to improve their personal bests in times and distances as they prepare for another sports day, contributing to their House totals. As they reach the upper levels of Key Stage 3, Year 9 students will take on the responsibility of planning, organizing, and leading the Year 7 and 8 participants in the Sports Day Parade. This competitive event showcases the creativity and spirit of each House, enhancing the overall excitement of Sports Day.

