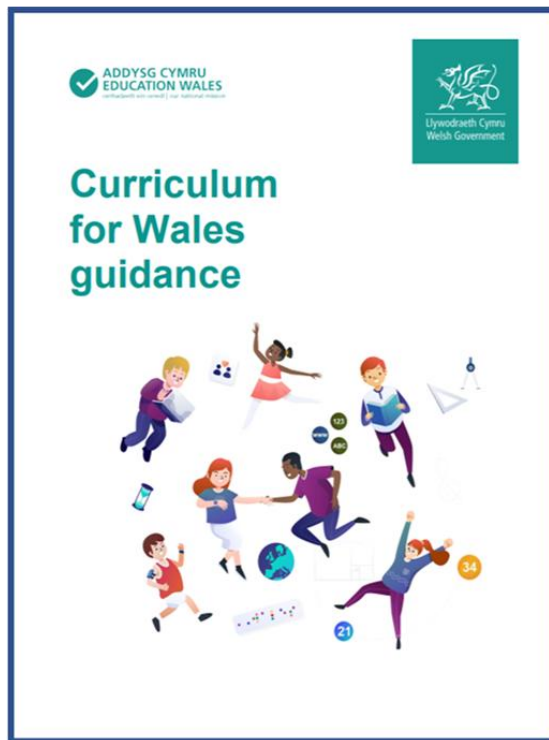
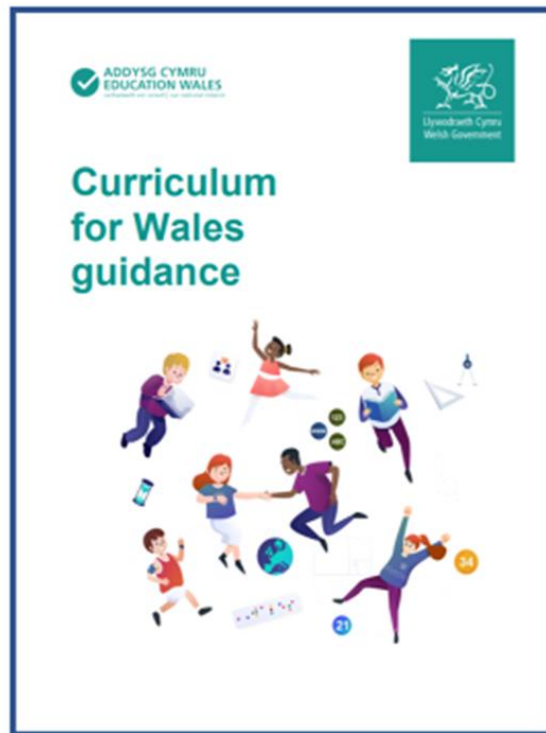


LOWER SCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW



YEAR 7 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW



Expressive Arts Curriculum Overview: Year 7

	MUSIC	ART	DRAMA
Concepts Explored	Duration Pitch Expression Structure Timbre Texture	Formal Elements Critical Analysis Creativity	Character Voice Genre Plot Movement Space Audience
Overview	Unit 1: Duration In this unit, pupils will develop skills in rhythm, vocal and instrumental performance, dynamics, and expressiveness, while exploring key concepts like pulse, pitch, and timbre through practical and reflective music activities. Unit 2: Pitch In this unit, pupils will explore pitch and melody through vocal and keyboard performance, learning about intervals, chords, articulation, and expressiveness, while developing good vocal technique, fluency, and accuracy in their music-making. Unit 3: Composing In this unit on composing, pupils will create original music, exploring timbre, rhythm, metre, pitch, and improvisation. They will develop and refine their individual compositions through re-drafting while gaining an understanding of different instrumental timbres.	Unit 1: The Formal Elements Pupils will be introduced to line, tone, shape, form, texture, colour and pattern. Mark making and observational drawings will progress towards a constructed colour pattern based on the Arts and Crafts style of William Morris or another world artist. Unit 2: Expressive Landscape Pupils will continue their learning of colour, colour theory and expressive mark making. They will explore how landscape artists have used these elements in their art work and how they too can make creative decisions leading towards an ambitious final outcome. Emphasis will be placed on colour theory, expressive landscape artists, the use of Procreate using iPads and apple pencils.	Unit 1: Communicating Without Words Pupils develop core performance skills through mime and physical theatre, learning to express meaning and emotion using only movement and facial expression. Unit 2: Performing Welsh Myths Using voice, movement, and puppetry, pupils bring Welsh myths to life, developing expressive storytelling and exploring cultural connections through performance. Unit 3: Voice, Space and Storytelling Pupils combine voice, movement, and staging to create engaging characters, exploring techniques like thought tracking and split stage to reveal mood and subtext. Unit 4: The Titanic Pupils explore the Titanic story using drama techniques to build empathy and atmosphere, applying physical and vocal skills to portray characters and historical context.

Health and Wellbeing Curriculum Overview: Year 7

	Health and Wellbeing	Physical Education Practical	Physical Education Theory
Concepts Explored	Community Resilience Organisation Stress Empathy Risk	Performance Participation Health Safety	Performance Participation Health Safety
Overview	Unit 1: Learning Together Pupils will learn to apply Cardiff High School's core values (respect, teamwork, personal growth) and follow school guidelines to contribute to a positive, inclusive community. Unit 2: Building Resilience Pupils will develop resilience by learning to cope with stress, manage setbacks, and use strategies like organisation, mindfulness, and goal-setting to improve mental well-being. Unit 3: Online Safety, Respect and Responsibility Pupils will examine the impact of bullying, online behaviour, privacy, and safety, while developing media literacy skills to cultivate empathy, kindness, and a deeper understanding of their role in supporting others and promoting a positive, inclusive environment. Unit 4: Understanding Addiction Pupils will develop an understanding of addiction and examine the addictive effects of nicotine products, along with the consequences of smoking, vaping, and alcohol use. They will also learn to identify illegal tobacco and vape products and explore strategies to resist peer pressure, supporting both their physical and emotional wellbeing.	In Year 7 PE, pupils will engage in a broad range of physical activities, developing their understanding of performance, participation, health, and safety. They will refine movement techniques, recognising how skill and decision-making impact success. Through teamwork and sportsmanship, they will explore the principles of effective participation. Pupils will learn about the physical, mental, and social benefits of exercise, including the role of fitness and nutrition in well-being. They will also understand how correct technique, warm-ups, and responsible gameplay ensure safety across all activities.	Unit 1: Health: This unit examines health's physical, mental, and social benefits. Pupils will explore the importance of exercise, goal-setting, and a growth mindset in building resilience and managing stress. They will also reflect on their motivations for exercise and emotional responses in sports and daily life. Unit 2: Diet and Nutrition: Pupils will explore the importance of making healthy lifestyle choices, understand the role of different food groups in a balanced diet, and learn about the impact of water, calories, and energy balance on overall health. Unit 3: Sport for All: Pupils will examine the inclusivity of sport and factors affecting participation, including disability, gender, sexual orientation, and ethnicity. They will evaluate how these barriers impact involvement and explore social media's influence on body image, learning strategies to manage related stress and access support.

Humanities Curriculum Overview: Year 7

	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY	RVE
Concepts Explored	Power Monarchy Conflict Interpretation Chronology	People Processes Sustainability Change Enquiry	Belief Morality Authority Identity Community Remembrance
Overview	Unit 1: Middle Ages: Gaining Power This unit explores power, monarchy, and conflict in 11th-century England, focusing on the struggle for the throne, how power shifts through battle, and how sources and chronology reveal historical events. Unit 2: Middle Ages: Consolidating Power This unit examines how medieval monarchs consolidate power through strategies like handling rebellions, using castles, taxation, and the feudal system, while also evaluating historical sources and the impact of social hierarchy on royal authority. Unit 3: Middle Ages: Conflict and Challenge Pupils explore power in the Middle Ages through monarchy, the Church, rebellion, and Parliament, while developing historical thinking, source analysis, and understanding of long-term societal change. Unit 4: Middle Ages: Stabilising Power This unit explores how power was restored after civil war, focusing on Richard III's downfall, Henry VII's rise, and how he secured the Tudor dynasty.	Unit 1: Understanding Wales: Its Geography, Population, and Employment This unit helps pupils understand the physical and human geography of Wales, focusing on how landscapes, settlements, and industries interact and evolve. It covers topics such as population diversity, historical industries like coal mining, and the regeneration of areas like Cardiff Bay. Unit 2: Understanding Wales: Its Weather, Climate, and Natural Environment This unit examines how Wales' temperate climate influences its ecosystems and human activities, focusing on weather, microclimates, and the impacts of climate change. Pupils will explore sustainability and environmental responsibility, understanding the balance between development and conservation. Unit 3: Landscapes of Wales: Rivers, Coasts, and Its Global Connections This unit investigates the physical geography of Wales, focusing on rivers, coasts, and agricultural areas. Pupils will study river processes, flooding, coastal landforms, and the role of National Parks, while exploring how Welsh landscapes connect to global processes and issues like farming and environmental management.	Unit 1: Belief and Belonging: Understanding Religion in a Diverse Society This unit explores how religion, values, and beliefs shape identity, communities, and society. Pupils will develop respect, empathy, and critical thinking by examining diversity, morality, and human rights, while learning about the six major world religions in Wales and their core beliefs. Unit 2: Exploring Hinduism: Beliefs, Practices, and Cultural Significance This unit introduces pupils to Hindu beliefs, worship, festivals, and key concepts such as karma and reincarnation. It fosters understanding and respect by exploring the cultural and spiritual significance of Hinduism, and how its practices and traditions shape identity and community. Unit 3: Exploring Judaism: Beliefs and Practices This unit explores the key beliefs, practices, and traditions of Judaism, including the Torah, Shabbat, Kosher laws, and festivals like Pesach, to deepen understanding of Jewish faith and identity.

Languages, Literacy and Communication Curriculum Overview: Year 7

	English		Welsh	French
Concepts Explored	Metaphor Story Argument	Pattern Grammar Context	The Welsh Language Welsh Culture	Meaning Spelling Sound
Overview	Unit 1: Legends, Myths and Classics: Pupils will explore legends, myths, and classical narratives, analysing their themes, structures, and characterisation. They will examine, and have opportunities to use in their own fiction and non-fiction writing, literary techniques such as metaphor, symbolism and repetition. They will develop skills in inference and deduction, explanation and analysis. They will also improve their understanding of basic accuracy and sentence construction for effect. Unit 2: Rhetoric and The Oral Tradition: Pupils will explore rhetoric and the oral tradition through Aristotle, Greek theatre, and epic poetry, focusing on themes, allegory, and characterisation. They will develop analytical and persuasive skills by studying rhetorical techniques, debating historical relevance, and constructing well-supported arguments using thesis statements and embedded evidence. Unit 3: Fairy Tales and Introduction to Poetry: Pupils will develop their understanding of story through the concepts of subversion, pastiche and parody, and use figurative language purposefully to create their own poems and subverted fairy tales. They will understand how writers use linguistic and literary patterns in both poetry and prose for effect.		Unit 1: Ysgol: Pupils will learn to use opinion phrases with reasons, describe people using physical and personality traits, and work with the general present tense across different pronouns. They will also explore negative opinions and the conditional tense (e.g., "hoffwn i") in school contexts Unit 2: Hobiau: Pupils will consolidate basic patterns, apply them to different contexts, and expand vocabulary for hobbies and activities. They will develop adjectives with intensifiers, create questions in the present tense, and explore past and conditional tenses. Additionally, they will deepen their understanding of past tense forms, infinitives, and third-person past singular verbs. Unit 3: Diwylliant Cymaraeg a Hanes: Unit 3 focuses on Welsh culture and history, including events like the Aberfan disaster, Welsh mythology, and bilingualism. Pupils will explore Welsh literature, including poetry and novels, and learn about Welsh place names and literary traditions.	Unit 1: Pupils will learn to greet others, introduce themselves, state their daily routines and timings. Pupils will learn numbers 1-31 and months of the year to create simple conversations about birthdays. Emphasis is placed on accurate pronunciation and spelling, key vocabulary and using singular and plural nouns. Pupils will also practise asking and answering questions about how they feel and use simple connectives to link their ideas. Unit 2: Pupils will learn how to use adjectives to describe masculine nouns, using colours, and using present tense verbs to talk about preferences and activities. They will also learn to ask simple questions, express their age, and extend their use of time phrases. Additionally, pupils will strengthen their reading skills by learning how to tackle longer texts and work out new words from context, start to learn the elementary skills needed to translate effectively, and will apply pronunciation skills to new words. Unit 3: Pupils will revisit present tense verbs and learn the verb 1 + verb 2 construction, using it to express opinions and future intentions. They will also practise asking questions, deepen their understanding of noun genders, and enhance their reading and speaking skills. Pupils will be encouraged to become more independent by learning to use an online dictionary, and connecting ideas in speech.

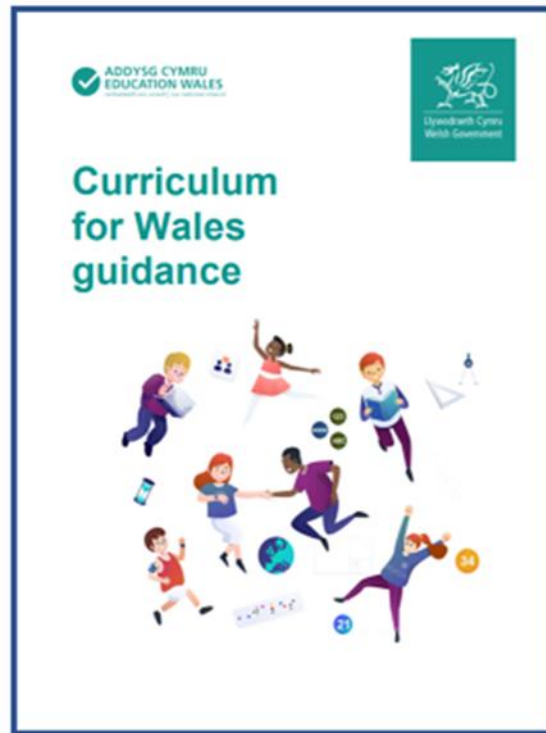
Mathematics and Numeracy Curriculum Overview: Year 7

	Maths
Concepts Explored	Number Geometry Fractions Statistics Algebra These concepts will all be taught through the 5 mathematical proficiencies
Overview	Unit 1: Number In the 'Number' unit, pupils will consolidate their understanding of numbers, develop 'number sense' through comparison and estimation, and explore methods for performing operations with integers and decimals, including bar modelling. They will also learn about negative numbers, square, cube, and prime numbers, and practice using the order of operations. Additionally, pupils will improve their time-telling and calculator skills for practical applications. Unit 2: Geometry In the 'Geometry' unit, pupils will explore metric units for length, mass, and capacity, learning to convert between them. They will classify 2D shapes, calculate perimeter and area, and accurately measure and draw angles. Pupils will calculate unknown angles on lines, around points, and within triangles and quadrilaterals, and will also learn to plot and identify coordinates on a grid. Unit 3: Fractions In the 'Fractions' unit, pupils will learn to simplify and find equivalent fractions, compare and order fractions, and calculate fractions of amounts. They will explore conversions between fractions, decimals, and percentages, and learn to calculate percentages, including increases and decreases. Pupils will also develop skills in adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions, including working with different denominators and whole numbers. Unit 4: Statistics In the 'Statistics' unit, pupils will learn how to calculate the mean, median, mode, and range from sets of data and understand what these measures reveal about the data. They will explore the impact of extreme values and compare data using averages and range. Pupils will also learn to create and test hypotheses, understand different types of data, and present data using tally charts, pictograms, bar charts, and pie charts. They will develop skills in interpreting and comparing data from these visual representations. Unit 5: Algebra In the 'Algebra' unit, pupils will learn to use letters to represent unknown values and understand basic algebraic notation. They will explore the concepts of variables, terms, and expressions, and learn how to form expressions for worded problems. Pupils will practice substituting values into expressions, simplifying expressions by collecting like terms, and performing operations with indices. They will also learn how to expand single brackets and factorise expressions into a single bracket.

Science and Technology Curriculum Overview: Year 7

	SCIENCE	DIGITAL AND COMPUTING	DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
Concepts Explored	Units of Life Energy Particles Forces Materials Interactions of Life	Programming Digital citizenship Software Data Handling	Creativity Materials Manufacturing Design Communication Methods Sustainability
Overview	Unit 1: Think Like a Scientist: Pupils develop scientific skills, focusing on experimentation, lab safety, and data presentation through historical discoveries. Unit 2: Units of Life: Pupils study cell structures, functions, and human reproduction, including fertilisation, puberty, and specialised cells. Unit 3: Energy: Pupils explore energy stores, transfer pathways, efficiency, and how to represent energy changes using diagrams. Unit 4: Particles: Pupils learn about the particle model, state changes, separation techniques, and solubility. Unit 5: Forces: Pupils investigate contact and non-contact forces, their effects on motion, and represent forces in diagrams. Unit 6: Materials: Pupils examine material properties, sustainability, environmental impact, and the importance of recycling Unit 7: Interactions of Life: Pupils study organism classification, food chains, and energy transfer, exploring predator-prey relationships and population dynamics.	Unit 1: Data Handling: Pupils will learn to create, use, and manipulate spreadsheets, exploring formulas, functions, and cell references. They will understand the real-world applications of spreadsheets, particularly in Welsh businesses, and practice presenting data graphically. Unit 2: Digital Citizenship and Skills: Pupils will understand internet safety, including risks like cyberbullying and phishing. They will create posters and infographics to raise awareness of e-safety. Unit 3: Logo Programming: Pupils will give commands to create shapes and patterns using Logo programming. They will explore loops, procedures, variables, and colour representation through practical coding activities. Unit 4: Scratch Programming: Pupils will design and code games, learning programming concepts like variables, loops, and if statements. They will create sprites, interactive backgrounds, and add features like scoring and animations to enhance gameplay.	Unit 1: Designing for Users In this unit, pupils will design and manufacture a phone holder tailored to a specific user's needs. They will explore the properties of acrylic, practise line bending, and apply iterative design principles to refine their ideas. Using technical drawings, CAD modelling, and digital preparation for laser cutting, pupils will communicate their designs clearly while considering sustainability. The unit concludes with a prototype and an evaluation that highlights design as a continuous process. Unit 2: Material Matters: Tools, Techniques, and Making In this unit, pupils will learn to use key workshop tools safely while exploring the properties and manipulation of five different materials. They will apply this knowledge, alongside the decorative technique of scruffiti, to design and create a personalised keyring, developing both practical skills and an understanding of how material choice impacts design.

YEAR 8 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW



Expressive Arts Curriculum Overview: Year 8

	MUSIC	ART
Concepts Explored	Core: Duration / Pitch Supporting: Expression / Structure/ Timbre/ Texture / Articulation	FORMAL ELEMENTS CRITICAL ANALYSIS CREATIVITY
Overview	Unit: 1 Arriba: Rhythm Metre and Tempo in the music of Latin America: This unit develops Rhythm Metre & Tempo. Pupils will explore the features of Latin American Music by listening and playing. The main activity of the unit will be to compose a Ternary Form Melodic Composition which illustrates the musical traits of Latin American Music. Rhythms are integral to melody. The unit will also explore the wider cultural and creative contexts of Carnival Music and the Rio Carnivals. Unit 2: Slojazz Performance Unit: This unit focuses on pitch, melody, scales, chords, and harmony through whole-class ensemble performance. Pupils develop their understanding of melodic and harmonic relationships while building ensemble skills such as timing, coordination, and musical expression Unit: 3 DANUEL: This unit is designed to draw together musical skills and knowledge from the two previous units and to teach learners how to collaborate effectively as creative musicians. Pupils will perform and compose on the theme of the spiritual Danuel and will then develop their team-work skills by piecing together group arrangements for final performance in a class concert. There will be a specific focus on Ensemble skills and on supporting concepts: Structure, Texture and Timbre.	Unit 1: Ceramics – Natural Forms Pupils explore the formal elements of line, tone, and form through observational drawing and ceramic work inspired by artists like Kate Malone. They design and construct decorative clay vessels based on natural forms (e.g. fruit and vegetables), learning techniques such as pinch pots and slabbing. Pupils also use digital tools like Procreate to create posters promoting their work, while developing skills in composition, texture, and self-evaluation. Unit 2: Printmaking & Digital Art: Endangered Animals This unit combines ethical awareness with creative expression. Pupils research endangered species and use printmaking techniques, such as monoprinting, reduction printing, and collagraphy, to create layered, expressive artworks. Inspired by artists like Dean Russo, they explore how colour, pattern, and typography can communicate powerful messages. Final outcomes include a digital poster created in Procreate to raise awareness of their chosen animal.

Health and Wellbeing Curriculum Overview: Year 8

	Health and Wellbeing	Food and Nutrition	Physical Education Practical	Physical Education Theory
Concepts Explored	Community Resilience Organisation Stress Empathy Risk Ambition Respect	Nutrition Independence Sustainability Culture	Performance Participation Health Safety	Performance Participation Health Safety
Overview	Unit 1: Careers and Future Planning: Pupils begin to explore their strengths and interests, understand the difference between jobs and careers, and start thinking about their future through practical goal-setting activities. Unit 2: Understanding and Celebrating Diversity: Pupils learn to value individual differences, recognise the impact of discrimination, and understand how their school promotes inclusion and equality. Unit 3: Connected and Protected: Pupils explore healthy and unhealthy relationship behaviours, learn to set boundaries, and critically assess media influences. They also examine the legal and emotional consequences of online actions. Unit 4: Respectful Relationships: The unit equips learners with positive relationship skills to recognise unhealthy behaviours, seek appropriate support, and build safe, respectful connections with others.	Food for Life: Skills, Health & Well-being: In this unit, pupils explore the essential role food plays in our lives. From preparing nutritious meals to understanding how food choices affect our health, well-being, and the world around us. Through hands-on cooking lessons, pupils develop practical kitchen skills, learn about nutrition and food safety, and reflect on the social, cultural, and environmental impact of what we eat. By the end of the unit, pupils will be confident in preparing simple dishes, evaluating their outcomes, and making informed, healthy, and sustainable food choices.	Netball: Pupils refine footwork, dodging, and shooting, with a focus on tactical play in both attack and defence. Hockey: Builds on core skills like passing and dribbling, introducing tackling, positioning, and set plays. Football: Emphasises ball control, space awareness, and tactical decision-making in both attack and defence. Dance: Pupils explore expressive movement and group choreography using techniques like canon and mirroring. Basketball: Focus on passing, dribbling, and shooting under pressure, with development of team strategies. Athletics: Pupils improve running, jumping, and throwing techniques, learning event-specific skills like hurdles and baton exchange.	Unit 1: Exploring Health: Physical, Mental, and Social Wellbeing: Pupils explore how physical activity supports all aspects of health. They learn about the physical and mental benefits of exercise, practise coping strategies, and reflect on body image and self-perception, building emotional literacy and confidence. Unit 2: Health Through Diet and Lifestyle: Pupils examine how nutrition, sleep, and lifestyle choices affect health and performance. They learn about macronutrients, energy balance, and hydration, applying this knowledge to real-life scenarios and developing informed decision-making skills. Unit 3: Sport for All: Promoting Equality and Wellbeing: Pupils investigate how identity and inclusion affect access to sport. They explore barriers faced by underrepresented groups and learn how to promote equality through empathy, allyship, and inclusive practices.

Humanities Curriculum Overview: Year 8

	HISTORY		GEOGRAPHY	RVE
Concepts Explored	Power Monarchy Change Conflict	Challenge Colonisation & Empire Industrial Change Rights	People Processes Sustainability Change Enquiry	Belief Morality Authority Identity Community Remembrance
Overview	Unit 1: The Tudors and the Reformation Pupils explore how Tudor monarchs reshaped religious and political power, focusing on the Reformation and figures like Mary I. They examine religious conflict, shifts in authority, and how these changes affected people’s rights and beliefs. Unit 2: Empire, Colonisation, and Trade This unit looks at how empires expanded through trade, exploration, and colonisation. Pupils study global connections, including Britain’s empire in India, and assess the wide-ranging impacts of imperialism. Unit 3: The Industrial Revolution Pupils investigate how industrialisation transformed Britain, especially cities like Cardiff. They explore social inequality, protest movements, and how industrial change affected power, rights, and everyday life.	Unit 1: Global Ecosystems and the Tropical Rainforest Pupils study the tropical rainforest’s climate, biodiversity, and structure. They explore deforestation, compare it to UK woodlands, and consider sustainable solutions and globalisation links. Unit 2: Globalisation and Its Impacts Pupils examine how globalisation connects countries and affects people and environments. They explore issues like sweatshops and deforestation, and assess solutions like fair trade. Unit 3: Population and Migration This unit looks at population patterns and migration, focusing on NICs like Brazil. Pupils explore causes, impacts, and policies, developing empathy through real-world case studies. Unit 4: Natural Hazards and Their Management Pupils learn about earthquakes and hurricanes, their causes and effects, and how countries respond. They compare impacts in richer and poorer nations and assess sustainable management.	Unit 1: Christianity in Wales Today: Pupils explore Christian beliefs, teachings, and practices, including the life of Jesus, the Bible, and key rituals like Baptism. They examine how Christian values shape identity, morality, and community life, particularly in the Welsh context. Unit 2: Sikhism in Wales Today: This unit introduces Sikh beliefs such as equality, service, and the teachings of the Gurus. Pupils learn about the Five Ks, the Guru Granth Sahib, and Sikh festivals, exploring how these shape identity, community, and moral action. Unit 3: Islam in Wales Today: Pupils study core Islamic beliefs, including Tawhid, the Qur’an, and the Five Pillars. They explore how these guide daily life, worship, and community, and reflect on the moral and spiritual significance of practices like prayer, fasting, and charity.	

Languages, Literacy and Communication Curriculum Overview: Year 8

	English	Welsh	French
Concepts Explored	Metaphor Story Argument Pattern Grammar Context	The Welsh Language Welsh Culture	Meaning Spelling Sound
Overview	Unit 1: Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet: Pupils will study Romeo and Juliet as a Renaissance tragedy, exploring its themes, characters, and tragic conventions within the Elizabethan context. They will analyse Shakespeare's use of structure and pattern in drama and poetry, including his sonnets, to deepen their understanding of storytelling techniques. Unit 2: The Romantics: Pupils will explore key themes and techniques in Romantic poetry, focusing on how authorial intent shapes meaning. They will analyse and compare texts, examining devices like extended metaphor and allusion, and apply these techniques in their own creative writing. Unit 3: Gothic Literature: Pupils will investigate how Gothic writers use language and structure to build tension and suspense. They will study literary devices such as allusion and metonymy, while also refining their use of punctuation and sentence construction in both analytical and creative writing.	Unit 1: Gwyliau (Holidays): Pupils develop fluency in the past and imperfect tenses, learning to describe holiday experiences in detail. They practise forming questions, using time phrases, and giving extended opinions, building on Year 7 foundations. Unit 2: Teulu (Family): This unit reinforces sentence patterns and introduces vocabulary related to family. Pupils refine their use of mutations, masculine/feminine forms, and numbers, while describing people using a range of tenses and expressions, including the third person. Unit 3: Trefn Ddyddiol (Daily Routine): Pupils consolidate time phrases and past tense structures while being introduced to the future and continuous present tenses. They apply familiar patterns to everyday contexts, using adverbs and time markers to enhance fluency. Unit 4: Diwylliant Cymraeg (Welsh Culture): Pupils explore Welsh identity through history, literature, and performance. They research events like Patagonia and Capel Celyn, study figures such as Eileen Beasley, and engage with poetry, songs, and novels to deepen cultural understanding and language skills.	Unit 1: Au collège : This unit introduces and builds on vocabulary related to school subjects, enabling pupils to express and justify their opinions using familiar and new adjectives. It reinforces present tense verb forms, particularly -er verbs like aimer and détester, and introduces new verbs relevant to school life. Pupils also learn to talk about food at the canteen using partitive articles and develop fluency through structured speaking and writing, supported by phonics, time phrases, and connectives. Unit 2: Là où j'habite: Pupils learn to say where they and others live using the verb habiter with appropriate prepositions and country/town names. The unit expands their ability to express opinions about their local area and future intentions using verb + infinitive structures. It also introduces vocabulary for places in town, the use of où to extend sentences, and negative constructions. Listening and reading strategies are developed through scaffolded tasks that build confidence in processing unfamiliar language. Unit 3: La famille et l'amitié : This unit focuses on describing family members and friends using gendered articles, possessive pronouns, and a wide range of adjectives. Pupils learn to compare people using comparative structures and indirect object pronouns. The unit strengthens grammatical accuracy and fluency through structured production, spontaneous speaking, and translation tasks. Listening and reading skills are deepened through narrow input tasks, helping pupils decode meaning and build resilience with unfamiliar language.

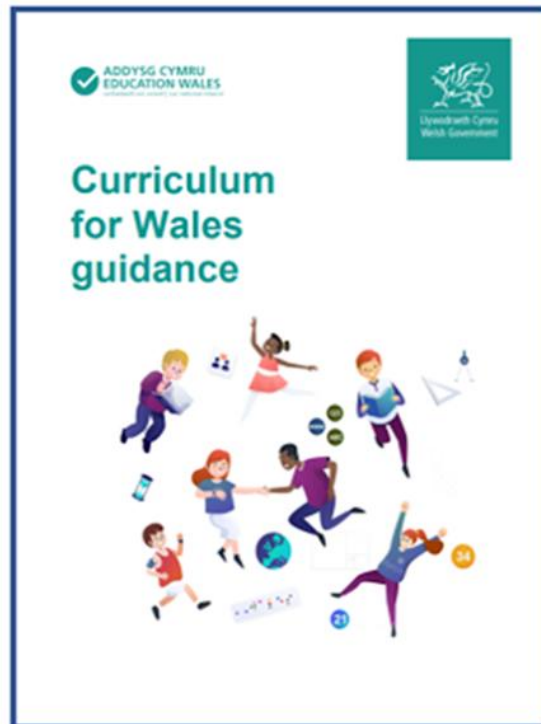
Mathematics and Numeracy Curriculum Overview: Year 8

	Maths
Concepts Explored	Number Geometry Fractions Statistics Algebra These concepts will all be taught through the 5 mathematical proficiencies
Overview	Unit 1: Number: Pupils consolidate key number skills, including factors, multiples, primes, and negative numbers. They learn to calculate HCF and LCM using listing and Venn diagrams, and explore prime factorisation. The unit also covers rounding to significant figures, estimation, and operations with decimals. Pupils apply number sense to check calculations and solve problems involving time zones. This unit builds fluency and prepares pupils for algebraic reasoning and real-world numerical applications. Unit 2: Geometry: This unit develops pupils' understanding of 2D and 3D shapes. They calculate the area and circumference of circles, explore angle relationships on parallel lines, and learn to measure and draw bearings. Pupils identify and describe 3D shapes, calculate surface area and volume, and convert between metric and imperial units. They also work with nets and properties of prisms. The unit strengthens spatial reasoning and links geometry to real-life contexts like navigation and design. Unit 3: Fractions, Decimals, Percentages & Ratio: Pupils deepen their understanding of fractions, decimals, and percentages, learning to convert between forms and perform all four operations, including with mixed numbers. They calculate percentage change, including reverse percentages, and solve ratio and proportion problems using bar modelling. The unit emphasises logical reasoning and efficient methods, helping pupils apply these skills to real-world problems such as scaling, sharing quantities, and financial calculations. Unit 4: Statistics: Pupils learn to collect, present, and interpret data using pie charts, scatter graphs, and conversion graphs. They explore correlation, averages from frequency tables, and appropriate data presentation methods. The unit builds analytical and critical thinking skills, enabling pupils to draw conclusions, make predictions, and evaluate data reliability. These skills are essential for informed decision-making and are applied across subjects like science and geography. Unit 5: Algebra: Pupils build on their prior algebra knowledge by expanding and factorising expressions, solving linear equations, and substituting into formulae. They use digital tools - such as Google Sheets - to explore patterns and linear sequences, supporting their understanding of how to find nth terms. Pupils also plot straight-line graphs from equations and identify gradients and y-intercepts. This unit develops abstract reasoning and problem-solving skills, links algebra to real-world contexts, and prepares pupils for more advanced algebraic concepts in Year 9.

Science and Technology Curriculum Overview: Year 8

	SCIENCE	DIGITAL AND COMPUTING	DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
Concepts Explored	Space Variety of Life Elements & Compounds Electricity Interactions of Life Chemical Reactions Magnetism Units of Life	Programming Digital citizenship & skills Using Software Data Handling	Iterative Design Materials Manufacturing Design Communication Sustainability
Overview	Unit 1: Space: Pupils learn about the Solar System, gravity, and how Earth's movements cause days, years, seasons, and Moon phases. Unit 2: Variety of Life: Focus on variation, inheritance, and adaptations that help organisms survive. Unit 3: Elements and Compounds: Introduction to atoms, elements, and compounds, including naming and testing simple substances. Unit 4: Electricity: Covers how circuits work, including current, conductors, and safety features like fuses. Unit 5: Interactions of Life: Explores food chains, food webs, and how ecosystems are affected by human activity. Unit 6: Chemical Reactions: Pupils identify chemical changes, write word equations, and understand combustion. Unit 7: Magnetism: Covers magnetic materials, fields, and how electromagnets are used and strengthened. Unit 8: Units of Life: Focus on organ systems in humans and plants, healthy diets, and life processes like digestion and respiration.	Unit 1: Programming: Pupils move from block-based coding (like Scratch) to text-based programming using Python. They learn to use variables, loops, and conditional statements, and apply these skills to real-world projects using Micro:bits. By the end of the unit, they can write and debug structured code that interacts with hardware. Unit 2: Digital Citizenship & Skills: This unit deepens pupils' understanding of online safety and digital responsibility. They explore topics like phishing, cyberbullying, and data protection, and learn how to use tools like two-factor authentication. Pupils also create digital content (e.g. posters or infographics) to promote safe and ethical online behaviour. Unit 3: Using Software: Pupils enhance their skills in creative and productivity software, using tools like Adobe Creative Cloud and Google Suite. They apply design principles (e.g. layout, typography, colour theory) to create professional-quality digital content such as posters, animations, and website mock-ups. Unit 4: Data Handling: Pupils build on their spreadsheet skills to manage and analyse larger datasets. They use advanced functions like IF statements and VLOOKUP, apply conditional formatting, and create charts and dashboards. The unit also introduces data ethics, including privacy and bias in data use.	Unit 1: Material Matters: Tools, Techniques & Making: In this unit, pupils design and make a lap joint picture frame with a layered card insert to create a 3D visual effect. They develop practical skills in measuring, cutting, joining, and finishing wood, while learning about material properties, sustainability, and presentation techniques. Unit 2: Designing for Users: In this unit, pupils explore user-centred design by investigating existing products through reverse engineering and designing their own layered acoustic amplifier. They develop CAD skills using 2D Design, apply manufacturing techniques using hand tools, and assemble their final product using MDF, dowel joints, and painted finishes.

YEAR 9 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW



Expressive Arts Curriculum Overview: Year 9

	MUSIC	ART
Concepts Explored	Core: Duration / Pitch Supporting: Expression / Structure/ Timbre/ Texture / Articulation	Formal Elements Critical Analysis Creativity
Overview	Unit 1: Syncopation in music - The Calypso This unit fuses work on Rhythm Metre & Tempo along with a more advanced understanding of pitch and melody. Pupils will explore the features of Calypso Music by listening and playing. The main activity of the unit will be to perform an increasingly sophisticated solo performance built around the concept of syncopated rhythm. Syncopation is integral to interesting rhythm. Unit 2: Structure in Music The 12 Bar Blues During this unit the pupils will learn about the concept of structure which brings organisation to musical ideas. We will play the 12 bar blues and the class will learn how harmony informs the structure of the piece. Blues music and it's socio-cultural context is clear here also. Unit 3 Multi Track Recording through Blues Composition This unit allows students to create their own blues melody. The unit will also enable pupils to begin using DAW [Digital Audio Workstations] to create their own music focusing on Charanga YuStudio and GarageBand.	Unit 1: Fantastic Food: Pupils' knowledge of 3D work will be developed further with the creation of food sculptures made from recycled materials. Observational drawings of food items, focusing on the formal elements will lead onto imaginative designs for a food sculpture decorated with recycled materials in the style of Patianne Stevenson or related food sculptor. Digital skills will be extended with pupils using their learning log to document the production of the sculpture, final outcome and self-evaluation. Unit 2: Representation of Conflict in Art: Pupils will deepen their understanding of artistic methods by analysing key anti-war works such as Picasso's Guernica, exploring its symbolism and the artist's role as observer and creator. They will broaden this study through contemporary examples like Banksy's street art, focusing on juxtaposition and messaging. Individual research will combine 'resolution' statements with Banksy-style stencilling to produce an A3 poster. Workshop lessons will develop skills in print lettering, stencilling, and image collage, with emphasis on visual impact and audience.

Health and Wellbeing Curriculum Overview: Year 9

	Health and Wellbeing	Physical Education Practical	Physical Education Theory
Concepts Explored	Agency Identity Decision-making Risk Influence Belonging Rights Wellbeing	Performance Participation Health Safety	Performance Participation Health Safety
Overview	Unit 1: Careers and Future Planning: Pupils explore their strengths, interests, and aspirations to help them make confident GCSE option choices and understand a range of future pathways, including academic, vocational, and apprenticeship routes. Unit 2: Substances and Risk: Pupils learn about the health, legal, and social risks linked to substance use, building the knowledge and skills needed to make safe choices, resist pressure, and seek help when needed. Unit 3: From Division to Diversity: Pupils examine belonging, inclusion, and shared values, learning how discrimination and extremism develop, how people are influenced online, and how human rights and democratic action can challenge injustice. Unit 4: Reproductive Health and Safety: Pupils develop an understanding of puberty, fertility, pregnancy, and reproductive health, with a focus on consent, informed decision-making, and accessing appropriate support.	Rugby: Refine passing, evasive and contact skills with greater complexity, applying them through decision-making in games. Netball: Develop footwork, passing, dodging and shooting, applying attacking and defensive principles in gameplay. Football: Improve receiving and possession skills, with tactical decision-making in attack and defence. Dance: Explore expressive movement and group choreography using techniques such as canon and mirroring. Basketball: Develop passing, advanced dribbling, shooting and lay-ups under pressure, alongside team strategies like screens and defence. Parkour: Build jumping, landing, rolling and vaulting skills, combining them into routines across equipment. Dodgeball: Develop throwing, evasion and catching skills in competitive games with increased decision-making. Athletics: Improve running, jumping and throwing, including event-specific skills like hurdles and baton exchange. HWB Practical: Explore training methods to improve fitness and health, linking practice to theory. Cricket: Develop bowling, batting and fielding, applying strategies to score runs and take wickets. Welsh Baseball: Develop bowling, batting and fielding, applying strategies to score runs and get opponents out.	Unit 1: Exploring Health: Physical, Mental, and Social Wellbeing: Pupils develop knowledge of influences that can negatively fact their health including overtraining, steroid abuse and affects of stress on the brain. Unit 2: Health Through Diet and Lifestyle: Pupils develop how the media can positively and negatively influence their diet choices. Unit 3: Sport for All: Promoting Equality and Wellbeing: Pupils investigate a question related to target groups and participation in sport, discussing the barriers that affect these groups and the strategies developed to enhance participation.

Humanities Curriculum Overview: Year 9

	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY	RVE
Concepts Explored	Colonisation Slavery Rights War Alliance	People Processes Sustainability Change Enquiry	Belief Morality Authority Identity Community Remembrance
Overview	Unit 1: The Transatlantic Slave Trade: Power, Rights, and Resistance This unit examines the transatlantic slave trade, its links to colonisation and human rights denial. Pupils explore the experiences of enslaved people, resistance and abolition, and the economic impact of slavery, connecting these to themes of power, rights, and change. Unit 2: Global Conflict: The First World War and Its Consequences This unit examines the causes, experiences, and consequences of World War I, exploring global alliances, trench warfare, propaganda, and the Treaty of Versailles to understand how the conflict reshaped societies and international relations.	Unit 1: Africa - An Introduction Pupils explore Africa's geographical diversity, including climate zones, biomes, and physical and human features. They challenge stereotypes and examine the impact of colonisation through case studies of Ghana and Cairo. Unit 2: Global Cities and Urbanisation in Africa: This unit investigates urban growth in African megacities like Lagos and Nairobi. Pupils study migration, urban challenges, and the role of global cities in development and sustainability. Unit 3: Development, Health, and Human Impact Pupils examine how colonisation and diseases like malaria and HIV/AIDS affect development. They use data to explore health-related challenges and evaluate strategies for progress. Unit 4: Weather, Tourism, and Conservation in Africa This unit looks at the effects of extreme weather events and the role of tourism in development. Pupils study ecotourism and conservation, focusing on sustainability and resilience.	Unit 1: Ethics in Action: Pupils explore ethical decision-making and justice through case studies like Nicky Cruz and Gee Walker, and debates on forgiveness, gang culture, and the death penalty. Unit 2: Understanding the Holocaust: History, Ethics, and Remembrance: This unit examines the Holocaust's history and ethical impact, focusing on dehumanisation, prejudice, and resilience through survivor testimony and discussions on propaganda and remembrance. Unit 3: Exploring Buddhism: Pupils study Buddhism's origins, beliefs, and practices, including the life of the Buddha, the Four Noble Truths, karma, reincarnation, and the Bhavachakra. Unit 4: Exploring Humanism - A Secular Perspective on Life and Ethics: This unit introduces Humanist values and ethics, focusing on reason, empathy, and personal responsibility. Pupils explore how Humanists seek meaning and happiness without religion.

Languages, Literacy and Communication Curriculum Overview: Year 9

	English	Welsh	French
Concepts Explored	Metaphor Story Argument Pattern Grammar Context	The Welsh Language Welsh Culture	Meaning Spelling Sound
Overview	Unit 1: Victorian Literature and Charles Dickens: Pupils will study a range of extracts from Charles Dickens' literature, exploring themes of poverty, class and industry through setting and characterisation. They will study the texts within the context of Victorian England to understand Dickens' intentions. They will learn new terminology including allegory and political diatribe. They will use this knowledge to write transactionally, and to debate the importance of context when understanding a text. Unit 2: Consequences of Conflict: Pupils will study a range of important poems from WWI, exploring pattern and figurative language as well as making connections between texts and contexts. They will use what they have learnt to write descriptively about a WWI setting. Unit 3: The Crossing: Pupils will study 'The Crossing' by Manjeet Mann. This is the core text for Unit 2 Belonging Task A and Task B at GCSE. In their study of the novel, they will interrogate storytelling (narrative structure, plot and characterisation), pattern (verse literature) and context (Eritrea and the refugee crisis). This study will culminate in a mock non-examination assessment testing reading skills, which prepares students for the academic rigour and expectations of GCSE.	Unit 1: Teledu (Television): Pupils develop fluency in the past, present, conditional and imperfect tenses, learning to describe programmes in detail. They practise forming questions, using time phrases, and giving extended opinions, building on Year 7/8 foundations. We shall be updating this to include more technology in Sept e.g. TikTok, etc as they hardly watch a tv anymore Unit 2: Chwaraeon (Sport): This unit reinforces sentence patterns and introduces vocabulary related to sport. Pupils refine their use of tenses, descriptions and communication skills. Unit 3: Llenyddiaeth (Literature): Pupils focus on the content of the 4 pieces of literature needed for GCSE - 2 short stories and 2 poems. They have a short whistlestop tour of all 4 - returning to them in more detail in year 11 where we will need to focus on style and themes as well. Unit 4: Diwylliant Cymraeg (Welsh Culture): Pupils explore Welsh identity through history and literature. They research people like Sage Todz, Laura Mcallister, Aleicia Scott, Dafydd Iwan, Tanni Grey Thompson, Y Wal Goch etc	Unit 1: Le sport et la santé This unit develops vocabulary on sports and fitness, enabling pupils to express and justify opinions using a range of adjectives and extended structures. It reinforces present tense patterns and introduces new verbs linked to sports. Reading and listening skills are developed through tasks that require decoding unfamiliar language using phonics knowledge, sentence patterns, and emerging metacognitive listening strategies. Unit 2: La famille et l'amitié This unit focuses on describing family and friends using gendered articles, possessive adjectives, and varied adjectival structures. Pupils learn comparative structures and indirect object pronouns. Accuracy and fluency are strengthened through speaking, writing, and translation, while reading and listening tasks build resilience and support decoding of unfamiliar language. Unit 3: Les vacances This unit focuses on describing a past holiday using regular and irregular verbs in the perfect tense. Pupils describe travel, activities, and accommodation, combining this with prior knowledge (articles, adjectives, time phrases, connectives). Accuracy and fluency are developed through speaking and extended writing, while reading and listening tasks build inference skills and strategies for understanding unfamiliar language.

Mathematics and Numeracy Curriculum Overview: Year 9

	Maths
Concepts Explored Number Geometry Fractions Statistics Algebra	These concepts will all be taught through the 5 mathematical proficiencies
Overview	Unit 1: Number: Pupils consolidate key number skills, including multiplying and dividing by powers of 10 and decimals, HCF and LCM, percentage increase and decrease, ratio, and proportion. They learn and apply the laws of indices to simplify expressions and develop their understanding of standard form, including performing calculations using the four operations. Pupils also explore exchange rates, compound increase and decrease, and learn how to convert recurring decimals into fractions. Unit 2: Geometry: In this unit, pupils revisit the area of 2D shapes and the surface area and volume of prisms, before extending their knowledge to cylinders. They learn how to identify and prove congruent triangles and investigate the properties of similar shapes. Pupils apply their understanding of ratio to map scales and solve problems involving speed, distance, and time. Unit 3: Statistics: Pupils revisit the drawing and interpretation of scatter graphs and the calculation and interpretation of averages from grouped frequency tables. They learn how to calculate quartiles and the interquartile range before progressing to grouped frequency diagrams, frequency polygons, box-and-whisker plots, and cumulative frequency graphs. At the end of the unit, pupils use these statistical techniques to analyse and compare data on energy usage in two Cardiff schools. Unit 4: Probability: Pupils learn to describe events using the probability scale and calculate the theoretical probability of single and combined events using sample spaces and the addition and multiplication rules for mutually exclusive and independent events. They also explore the difference between theoretical probability and relative frequency. This unit develops analytical thinking and decision-making skills through the evaluation of risk, likelihood, and possible outcomes. Unit 5: Algebra: Algebra enables pupils to recognise patterns, solve problems, and develop abstract reasoning. In this unit, pupils build on their prior knowledge of substitution and simplifying expressions, including expanding single brackets and factorising by identifying the HCF. They learn how to expand double brackets and factorise monic quadratic expressions. Pupils consolidate their equation-solving skills and extend these to rearranging formulae. They also revisit linear sequences and progress to generating and finding the nth term of some quadratic sequences.

Science and Technology Curriculum Overview: Year 9

	SCIENCE	DIGITAL AND COMPUTING	DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
Concepts Explored	Chemical Reactions Interactions of Life Acids and Alkalis Units of Life Waves Reactivity	Programming Digital citizenship & skills Using Software Data Handling	Iterative Design Materials Manufacturing Design Communication Sustainability
Overview	Unit 1: Rates of Reaction: Pupils learn how temperature, concentration, surface area, and catalysts affect reaction speed. They explore particle collisions and use graphs and experiments to measure reaction rates. Unit 2: Interactions of Life: This unit examines how human actions like pollution and deforestation impact ecosystems. Pupils explore climate change, food chains, and sustainable solutions to environmental damage. Unit 3: Acids and Alkalis: Pupils classify substances by pH, investigate neutralisation, and explore acid rain. They link chemical reactions to environmental issues through practical experiments. Unit 4: Units of Life: Pupils study viruses, bacteria, and fungi, exploring their roles in health and disease. They learn how microbes spread and how immunity and vaccines protect against infection. Unit 5: Waves: Pupils explore sound and light waves, learning about vibration patterns, wave properties, and how waves interact with materials. They link wave behaviour to how we hear and see. Unit 6: Reactivity: Pupils investigate how metals react with oxygen, water, and acids. They build the reactivity series, study displacement and extraction, and explore corrosion and prevention methods.	Unit 1: Programming: In Year 9, pupils expand on their Python programming skills while exploring game development concepts using GameMaker. They refine their ability to write structured and efficient code, integrating logic, data structures, and algorithms to create interactive applications and games. Pupils also deepen their understanding of binary and how computers process information. Unit 2: Online Safety & Cyber Security: In Year 9, pupils develop a deeper awareness of cyber security threats, ethical considerations, and safe digital behaviours. They examine real-world case studies, learning how hacking, data breaches, and misinformation impact society. Unit 3: Advanced Multimedia & Cloud-Based Learning: Pupils develop advanced digital literacy skills by working with Google Classroom, Adobe Creative Cloud, and other professional-grade applications. They apply multimedia tools to create structured digital projects, improving efficiency, collaboration, and creativity in their work. Unit 4: Data Handling - Advanced Data Analysis & Binary Systems: In Year 9, pupils expand their data-handling proficiency, exploring binary systems, cyber security, and advanced spreadsheet techniques. They refine their ability to process, analyse, and interpret data, applying numerical reasoning and structured logic to digital environments.	Unit 1: Designing with Purpose: Understanding Form and Function: Pupils study the work of Sir James Dyson and recreate the Dyson Supersonic hairdryer using cardboard. They develop skills in scaled orthographic drawing, accurate measurement, and model construction, gaining insight into how design balances aesthetics and functionality. Unit 2: Designing Within Limits: Timber Storage Challenge: Pupils design and build a small timber storage product for a chosen user, working within the constraint of a fixed length of pine. They apply knowledge of material properties, woodworking joints, and sustainable design to produce a precise and purposeful outcome. Unit 3: Packaging with Purpose: Designing for a Target User: Pupils respond to a design brief by creating a chocolate box tailored to a specific market. They use CAD and laser cutting to produce a functional and attractive package, applying branding, decoration, and assembly techniques to meet user needs.