



Barnhill

COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Year 8 Curriculum Handbook

2024—2025

Contents:

- Page 3. Introduction
- Page 4. Year 8 Curriculum Overview
- Page 5. Art
- Page 6. Product Design
- Page 7. Food Technology
- Page 8. EAL
- Page 9. English
- Page 10. Geography
- Page 11. History
- Page 12. Computing
- Page 13. French
- Page 14. Spanish
- Page 15. Physical Education
- Page 16. Drama
- Page 17. Maths
- Page 18. Music
- Page 19. Science
- Page 20. Social Sciences

Dear Parent/Carer.

We have produced this guide to support you with the education of your son/daughter at Barnhill. We hope that you will use the information to ask questions of your child and explore the topics that they are studying this year.

We have worked tremendously hard at Barnhill for the last 3 years to shape an ambitious and exciting curriculum for our pupils. We have sequenced the learning so that every subject starts with core basic knowledge and thinking and then goes on to explore the *best of what has been thought and said in our world*.

We hope you find the information useful. Please do contact the school with any questions you have.

Yours faithfully,

Ms K Winter

Deputy Headteacher Curriculum

Structure:

Year 8 Curriculum Overview

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Art	Portraiture— anatomy	Portraiture –Self portrait	Art History	Art History	Perspective	Architecture
Drama*	Talk Shows	Horror	*Rotation with DT & Food Tech			
Design Technology*	Animal Themed Cushion		*Rotation with Drama & Food Tech			
Food Technology*	Food Choices	Menu Planning	*Rotation with Drama & DT			
English	Monsters & Villains	The Hunger Games	Comparison through the Ages	Noughts & Crosses	Love & Relationships Poetry	The Merchant of Venice
Geography	Life on Land	The Future of Antarctica	Africa	The Geography of Russia	Our Shrinking World	The Middle East
History	Slavery	Empire	Industrialisation	WW1	WW2	Atomic Bomb
Computing	Introduction to CPU	Wired & Wireless Networks	Computational Thinking	Logic gates and boolean	Hardware	Software
Maths	Number/Area & Volume	Statistics, Graphs & Charts/ Expressions & Equations	Real Life Graphs/Decimal & Ratio/ Line & Angles		Fractions/Straight Line Graphs/ Fractions, Percentages & Decimals	
MFL - French	T'es branché? : Talking about TV, music and the internet		Paris, je t'adore: Talking about the trips and Francophone countries		Mon identité : Talking about identity, style and home	
MFL - Spanish	Mis vacaciones : Talking about the holidays		Todo sobre mi vida : Talking about TV, music and the internet		¿Qué hacemos? : Talking about activities in town and parties	
Music	Fanfares	Harmonic Func-	Baroque to Hip Hop	Junk-Band Blues	Sounds of the Cinema	Offbeat
PE - Theory	Warm-up and Cool down	Leadership	Identify muscles/ bones	Short and Long term effects of exercise	Components of fitness	Sport Injuries
PE - Practical	Gymnastics/Rugby/Football/Netball/Badminton/Basketball/Fitness/Handball					
RE	Who am I?		Evil & Suffering	Islamic Philosophy	Science & Religion	Art & Religion
Science - Biology	Enquiry Processes	Organisms	Ecosystems		Genes	Revision & Exam
Science - Chemistry	Separation Techniques	The Periodic Table	Metals & Acids	Reactivity Series	The Earth	STEM Project
Science - Physics	Electricity & Magnetism	Energy	Motion & Pressure	Physics Intervention	Revision	STEM Project

Y8 ART

Subject Overview	Having developed a firm understanding of the Formal Elements of Art in Year 7, students re-join the art department with fresh opportunities to apply their learning and develop new skills in a variety of contexts. Students achieve a more in-depth understanding of painting and sculpture, examining meaningful responses to the themes of portraiture and architecture.	
Curriculum Content		
Autumn	<p><u>Portraiture</u></p> <p>What is portraiture in art? Students examine various portraits throughout this unit, gaining an understanding of how meaning is created through portraiture. Using their analytical knowledge of the formal elements, students discover how artists have used portraiture to create meaningful portraits throughout history that explore the culture and personality of the sitter.</p> <p>Students develop their observational skills and apply their knowledge of line, shape and tone in the drawing of a photo-realistic self-portrait. During this time, students consider what it is to make a self-portrait and how the refinement of a work can insure its success.</p>	
Spring	<p><u>Art History—Fauvism</u></p> <p>Leading on directly from Portraiture, students discover the history of Fauvism, an art movement focused on using colour in shocking and emotive ways. Students gain experience of acrylic painting techniques, as well as revising their understanding of colour theory to apply complementary colours in their work.</p> <p>Students produce a portrait developed from term one, using Fauvism as their inspiration to create an evocative outcome. Students continue to develop analytical knowledge leading directly to the development of this work.</p>	
Summer	<p><u>Architecture— Perspective and 3D Design</u></p> <p>Architecture is a popular career choice for budding artists, and this term is dedicated to students' understanding of three dimensional space and how it is captured on a two dimensional surface. Students explore two and three point perspective before making studies of various architectural styles that have influenced how humans live. Researching and presentation skills are a key part of this unit and we encourage students to develop public speaking skills when presenting their research.</p> <p>Students explore three dimensional design in the creation of a clay tile, working with both media and tools in a safety conscious manner.</p>	
Additional Information		
Assessment	At the end of each topic there will be a summative assessment usually in the form of a design task utilising the skills learnt.	
Homework Structure	Homework is set weekly throughout the course, this includes aspects of research, completion tasks as well as extended learning tasks.	
Enrichment	Art club on teams	
Online Resources	Teams Class Groups	
	Art club Team	
Extra reading		

Y8 Product Design

Subject Overview	Pupils will cover a variety of topics within the Product Design section of the Design Technology umbrella. In year 8, student will be introduced to textiles, where their design question of 'How can I think like a designer?' will be their main focus, building upon key concepts from their year 7 design journey and knowing the path of how they can achieve as young designers.	
Curriculum Content		
Term 1	<p>Understanding the research and design process</p> <p>Rules and routines of how Health and safety is applied throughout the workshop and design process.</p> <p>Knowing and understanding the design process through, researching, analysing and investigating the task set. Creating mood boards, questionnaires and identifying with designers to help their design process.</p> <p>Knowing and understanding Embroidery techniques and Fabric construction.</p> <p>Constructing initial design ideas towards producing their final outcomes.</p>	
Term 2	<p>Understanding the making and evaluation process.</p> <p>Knowing how to construct their products using the correct equipment and materials using the quality control processes through their making.</p> <p>Knowing and understanding the environmental, social and moral issues that impact on their design processes. For example where their packaging/ product could end up at the end of its shelf life.</p> <p>Knowing and understanding the ethical processes of their manufacturing specification guidance.</p> <p>Knowing and understanding their project development planning through the design process of a flow chart.</p> <p>Knowing how to evaluate their work to ensure that they have met their specification and design brief.</p>	
Additional Information		
Assessment	At the end of term students will be given an assessment which will be carried out in class to assess learning covered over the term.	
Homework Structure	Homework will be set fortnightly throughout the duration of the course. Homework will entail both practical and research based home learning.	
Enrichment		
Online Resources	https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-teams/log-in	Student's homework will be set here with clear instruction given.
		Year 8 work booklets
Extra reading		

Yr 8 Food Technology

Subject Overview	Pupils will cover a range of topics within Food, covering both theory and practical tasks. The rationale behind year 8 Food Tech is to develop a sense of understanding about nutrition and nutritional needs for themselves as well as a cultural awareness when choosing foods for different people. Throughout the course they will be encouraged to develop their cooking skills in keeping with food hygiene and safety.	
Curriculum Content		
Autumn 1	Health safety and hygiene and Healthy Eating and nutrition – This will link with working safely in the kitchen, identifying danger and hazards and prevention of accidents. Nutritional guidelines Eat well Plate Practical Cooking Task Food Choices Factors affecting food choices Practical Cooking Task	
Autumn 2	Special Dietary needs How does special dietary needs affect food choices Practical cooking task Menu Planning Design and make task Summative test	
Spring 1		
Spring 2		
Summer 1		
Summer 2		
Additional Information		
Assessment	Each end term or end of topic will include an assessment. This may be in the format of a test or design and make task .	
Homework Structure	Homework will be set out throughout the course. This will include research-based study, quizzes to reinforce learning and short tests.	
Enrichment	Researching and adapting different ingredients for a recipe	
Online Resources		This is where lessons and homework resources are uploaded to the class team.
		Self assessed quizzes for each topic. Your child will have a “class code” to access the work
Extra reading/ visuals	Students can watch Food videos that are uploaded on Teams. Online recipes	

English Additional Language

(EAL) KS3

Subject Overview	<p>The EAL curriculum is vital key for language development for students for whom English is not their first language. EAL supports students to build their skills to communicate confidently and effectively. This learning also strengthens their understanding of the nature of language and culture, and the way that language changes according to purpose, form and audience. By learning to use and adapt language according to specific contexts, EAL learners build relationships with their peers and the wider world around them.</p> <p>Through the EAL curriculum pathways, students develop English language competence in the modes of Speaking and Listening, Reading and Viewing, and Writing. This provision transcends the Key Stage models as they are entirely dependent on entry level proficiency.</p> <p>Students are provided with a range of opportunities to expand their linguistic repertoires and one of the main ways to do this is through a syllabus specifically tailored for their proficiency levels.</p> <p>The EAL curriculum provides opportunities for students to draw on their knowledge of the language/s spoken at home as a way to enhance their developing understanding of the English language.</p>
Curriculum Content	
Autumn 1	<p>Building vocabulary: verbs expressing preference, days of the week Key phrasing: talk about interests, greeting and introducing people Language focus: there is, there are, a, an, some and any Writing: describing people</p>
Autumn 2	<p>Building vocabulary: nouns, verbs, prepositions Key phrasing: giving and asking for information, likes and dislikes Language focus: present simple Writing: Capital letters, e-mail introduction, position of adjectives</p>
Spring 1	<p>Building vocabulary: adjectives, adverbs, time expressions Key phrasing: apologizing and explaining, invitation, Language focus: present continuous, Writing: Describing a town/place, punctuation</p>
Spring 2	<p>Building vocabulary: make nouns from verbs, describing emotions Key phrasing: expressing quantity, expressing interest, make suggestions Language focus: past simple, past continuous, Writing: write a blog, linking events</p>
Summer 1	<p>Building vocabulary: regular and irregular verbs, compound nouns Key phrasing: making predictions, taking about news, making plans Language focus: present perfect, first conditional Writing: fact files, writing a biography,</p>
Summer 2	<p>Building vocabulary: prefixes and suffixes, verbs and noun collocation, synonyms Key phrasing: facts and opinions, giving advice Language focus: past passive, second conditional Writing: writing a formal letter</p>
Additional Information	
Assessment	Structured assessments after each unit with end of the term and end of the year text
Homework Structure	After each lesson students receive extra write tasks to solidify knowledge
Enrichment	Organised excursions to introduce students to English way of living
Online Resources	English Plus - Oxford press
Extra reading	EAL adapted books for set text from the English literature curriculum

Year 8 English

Subject Overview	<p>In Year 7, students will explore a wide range of different text types, both fiction and non-fiction, to develop their inference and analysis skills. Students will learn about the development of language over time, understanding how cultural and historical influences impact the writing of a text. They will learn how to retrieve and select information and evidence whilst analysing the intended effects of language on the reader and gaining an awareness of the writer’s craft. They will begin to acquire and use a wider range of vocabulary and subject specific terminology they will need to express themselves academically in their writing. As they progress through the curriculum, students will build on their understanding of how language, structure and tone are used to create meaning as well as persuade and engage audiences. They will apply this knowledge to their own creative writing and persuasive speech writing. Two new bespoke unit have been developed this year in Autumn 2 and Summer 2 to compliment the previous unit and allow students to sharpen their writing skills.</p>
Curriculum Content	
Autumn 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of Mice and Men by George Steinbeck (Prose—Fiction Unit)
Autumn 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shadows of Tomorrow: Navigating Dystopian Realities (Creative Writing Unit)
Spring 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships Poetry (Poetry)
Spring 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNA by Dennis Kelly (Drama /Play Unit)
Summer 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Non-Fiction (Non-Fiction Reading Unit)
Summer 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Change of Perspective (Transactional Writing Unit)
Additional Information	
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Autumn 1— Reading Assessment ◆ Autumn 2— Writing Assessment ◆ Spring 1 — Reading Assessment ◆ Spring 2— Reading Assessment ◆ Summer Term —Reading and Writing Assessment ◆ Spoken Language Assessment (in-class presentations; Oracy)
Homework Structure	Bedrock Programme
Enrichment	World Book Day, National Poetry Day speakers, Library trips, Trust Poetry slam (annual event), local authors’ visits, Deep Learning Days, Library lessons.
Online Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC Bitesize -TED talks Podcasts by authors of studied novels/plays • SparkNotes.com -CliffsNotes.com • No Fear Shakespeare -The British Library Online
Extra reading	Wider reading channel can be found on Microsoft Teams where teachers provide interesting published articles/a range of non-fiction texts, podcasts, independent chapter reading and other resources that complement the texts students are studying in class.

Y8 Geography

Subject Overview	Students will cover a range of topics within Geography, covering both physical and human concepts. The rationale behind year 8 geography is to build upon a sense of place and identity for the pupils and to see the world they live in. Continuing to use geographical skills picked up from year 7, students will learn about geographical concepts in context by learning about wide-scale/global environments.	
Curriculum Content		
Autumn 1	Life on Land <u>Key focus:</u> How do living things interact with their non-living environment? Constructing food webs/chains Describing the location of world biomes (e.g deserts and tropical rainforests) Case studies: Brazil and Sub-Saharan Africa	
Autumn 2	The Future of Antarctica <u>Key focus:</u> What should happen to Antarctica in the future? Decision-making about the future of Antarctica (i.e. How humans use the continent) Using satellite imagery to look at glacial ablation (melt) in detail Debating skills – which future is best for Antarctica?	
Spring 1	Africa – A continent of contrasts <u>Key focus:</u> What are the challenges and opportunities facing Africa? Introduction to the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS), these include Google Maps etc. Constructing choropleth maps, a type of map which is created to visualise data about different countries of Africa for easy comparison between them Deconstructing misconceptions about the continent, people often think of the continent being under developed but this isn't always the case. Case studies: The Sahel and Nigeria	
Spring 2	The Geography of Russia <u>Key focus:</u> Is the Geography of Russia a curse or benefit? Further use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Topic will extend locational knowledge and deepen awareness of the location of Russia in comparison to other countries. Focus on different and wide ranging environmental regions (biomes) of Russia	
Summer 1	Our Shrinking World <u>Key focus:</u> Why is the world getting smaller? Think critically about whether Globalisation is positive in regards to humanity and the natural world Consider stakeholders (interested parties) in relation to globalisation and use them within debating scenarios Other aspects: international economic development, the use of natural resources and economic activity in the primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary sectors. <i>These sectors will relate to different types of work and why some sectors are seen more often than others in certain nations.</i>	
Summer 2	The Middle East <u>Key focus:</u> Why is the Middle East an important world region? Interpreting a range of different maps: population density, resource, biome etc. Extension of locational knowledge and deepen a spatial awareness of the world's countries focussing on the Middle East's environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics. Other aspects: Conflict over minerals, Exploitation, Economic development	
Additional Information		
Assessment	Per unit: Mid-unit – knowledge test, opportunity to resit. End-of-unit – written assessment featuring describe, explain and evaluate/assess question (usually based on decision-making).	
Homework Structure	Homework will be set regularly throughout all topics, this will be a mix of tasks related to student misconceptions, key issues and will often include filling out forms to determine understanding of online articles (Wider Reading).	
Online Resources	https://discoveringantarctica.org.uk/	The website includes many interactive quizzes that will be used in lessons related to Antarctica.
	https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p02544td/planet-earth-ii	Documentaries which students can watch independently, clips of which will be used throughout all topics but primarily 'Life on Earth'.
	https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p010jc6p/africa	Documentaries that students can watch independently, clips of which will be used in the topic 'Africa'.
Extra reading	See wider reading channel on TEAMS	

Y8 History

The British Empire and Britain's global dominance	
Subject Overview	<p>In Year 8, students will learn about Britain's global dominance during the 18th and 19th century. They will begin by learning about one of the world's great, but forgotten, empires, the Mughals. Whilst studying this, students will understand how this empire fell due to internal struggles but also foreign forces from the West. These forces were focused on trade, and companies such as the East India Company played a huge role in this. Furthermore, rather than focusing on abolition of the Slave Trade, students will assess how far the Transatlantic Slave trade and the ideas used to justify it, turned Africans, who came from vast and wealthy empires themselves, into negroes the derogatory term used in the West. Then students will be taught how the Industrial Revolution was a consequence of Britain's involvement in the Transatlantic Slave Trade. Following on, students will learn how the British Empire changed the lives for the indigenous peoples in the colonies in which they ruled. The legacy of the empire is a running theme throughout the History curriculum. Finally, the year will finish with a studying of both World War One and World War Two. Again the focus is the lesser known story of these world wars and students will learn about contributions such as the Indian Muslim contingent at Dunkirk and the Soldiers of Empire in World War One such as the footballer Walter Tull.</p>
Curriculum Content	
Autumn 1	Did the East India Company bring down the Mughal Empire?
Autumn 2	How far did the Transatlantic Slave Trade turn Africans into Negroes?
Spring 1	How did Britain benefit from the Industrial Revolution?
Spring 2	How far did the British Empire change the lives for the indigenous peoples?
Summer 1	Why do we still remember World War Two?
Summer 2	Was the evacuation at Dunkirk the turning point for the Allies defeating Hitler?
Additional Information	
Assessment	Each assessment unit will have a 30 mark knowledge question set using Microsoft Teams. There will also be an end of unit assessment, answering the enquiry by either an extended piece of writing, or oral assessment.
Homework Structure	Homework will involve knowledge revision using Knowledge Organisers. Students will also be given research homework to enrich and extend their knowledge of world History.
Enrichment	Students will receive opportunities to extend, broaden and deepen their subject knowledge through Historical Film Club, visits to sites, museums and exhibitions. Teams will also be used to share relevant articles and videos.
Online Resources	Microsoft Teams Crash Course, World History: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yocja_N5s1I&list=PLBDA2E52FB1EF80C9
	https://history.org.uk/student (Please ask your teacher for the login to the student zone) Crash Course, European History: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WhuC9dp0Hk&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMsMTfmRomkVQG8AqrAmJFX
	BBC Teach, History: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7JLSnPmNPU&list=PLcvEcrsF_9zI2dNGU9uUOWo9tenQi93UG
Extra reading	Please see the History reading list on the school website: https://www.barnhill.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=Humanities&pid=30

Y8 Computing

Subject Overview	Pupils will cover a range of Computing topics, including both practical Computing skills alongside Computer Science concepts. Year 8 start to focus on how a computer operates: the hardware that makes up a computer, as well as the software required to use one. They will also cover concepts used to create functions and larger applications.	
Curriculum Content		
Autumn 1	Introduction to the CPU Pupils will study the fundamentals of how a computer operates	
Autumn 2	Wired and Wireless Networks Pupils will study how to connect to a network and how networks are designed	
Spring 1	Computational Thinking Pupils will study what an algorithm is and real-world applications of them	
Spring 2	Logic Gates and Boolean Pupils will study logical operators and logic gates	
Summer 1	Hardware Pupils will study the different types of hardware required for a computer to operate	
Summer 2	Software Pupils will study different types of software and their uses	
Additional Information		
Assessment	Each half term or topic will include two summative assessment pieces, and also multiple opportunities for formative assessment in classes	
Homework Structure	Homework will be set throughout the course as required. It can include self-directed learning, quizzes that can be used to reinforce the learning that took place in the classroom, and extension activities to push pupils further.	
Enrichment	Plan enrichment to take place next academic term.	
Online Resources	https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-teams/log-in	This is where lessons and homework resources are uploaded to the class team. The Class Notebook (also through the OneNote App) is accessible here
	https://quizizz.com/join	Quiz-style revision activities for the pupils. There will be a "code" for each activity.
	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zvc9q6f	The BBC has released materials on the various topics that are covered which can assist the student or push them further.
Extra reading	https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology Code: The Hidden Language of Computer Hardware and Software by Charles Petzold	

Y8 French

Subject Overview	Year 8 French takes account a lot of prior learning . Students will learn to understand shorter and longer passages on familiar themes and learn to use the present tense of regular and some irregular verbs/ perfect tense of regular and irregular verbs and use the near future tense.	
Curriculum Content		
Autumn 1	Module 1: T'es branché (e)? Talking about television programmes The present tense Talking about films	
Autumn 2	Talking about reading Talking about the internet and phones	
Spring 1	Module 2: Paris, je t'adore! The perfect tense with "avoir" Saying what you did in a Francophone country Saying when you did things Saying what food you ate there	
Spring 2	The perfect tense with "être" Understanding information about a tourist attraction Giving opinions in the past tense Saying where you went and how	
Summer 1	Module 3: Mon identité Talking about personality Adjectival agreement Talking about relationships Reflexive verbs	
Summer 2	Talking about music Agreeing, disagreeing, and giving reasons Talking about clothes The near future tense Talking about your passion Talking about your home and town	
Additional Information		
Assessment	Students will have 4 mini-assessments during the term, testing vocabulary, translation and/or writing. They will also have an end of term assessment testing them on the four skills (Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing).	
Homework Structure	Homework will be set out throughout the course. This will include research-based study, quizzes to reinforce learning and short tests.	
Enrichment	French club – each week the focus on different topic	
Online Resources	QUIZLET - https://quizlet.com/	This is a mobile/web learning app where pupils will be able to learn the vocabulary used in the class with interactive flashcards, games and other learning tools.
Extra reading	https://lingua.com/french/reading/ https://french.kwiziq.com/learn/reading https://aspirelanguages.wordpress.com/2017/08/04/reading-in-french-for-pleasure/	

Y8 Spanish

Subject Overview	Year 8 Spanish builds on prior learning. Students will learn to understand shorter and longer passages on familiar themes. They will revise the present tense and opinions before learning to use the preterit of regular and some irregular verbs, the imperfect and the near future tense.
Curriculum Content	
Autumn 1	Module 1: Mis vacaciones The preterit tense of “ir” and “hacer” Saying what you did in on holiday Saying what food you ate there
Autumn 2	Giving opinions in the past Giving a detailed account of what you did on holidays The imperfect tense of “ser” Saying what you are going to do for the next holidays
Spring 1	Module 2: Todo sobre mi vida Talking about television programmes The present tense Talking about internet and phones Talking about music
Spring 2	Talking about films The preterit Giving opinions in the past tense Using comparatives and superlatives
Summer 1	Module 3: ¿Qué hacemos? Talking about where we like to go in town Talking about where we would like to go Making plans and giving excuses
Summer 2	Talking about what we wear for a party Talking about what food we eat and prepare for the party Talking about what food we usually eat
Additional Information	
Assessment	Students will have 4 mini-assessments during the term, testing vocabulary, translation and/or writing. They will also have an end of term assessment testing them on the four skills (Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing).
Homework Structure	Homework will be set out throughout the course. This will include research-based study, quizzes to reinforce learning and writing tasks.
Enrichment	Cultural Capita: Wider Reading, Research and Presentations
Online Resources	https://www.spain.info/es/ http://www.videoele.com/A1-Comunidades-autonomas.html https://www.activeteachonline.com/product/view/id/275/page/10/mode/dps?modal=/player/video/id/247243
Extra reading	https://www.turismoasturias.es/en/descubre/naturaleza/reservas-de-la-biosfera/parque-nacional-de-los-picos-de-europa# https://www.paradoresofspain.com/#!/parador/Carmona

Y8 Physical Education

Subject Overview	Physical Education is an integral part of school life in Year 8. Students participate in a variety of physical activities over the school year both in a team and individual setting. The activities include Football, Netball, Basketball, Athletics, Rounders, Fitness, Table Tennis, Badminton, Handball, Cricket, Tennis and OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities). This specifically designed curriculum has been created for the students to progress in sport successfully both physically and mentally, incorporating their improved confidence, competence and knowledge in order to maintain throughout their life. As a School, we thrive to adopt self-independence within our students while providing excellent and enjoyable learning environments for all abilities.	
Curriculum Content		
Autumn/ Spring	Develop sport specific skills both in isolation, competitive scenarios and gameplay. Use a range of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in direct competition through team and individual games; for Handball, Netball, Football, Badminton and Football. Develop knowledge and understand of different methods of training and Anatomy and Physiology.	
Summer	Develop sport specific skills both in isolation, competitive scenarios and game play. Use a range of tactics and strategies to overcome opponents in direction competition through team and individual sports within Athletics, Tennis, Rounders, Cricket. Develop ability to work as a team, communication and problem solving skill	
Additional Information		
Assessment	Throughout each rotation of sport and at the end of the unit students will be assessed on their physical Literacy, Knowledge of the rules and regulations and ability to apply both into competitive game situations.	
Homework Structure	Students are frequently challenged to develop their understanding of sport through lesson pre-work and this is usually set through TEAMS.	
Enrichment	Take part in competitive sports and activities outside school through community links or sports clubs and to participate in a range of extracurricular activities in school to support tis.	
Online	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zxf3cdm	BBC Bitesize for Physical Education
	https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-teams/log-in	Class resources, announcements and homework to be posted on class teams when relevant.
Extra reading	<p>The England and Wales Cricket Board Limited www.ecb.co.uk</p> <p>Federation Internationale de Football Association www.fifa.com</p> <p>The Football Association Limited www.thefa.com</p> <p>The Lawn Tennis Association www.lta.org.uk</p> <p>https://www.englandhandball.com/</p> <p>England Cricket Board https://www.ecb.co.uk/</p> <p>England Netball https://www.englandnetball.co.uk/</p> <p>The Football Association http://www.thefa.com/</p>	

Y8 Drama

Subject Overview	Key Stage 3 Drama is an opportunity for students to gain important skills for all aspects of their lives. They will focus on confidence, team work, analysis, voice, body language and self-improvement. There are a variety of topics used to advance these skills that vary from history to understanding new cultures. Year 8 is about developing interesting characters and mastering improvisation.	
Curriculum Content		
Autumn	<p>Macbeth</p> <p>This unit aims to introduce students to Shakespeare at a KS3 level. The students focus on the story at first and then delve into the character of the witches in the play. They are asked to create their own "Spell" which is a 14 line poem with rhyming couplets and then are expected to perform this poem as a monologue to the class.</p> <p>There are clear links to English, History and psychology.</p>	
Spring	<p>Culture</p> <p>Students are introduced to different cultural stories and are asked to create character and understanding of these stories in devised improvisation. Students are to focus on dramatic skills that have been focused on during the year such as voice, facial expression and movement to give a complex and assured performance of these stories. Students are introduced to a new dramatic technique of narration.</p>	
Summer	<p>Talk shows</p> <p>This unit aims to introduce students to spontaneous improvisation, status and Talk Shows as a genre. Students explore the intricacies of spontaneous improvisation and how their skills gained in year 7 will allow them to use this very difficult process to their benefit. They look at status and how that creates interesting relationships between characters. Students will use these skills to create a performance which focuses on the genre in Talk shows and focus on the characters they are creating and performing.</p>	
Additional Information		
Assessment	Termly, practical assessments to understand progress over time	
Homework Structure	Homework is every lesson and to be completed on Teams	
Enrichment	Homework tasks allow for students to delve deeper into the topics.	
Online Resources	Homework sheets provided	Teams resources provided
Extra reading	Found in the literacy section on teams	

Y8 Mathematics

Subject Overview	The beginning of year 8 is setup to revisit skills covered in prior learning such as rounding and working with decimals. These are needed skills for estimation, error intervals and standard form all of which are extended skills from the national curriculum that take students beyond KS2. At the same time as teaching these there are opportunities to build upon skills from year 7 such as multiplying decimals, negatives and use of powers. Once this is covered we move onto ratio and proportion. The number skills covered in term 1 are required to access topics such as recipes which often require the use of decimals. Once these topics are established all stages revert to exploring percentages in greater depth. For example, working with percentage increase and decrease through to percentage change. Some stages will also explore interest. In term 4 we build upon the knowledge of content covered in year 7 as well as earlier in year 8 by extending algebra skills. This includes looking at solving harder equations, working with inequalities and rearranging formulae. All of the skills listed above require the use of number which are covered in term 1 and 2.	
Curriculum Content		
Autumn Term	Rounding, Limits of accuracy Formal methods for multiplying and dividing decimals Standard form, Metric and imperial conversions Ratio, Percentages, Proportionality	
Spring Term	Rearranging formulae, Solving complex equations Inequalities, Sequences, Angles in parallel lines Angles in polygons, Circles, Volume and surface area of prisms	
Summer Term	$y = mx + c$ Simultaneous equations Pythagoras theorem Similarity and congruence	
Additional Information		
Assessment	3 summative assessments and 3 formative assessments	
Homework Structure	Sparx – Homework is set on a weekly basis and is based on what skills are being/will be taught during the unit. Pupils are notified on Teams and in class about their homework on a weekly basis.	
Enrichment	Chess club: the game of chess helps young people to learn to concentrate, think logically, overcome obstacles, spot patterns and categorize information. UKMT- Junior Mathematical Challenge: The JMC is a 60-minute, multiple-choice competition aimed at students across the UK. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.	
Online Resources	MathsWatch https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/	Videos and worksheets for every maths topic.
	Sparx: https://www.sparxmaths.uk/	Videos and quizzes for every maths topic. Login required.
	Corbett Maths: http://www.corbettmaths.com	Videos and worksheets for all topics from KS2 to KS4.
	KS3 Maths – BBC Bitesize: KS3 Maths - BBC Bitesize	KS3 Maths revision resources with questions to test understanding
Extra reading	Closing the Gap: The Quest to Understand Prime Numbers by Vicky Neale (NF) Maths on the back of an envelope by Rob Eastaway (NF) The Penguin Dictionary of Curious and Interesting Numbers by David Wells (NF) The Man Who Counted- A Collection of Mathematical Adventures by Malba Tahan (NF) Why do buses come in threes? The hidden mathematics of everyday life-Rob Eastaway and Jeremy Wyndham (NF) Division by Zero by Ted Chiang(F)	

Y8 Music

Subject Overview	Music education at Barnhill aims to develop students' musical literacy and personal musical identity. Students will learn to interpret and create music, engaging with various musical concepts and practical skills. The curriculum emphasizes performance, composition, and understanding of musical elements across different genres and	
Curriculum Content		
Unit 1	Piano Skills Building on Year 7, students will further develop piano playing skills focusing on the bass clef, including notes from low G to middle C, and incorporating more complex rhythms like semi-quavers, dotted rhythms, and triplets.	
Unit 2	Improvisation Students will practice improvisation in F, C, and G major, exploring these scales and their pentatonic counterparts, along with D and A major scales. This will be explored through improvisation across	
Unit 3	Film Music Composition Composing music for film scenarios based on teacher-set briefs, utilizing scales outside the major/minor framework and focusing on sonority and texture.	
Unit 4	Band Skills - Reggae Developing ensemble skills with a focus on reggae, consolidating learning across the year through performance and arrangement of pieces from famous reggae artists.	
Additional Information		
Assessment	40% instrument ability, 20% composition, 20% improvisation and 20% homework. Homework is auto-marking and all other assessments are teacher assessed.	
Homework Structure	Homework is set every fortnight for music. This uses a website called Focus on Sound to deepen students understanding of lesson content. Homework is set on teams and written into planners.	
Enrichment	The music department offers 6 extra-curricular clubs a week, from choir to orchestra to rock bands and piano clubs. Students can see their music teacher for more information.	
Online Resources	portal.focusonsound.com	Online learning for music, a programme purchased every year for students that they log-in to using their school e-
	Musictheory.net	Music theory website to help re-learn and deepen understanding of core concepts
	Bandlab.com	An online DAW for making music. Works on phones, tablets and computers.
Extra reading	Additional study can take place on Focus on Sound, which covers all music up to A-Level study.	

Y8 Science

Subject Overview	Pupils will cover a range of topics from all three Sciences. Throughout all the topics students will be carrying out a variety of practical skills to support their understanding of various scientific concepts. In year 8, we aim for students to revisit and strengthen their existing knowledge and to further build on those concepts. The main topics covered at year 8 are: Organisms, Matter, Forces, Ecosystems, Earth, Waves, Genes and Energy.	
Curriculum Content		
Autumn 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisms – Breathing system • Matter – Elements • Forces – Contact forces 	
Autumn 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisms – Digestion • Matter – The Periodic Table • Forces – Pressure 	
Spring 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystems - Respiration • Earth – Climate • Waves – Sound 	
Spring 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystems – Photosynthesis • Earth – Resources 	
Summer 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waves – Light • Genes – Variation 	
Summer 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy—Work, heating and cooling • STEM - Projects 	
Additional Information		
Assessment	Students will carry out the following assessment: Autumn 1 End-of-term assessment Autumn 2 MCQs Spring 1 End-of-term assessment Spring 2 MCQs Summer 1 End-of-Year Assessment Summer 2 End-of-term assessment	
Homework Structure	Homework worksheets will be provided by class teacher in lessons. This will help to consolidate and extend students' learning	
Enrichment	International day for women in science, expert guest speakers Topics linked to careers in science STEM tasks/projects/Trips	
Online Resources	https://www.educake.co.uk/	Self-assessed quizzes
	https://www.kerboodle.com/app	Students can access their textbook electronically online
	https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/	Self-assessed quizzes for topics covered in class
Extra reading	https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science_and_environment This website provides current major scientific discoveries and milestones. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z4kw2hv This website provides revision material for topics taught in class	

Y8 Social Sciences

Subject Overview	Students will study Social Sciences, which is a combination of Religious Studies, Citizenship and PSHRE. They will have 3 lessons a fortnight.	
	Students will show progression through the same themes (with different sub-topics) every year. In Year 8 this is on a national scale.	
	Term Themes	
	A1	Identity
	A2	Relationships
	Sp1	Social Justice
	Sp2	Conflict
Su1	British Values/Politics	
Su2	World Religions	
Curriculum Content		
Autumn 1	Where do I stand ethically and morally?	
Autumn 2	Sex and Relationship Education	
Spring 1	How is crime an issue in the UK?	
Spring 2	Philosophical and Ethical Debate	
Summer 1	Problems in the UK (with online safety)	
Summer 2	Why don't all Christians think the same way?	
Additional Information		
Assessment	Each half term or end of topic will include an assessment. This will be in the format of a closed book assessment. Using the assessment the student will be graded based on the school system of Emerging, Developing, Secured and Mastered. All students will have the opportunity to then review and improve each assessment on an ongoing basis.	
Homework Structure	Students will complete a number of homework tasks, these will include conducting research, which will then be used in upcoming lessons, completing quizzes on teams and some wider reading.	
Enrichment	Through lessons, homework and wider reading students will get an insight into the beliefs, choices and views of others. Students will have the chance to enrich their knowledge through debates and discussions and wider research.	
Online Resources	https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-teams/log-in	This is where lessons and homework resources are uploaded to the class team.
	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zc4k7ty	Law and order
	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkdk382/articles/zhpq47h	Is religion a power for peace or does it cause conflict?
Extra reading	Lots of wider reading will be posted in the wider reading of class teams page.	