



SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

Year 9 Curriculum – 2025/26

Summary

| SUBJECT | AUTUMN | SPRING | SUMMER |
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| English | <p>Using “The Woman in Black” as the core text, pupils focus upon the Victorian period and key skills of critical analysis (e.g. effective use of details, exploration of theme, authorial intentions). Pupils learn how to analyse language and structure to prepare for the future English Language exams and complete a GCSE-style assessment (Week 11).</p> <p>Creative writing: pupils improve their creative writing skills by studying a range of examples. They will hone their skills in using language and structural features to create a high quality and engaging piece of writing. There is a writing assessment (Week 7) in the style of a GCSE question.</p> | <p>GCSE Content:</p> <p>Shakespeare (“Macbeth”) - pupils read, study, and explore the play, improving their understanding of Shakespeare’s dramatic methods. Pupils learn about relevant contextual topics including the Jacobean period, the Divine Right theory, Great Chain of Being, witchcraft, and more. Pupils complete a timed literary GCSE-style essay (Week 26).</p> <p>Pupils complete a speaking and listening exercise based upon “Macbeth” (Week 20).</p> | <p>GCSE Content:</p> <p>Nineteenth-century novel (“The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde”) – pupils read and explore the text, developing skills introduced and consolidated in the Autumn Term and Spring Term. Pupils learn about relevant contextual topics including life in Victorian London, the work of Freud and Jung, Charles Darwin, and more. Pupils complete a timed GCSE-style essay question (Week 35).</p> <p>Again, pupils learn how to analyse language and structure to prepare for future English Language exams (Week 38).</p> |
| Maths | Upper & Lower Bounds, Probability, Percentages, Ratio & Proportion, Expanding brackets), Inequalities in two dimensions, Factorising, Statistics, Rearranging Formulae | Sequences, Simultaneous Equations, Trigonometry & Pythagoras, Transformations; Area and Volume; Similarity | Quadratic Equations, Loci/Construction/Solids, Graphs, Travel Graphs, Standard Form, Further expanding brackets, Iteration. |
| Science | <p>Biology: Photosynthesis Chemistry: Energy in Chemical Reactions Physics: Electricity Biology: Practical Skills in Biology</p> <p>How Science Works: Investigations into <i>Photosynthesis</i> and <i>Energy Reactions</i></p> | <p>Chemistry: Burning Physics: Electromagnetism Biology: Non-communicable Diseases Chemistry: Electrochemistry</p> <p>How Science Works: Investigations into <i>Electromagnetism</i></p> | <p>Physics: Energy Biology: Cells Chemistry: Practical Skills in Chemistry Physics: Particles</p> <p>How Science Works: Research Skills in Science</p> |
| French | Review of previous work to reinforce structures. Town, Family, Use of perfect, present and near future tenses together. Developing listening skills. Friends & family. Imperfect and simple future tenses. Translations from English to French. | Developing Weather, Future Tense, Plans, Establishing meaning through context in written French, negatives, school life, jobs. Extending written accounts. Reading and analysing longer factual / literature based texts. | Consolidation of learning. Increased degree of difficulty in reading and listening, writing and speaking tasks, adverbs. Health & fitness & oral examination. |
| German | Revision of vocabulary and grammar covered in Year 8. Family, friends, daily routine, festivals and traditions. Present tense, separable verbs, reflexive verbs, imperfect tense, modal verbs, perfect tense. | Focus on more advanced structures. Media, TV, hobbies, healthy living, planning a holiday. Irregular present tense, accusative case, “wenn”, um...zu, imperative, future tense. | Consolidation. The environment, school, future plans, dative case, compound nouns, comparative, superlative. |
| Spanish | <p>Me, my family and friends/Technology in everyday life/Free time activities/Customs and festivals</p> <p>Verb Gustar/Present and present continuous tenses</p> <p>Translations Speaking questionnaires</p> | <p>Home, town, neighbourhood and region/Social issues/Global issues/Travel and tourism</p> <p>Immediate future, future and conditional tenses</p> <p>Translations Speaking questionnaires</p> | <p>My studies/Life at school and college/Education post-16/Jobs, career choices and ambitions</p> <p>Preterit, perfect and imperfect tenses</p> <p>Speaking (role-plays) Speaking questionnaires Writing (50 words)</p> |
| Geography | Living World – a chance to develop knowledge on ecosystems plus study of a cold environment. TRF issues Pre-release practice task – decision making. Improving geographical skills. | Resource Management with focus on food. | Coasts – Learn the physical processes that shape coastlines, understand the different and distinctive landforms created and how people manage and use the coastlines. |
| History | Britain at War: The Blitz | Britain and Warfare, c.1250-1700 | Britain & Warfare, c.1700-2015 |
| Art & Design | Art develops our appreciation of the natural world (Drawing, Photography and Digital Art) – Landscapes, David Hockney, Impressionism and the Fauves. | Art helps us to understand our feelings (Photography, Drawing and Lino/Block Printing – Expressionism, Low Key Photography. | Art makes us question our values (Sculpture, Drawing and painting) – Pop Art, Photo-realism, Conceptual Art. |

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| Citizenship (GCSE) | Impact of climate change (political, economic, human rights and environmental) in the UK and the rest of the world. Impact of poverty (political, economic, human rights and environmental) in the UK and the rest of the world. | Impact of conflict (political, economic, human rights and environmental) in the UK and the rest of the world | Impact of migration (political, economic, human rights and environmental) in the UK and the rest of the world. |
| RS | GCSE Eduqas – Full course Route A Christian beliefs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bible as a source of wisdom and authority The nature of God & the Trinity Genesis 1-3 and John 1 Jesus Christ The concept of salvation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christian Eschatological beliefs and teachings Crime & Punishment: Morality: absolutist and relativist theories Aims of punishment The treatment of criminals and prison chaplains <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The death penalty | Forgiveness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good, evil, and suffering Christian Practices: Christianity in Britain and the Church in the local community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The worldwide Church |
| PE | Games: Cross-Country, Football, Rugby, Hockey PE: Badminton, Table Tennis | Games: Cross-Country, Football, Rugby, Hockey PE: Basketball, Circuit Training | Games: Athletics - Track, Cricket, Softball PE: Athletics - Field, Cricket |
| Design and Technology | Garden solar panel light sensor | Mechanical Toy | Alessi project |
| Food Technology | Practical lessons – Lasagne, pasta bake, curry, stuffed chicken, own main meal. Theory - Focus is on sauce making methods and looking at special diets and food allergies as well as recapping healthy diets and the nutrient groups. | Practical lessons – Fajitas, lattice apple pie, trifle, ravioli, international cupcakes. Theory - Focus is on packaging and labelling for food products, food miles and food production methods. | Practical lessons - Chocolate tart, samosas, profiteroles, sausage rolls, own pastry product. Theory - Focus is on the different types of pastry making, designing products for others and nutritional analysis. |
| Computer Science | Data, Information, Knowledge. Programming – Data types, select statements, iteration and algorithms. | Representing numbers – denary, binary, hexadecimals. System architecture, Programming – lists, dictionaries | Representing image and sound. Binary logic. Networks. GUI programming. |
| Music | Graded Theory – time signature, rhythm, key signature, Set Work – Star Wars. Composition task. Solo and ensemble performance | Composition task – James Bond. Set Work – Release Graded Theory – harmony and melody | Release continued Sequencing task – introduction to Minimalism. |
| PSHE | This year's topic is focused on RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) looking at consent, sexual pressure, contraception, STIs, teenage pregnancy and pornography. | | |
| Core Citizenship | The topic for this year is on global issues including human rights, child soldiers, asylum & refugees. | | |
| Business & Economics | Introduction to Business – Enterprise and Entrepreneurs Value Added, Financial Accounts and Innovation. Introduction to Economics – Supply and Demand, resource scarcity and Equilibrium, Opportunity costs, Investments and Pay-outs | Ownership and Management – Business ownership, Management styles, Leadership, stock markets and Growing a business. Macroeconomic Objectives – The role of Government and its objectives; Economic Growth, Unemployment, Inflation, Balance of payments, Conflicts in objectives. | Marketing Project – Group work focusing on Market research, Promotion, Products and Place Development Economics Project – Group work focusing on Development indicators, Poverty, Country profiles, and Improving LEDC's |
| Drama | Introduction to basic drama skills for actors and performers and exploration of theatre history and its origins. Live Theatre Opportunities | GCSE Style Workshops of drama practitioners. Exploration of texts (Blood Brothers) and experimentation of theatre elements including design and directing. Live Theatre Opportunities | Applying drama skills and practices to play text analysis followed by a final project linking to GCSE Component One: Devising. Live Theatre Opportunities |