

YEAR 8

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is an overview of the topics that your child will be studying in the second half term of Year 8 (November and December). If you have any queries about a subject, please contact the Curriculum Directors of each faculty (contact information below).

Subject	The topics that your child will be studying	An outline of the course over the half term
Maths	Measuring and constructing	<i>This will include drawing and measuring angles and constructing loci, angle bisectors and perpendicular bisectors.</i>
English	The Grotesque to the Sublime	<i>Students will study a range of gothic texts and learn exactly how the genre became so popular, using 'Jekyll and Hyde' as a companion text.</i>
Science	Nutrition and Digestion Principles of Energy	<i>Examines the process of obtaining nutrients from food and their digestion in the body. Explores how energy is transferred between stores.</i>
Geography	Climate Change – 'How is climate change impacting our planet, and how can we create a sustainable future?'	<i>This unit will cover the evidence for climate change past and present, the natural and human causes of climate change. This will then lead to exploring the impacts of climate change in the UK and around the world. We then explore adaptation and mitigation strategies that will help to tackle the climate emergency.</i>
History	Elizabeth I unit – 'Why was Elizabeth's reign so significant?'	<i>Students in year eight will continue to study Elizabeth I. In studying the Tudor period, students gain knowledge about what some historians argue as one of the most famous time periods. This time was a turbulent one for religion as it changed from Catholic to Protestant. It will examine key moments in Elizabeth's reign (such as the Spanish Armada, marriage, religion, culture and problems of the poor) and get students to delve into the significance of them.</i>
Religious Education	How do those laws help religious people make good choices?	<i>Students will then apply the laws/rules to scenarios and moral dilemmas to investigate how the laws might impact how religious people behave and act.</i>
German	German Unit 1 – Technology and Social Media German Unit 2 – School	<i>Students will finish the unit 1 topic on Technology with an end of unit assessment (listening and reading). They will then explore the second unit on School where they will be able to describe in detail their school experience as well as their daily routine.</i>
Physical Education	Students will be studying a Mastery Curriculum developing motor competence, rules strategies and tactics and healthy participation, building upon their Year 7 knowledge. All students will study: Basketball, Badminton and football on a 6 week cycle	<i>Basketball – Shooting, Passing, Dribbling and Attacking/Defensive tactics Badminton – Stance and Movement, Serve, Forehand/Backhand Football- Passing and receiving, Movement, Shooting and Defending</i>

Art	Core skills/formal elements of art	<i>In this half-term year 8 will be re-visit the formal elements of art. These are tone, texture, colour, shape and line. They will develop skills needed to underpin all of their future artwork.</i>
Drama	Pantomime	<i>Year eight then go on to learn about the development of pantomime, the theatrical conventions, performance techniques and script-based work. The second half of this project works towards a small group performance of a key scene from Cinderella.</i>
Music	Ukulele	<i>Throughout this unit students will explore where the ukulele came from and how to play the instrument, they will learn how to perform four chords using the correct posture and playing technique. Students will then learn the names of each string and how to tune the ukulele. Students will demonstrate playing chord progressions accurately and rhythmically (C, G, F and Am). Ensemble awareness will improve as students will learn to perform individually and in groups on the ukulele. Students will develop the skill of being able to read ukulele notation (both chord diagrams and tab)</i>
IT	8.2 Spreadsheets	<i>The spreadsheets unit encompasses understanding the parts of a spreadsheet, formatting tools, and setting data types. It includes knowledge of creating and applying basic formulas and functions for calculations and data manipulation. Additionally, it covers the use of tools for sorting, filtering, and conditional formatting to organise and analyse data, as well as the creation and interpretation of various types of charts (bar, line, pie, scatter) for effective data visualisation.</i>
Design and Technology	Graphics*	<u>Shadow box night light</u> Initial design ideas, Design Development, CAD, Making, Evaluating. <i>Pupils will use CAD skills to laser cut a design and solder their own dark activated circuit board.</i>
Design and Technology	Resistant Materials*	<u>Pencil box</u> Heath And Safety, Making, Evaluating <i>Pupils will learn basic wood joints to build their own pencil box using tenon saws, Disk sander, sandpaper and hammers.</i>
Design and Technology	Cooking and Nutrition*	<u>Keeping Food Safe Project / Farm to Fork Project</u> Heath And Safety, Seasonality / food choices, Making <i>Pupils will cook a range of dishes mixed though out the theory lessons, dishes.</i>

**Please note that this is on a rotation and students' study this at various times in the year, depending on which class they are in.*

Curriculum Directors

Faculties	Subjects	Curriculum Directors
Communications	English and Modern Foreign Languages	Mrs Spalding: kspalding@oiea.co.uk
Mathematics and IT	Geography, History and RE	Mrs Magill: amagill@oiea.co.uk Mr Cotton: ocotton@oiea.co.uk
Science and Sport	Science, Core PE	Mr Cross: scross@oiea.co.uk
Humanities	Mathematics and IT	Mr Wyke: pwvyke@oiea.co.uk
Creative	Art, DT, Food, Drama, Music	Mr Underhill: bunderhill@oiea.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr R Siddons

Assistant Principal – Quality of Education