



Stanborough School

Stanborough School

Curriculum Booklet Autumn Term 2020

Year 8



Dear Parents/Carers

I am delighted to introduce this term's curriculum booklet. This is a useful guide which gives you information about your child's subjects as well as useful websites and guidelines for assessments supporting and enhancing your child's learning.

This year is a particularly exciting time, as students will soon be given the opportunity to choose their GCSE options. Therefore it is important that all students work hard to achieve and start to think about which subjects they enjoy and may want to opt for.

It is also important that during this time you play a part in your child's progression by ensuring they have completed their homework and are working to the best of their ability. Also start to help them think about the subjects they may be interested in, as making subject choices can be a very daunting task and one that should not be rushed.

Like last year, if at any time you have concerns about a subject then contact the class teacher or Curriculum Leader. Your child's Tutor is also always available for any other concerns.

I hope you find this curriculum booklet useful and I look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Ms Spottiswoode
Year 8 Leader



Key Dates for Year 8

Thursday 26 th November 2020	Parent Teacher Surgery
Thursday 14 th January 2021	Options Evening
Wednesday 21 st April 2021	Parent Teacher Interviews
Thursday 25 th March 2021	Parent Teacher Surgery

Please note: Due to the current circumstances, the exact nature of these events will be decided and communicated to parents/carers closer to the time.

Autumn Term Year 8 Curriculum

English

Curriculum Leader – Mr P O'Connor

What will your child be studying?

First half term:

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Second half-term:

Gothic Writing

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

First half term:

How is the character of Marley's Ghost presented in 'A Christmas Carol'?

Second half term:

Write the opening to a gothic story.

How can you help?

Encourage your child to read and discuss a variety of literature.

Take an active interest in your child's homework and use ClassCharts, as well as planners, to help your child organise their workload.

Help your child proof-read their work carefully for errors and to make the necessary corrections.

Presentation of work is a key ingredient to success! Look through their work regularly and praise them for neatness, as well as content.

Have a dictionary and thesaurus accessible for your child to use.

In everyday conversations, practice using challenging words to expand their vocabulary.

Supportive Websites/Resources

The whole of the BBC website is a useful resource – www.bbc.co.uk

Share your writing! www.figment.com/books

AAA-Spell – www.aaaspell.com

Autumn Term Year 8 Curriculum

Mathematics

Curriculum Leader – Mr S Modi

What will your child be studying?

Extending numbers skills, Powers and Roots, LCM and HCF
Angles on parallel lines and in triangles and quadrilaterals
Transformations – translations and rotations
Probability
Percentages
Sequences (nth term)
Area of 2D shapes and surface area of prisms
Graphs of linear and quadratic equations, and real-life situations

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

There will be one key assessment this term. Details (date and topic list) of this will be provided on Class Charts in October. Students will be tested on topics learnt until the key assessment.

How can you help?

Your child will be set one piece of homework every week. An electronic version of the homework sheet will be uploaded on Class Charts, along with additional instructions. Some homework might be set on a maths website.

Please check they have completed their homework to a high standard and encourage them to check their working and take pride in their presentation.

Encourage your child to practise 'times tables' and mental arithmetic e.g. when shopping

Encourage your child to ask for help when they need it. KS3 maths club operates every Tuesday from 3 – 4 pm in one of the maths classrooms. It is open to all students for additional help and homework support, and to students wishing to challenge themselves with extension work.

Please make sure your child always has a complete set of equipment for every maths lesson – pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, protractor, calculator.

Supportive Websites/Resources

Collins Connect (login details will be provided by teachers)
www.mymaths.co.uk – login: stanborough, password: adding
www.vle.mathswatch.co.uk (login details will be provided by teachers)
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
www.nrich.maths.org.uk
www.mathsisfun.com
Newspapers – Sudoku / Number Puzzles / Code Breakers

Autumn Term Year 8 Curriculum

Science

Curriculum Leader – Mrs S Lockyear

What will your child be studying?

Health and Ecosystems

The Periodic Table and Separation techniques

Electricity and Magnetism

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Students will complete a task set by their teacher on each topic in which they will receive feedback to support their progress. The first assessment will fall approximately three weeks into the autumn term and then approximately every 8-10 lessons throughout the year.

How can you help?

Ensure that your child completes all homework.

Encourage your child to ask questions when unsure of work covered within lessons.

Support them in preparing for the assessments by accessing the revision websites and completing the revision tasks set by their classroom teacher at least a fortnight before the assessment.

Support your child by encouraging them to use resources available on kerboodle including the on-line text book.

Supportive Websites/Resources

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/science/>

- a series of revision resources, quizzes and tests.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips/topics/secondary.shtml#science>

- short videos covering a series of topics.

<http://www.educationquizzes.com/ks3/science/>

- series of quizzes.

<http://www.kerboodle.com/users/login?>

- Worksheets, interactive quizzes, tests, on-line text books

Autumn Term Year 8 Curriculum

Art, Design & Technology Curriculum Leader – Miss A Barnard

What will your child be studying?

This term, students will get the chance to explore one of our exciting Design and Technology subject specialisms as well as one lesson of Art a week.

Art : Abstract and distortion through the style of Picasso.

Graphics : Exploring the use of typography and calligraphy in media.

Three Dimensional Design : The production of a compartment desk tidy utilising skills in wood joining and customised engraving.

Photography : Creative installation techniques and manipulation of perspective.

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this year?

Progress update reports will provide you with an accurate assessment of your child's attainment. Students will receive ongoing feedback lesson by lesson but will also receive written formal feedback at the end of each term.

Please check our faculty twitter page to see what our talented students are up to in lesson!

@stanboroughADT

How can you help?

Supporting students with homework projects to ensure that tasks are submitted by the deadline date, please see Class Charts to view homework set.

Encouraging your child to pursue their creativity outside of lessons to build on fundamental skills that will aid progression in Art, Design and Technology disciplines.

Helping to prepare students with relevant materials and equipment.

Supportive Websites/Resources

Examples of works of art that can be inspirational to students. Here are some examples:

www.tate.org.uk

www.abcgallery.com

www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint - (the Web Museum for Art)

Follow 'Stanborough Art' on Pinterest to find inspirational artists and art resources.

Autumn Term Year 8 Curriculum

French

Curriculum Leader – Ms R Siddiqui

What will your child be studying?

All students will be able to talk about holidays, describing their ideal holidays and be able to talk about past holidays.

They will also be able to talk about healthy eating and healthy living.

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

A reading and listening key assessment on holidays will take place before half term.

An assessment on healthy living will take place just before the Christmas break.

How can you help?

Encourage your child to learn vocabulary and spelling regularly.

Supporting students with homework to ensure that tasks are submitted by the deadline date, please see Class Charts to view homework set. Ensure their exercise book is well presented.

Please make sure your child always has a complete set of equipment for every French lesson – blue or black pen, green pen, pencil, ruler, whiteboard pen, French dictionary, highlighter pen.

Supportive Websites/Resources

<https://stanfrench.wix.com/french> - password = stanfrench

BBC Bitesize - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zfckjxs>

www.languagesonline.org.uk

Duolingo

Follow '@StanMFL' on Twitter

Autumn Term Year 8 Curriculum

Geography

Curriculum Leader – Mr H Fraser

What will your child be studying?

Students will study 5 key areas of geography whilst continuing to practise key geographical skills developed in year 7. Areas of study and a description of their content is outlined below:

Geographical investigation subject area	Content
The Economy	The topic covers what is an economy and how does it work, along with how and why different economies around the world are connected and why?
Climate change	Pupils will learn about what climate change is and the causes, along with how can it be prevented or lived with and how climate change relates to development.
Nature's treasure chest	Pupils will learn about what natural resources are and the different types of natural resource before determining if there is a risk of them running out. Pupils will also be introduced to the idea of sustainability.
Development	Pupils will compare and contrast the UK with different places around the world before comparing their own quality of life with others. Pupils will also develop an understanding of how development takes place over time.
All about Africa	This regional study will allow students to explore different regions of Africa, identifying what has influenced them and how they have changed, before deciding if Africa will ever be as developed as the UK.

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Assessments will include tests and extended projects. Terminology tests will take place on a regular basis to make sure pupils are familiar with key geographical language, whilst homework may also be assessed.

How can you help?

We use the Hodder Progress in Geography book and a copy available at home would be beneficial but not essential. Any up to date atlas would also be useful. However the main way you can help is by discussing current events with your child which will encourage an interest in the world around them.

Supportive Websites/Resources

- Apps – Wunderground weather app, Survey-123, any stop-motion recording app
- Websites – Digimaps for schools (contact hfraser@stanborough.herts.sch.uk for login details), Ordnance Survey, [Stanborough Hums Website](#) : Password: geography2016, [KS3 BBC – Bite Size](#), [GapMinder](#) and the [Dollar Street](#) website, [Our World in Data](#)

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History

Subject Leaders – Mrs E Stamp and Mr D Norris

What will your child be studying?

Industrial Revolution 1750 – 1900

Why were factories built?

What was it like to work in a factory in the 19th Century?

British Empire

Why did Britain want an empire?

Can we be proud of the British Empire?

Slavery

What was the slave trade triangle?

What were conditions in the Middle Passage like?

When and why was slavery abolished?

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Factory working conditions in the 19th Century (skill: evidence)

How can you help?

Check student's Class Charts to ensure homework is being recorded and completed.

Read next steps targets set by teacher to help your child progress.

Encourage your child to read through their work and correct easy mistakes.

Supportive Websites/Resources

www.schoolhistory.co.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/history

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IT & Computing

Curriculum Leader – Mrs M O'Connor

What will your child be studying?

Students will cover 2 units of work:

Spreadsheets – In this unit, students will use spreadsheet tools to analyse data from a number of spreadsheet model scenarios. They will learn how to use different formulae and functions. Students will learn about the different ways that data can be presented and why different representations are suitable for different audiences and purposes.

Databases – This unit introduces students to the idea that organisations hold data on people and items. Students will build a 'Superhero' database and manipulate it to access new information. Some students will go on to think about how a database can be designed for a specific audience and purpose, considering both the way it looks and how it functions.

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Spreadsheets – Students will be assessed on their ability to create a spreadsheet, being able to manipulate and analyse data using a series of formulae and functions. Presenting their data in different formats, suited to a given scenario.

Databases – Students will be assessed on their ability to create a database, being able to manipulate and analyse data through a series of queries. Students will present their data in a number of different formats.

How can you help?

Check homework is being completed weekly.

Encourage students to show you their work and give them positive feedback and also suggest improvements.

Encourage students to look at real life examples of databases and spreadsheets.

Supportive Websites/Resources

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

https://teach-ict.com/index_legacy.html

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Music

Curriculum Leader – Mrs E Jackson

What will your child be studying?

The Blues – Students will learn how to play the 12 bar blues on the keyboard, guitar or ukulele and how to improvise and take part in a class performance of Hound Dog. They will then be challenged to perform more tricky versions of 12-bar blues, such as Jonny B Goode, which require more complex finger positions.

MGMT – Students will create their own version of Kids by MGMT using the computer sequencing software Cubase. Here they will develop their music technology, listening and independent working skills.

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Performance of a Blues piece.

Assessment of their Music Technology skills through their final MGMT Kids product.

How can you help?

Encourage students join music extra-curricular activities. This term this will be in year bubbles with a variety of music covered each week. In the short term this will be a combination of singing and instrumental music, but when advise changes we will return to our usual wide extra-curricular provision.

Support students in having instrumental or vocal lessons.

Encourage students to listen to a wide variety of music and discuss it with them.

Sing! Encourage your children's creativity and efforts in making Music. It is unlikely to be right first time, but with time, practice and support they will improve.

Supportive Websites/Resources

www.dsokids.com

www.musicalfutures.org.uk

www.stanboroughmusic.com

Radio stations/music television channels (all types)

Autumn Term Year 8 Curriculum

Physical Education

Curriculum Leader – Miss E Bowen & Mr P Harris

What will your child be studying?

Boys : Rugby, Football, Volleyball, Lacrosse, Handball, Badminton, Athletics, Striking and Fielding games, Health-related fitness.

Girls : Netball, Dance, Volleyball, Lacrosse, Handball, Athletics, Striking and Fielding games, Health-related fitness.

There will also be lots of opportunities to get involved in extra-curricular activities in football, rugby, girls' football, netball, dance, basketball, badminton, cross country running, cricket, rounders, ultimate frisbee, fitness training, tennis and athletics.

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Initial testing takes place at the start of the year for two weeks.

There will also be a practical assessment at the end of each block of work.

How can you help?

By encouraging students to be physically active in the evenings and at weekends.

By taking an interest in sport covered by the media.

By ensuring that students are properly prepared for all PE lessons with the right kit, footwear and protective equipment such as shin pads and gum shields.

Supportive Websites/Resources

www.pe4u.co.uk

www.uksport.gov.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/sportsacademy

Reading the sports pages of newspapers.

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Religion, Philosophy and Ethics
Curriculum Leader – Mr R Collinson

What will your child be studying?

The six main world religions – Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism, Hinduism, Buddhism.

Symbols and actions

Justice and fairness

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

Symbols and actions assessment

Justice and fairness assessment

How can you help?

Ensure your child completes all homework.

Encourage your child to watch the news regularly.

Help and provide access to internet/library resources.

Encourage an open, unprejudiced approach to other faiths and beliefs.

Supportive Websites/Resources

stanborough.wixsite.com/repe - The Departmental Website

www.bbc.co.uk/religion - BBC Religion and Ethics homepage



Religion, Philosophy & Ethics
Stanborough School

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Spanish Curriculum Leader - Ms R Siddiqui

What will your child be studying?

All students will be able to talk about themselves and their family, describing their appearance and be able to tell the time and give opinions and reasons on their school subjects.

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this term?

A reading assessment on school will take place just before the Christmas break.

How can you help?

Encourage your child to learn vocabulary and spelling regularly.

Supporting students with homework to ensure that tasks are submitted by the deadline date, please see Class Charts to view homework set. Ensure their exercise book is well presented.

Please make sure your child always has a complete set of equipment for every Spanish lesson – blue or black pen, green pen, pencil, ruler, whiteboard pen, Spanish dictionary, highlighter pen.

Supportive Websites/Resources

BBC Bitesize - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zfckjxs>

www.languagesonline.org.uk

Duolingo

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