



Malbank School & Sixth Form College

Rejoice in being the best that we can be.

Dear Parents / Carers

September 2026

Overview of the Year 8 Curriculum Head, Heart & Hand

The knowledge and skills we want our students to learn and develop at Malbank School is our core purpose. We continuously review our curriculum provision in Key Stage 3 to ensure that our students have the very best opportunity to make progress and be the best that they can be. Identifying what they need to learn and the order in which they learn knowledge and develop skills is key to this

At Malbank, we believe that there should be clarity and consistency so that staff and students are clear on what knowledge and skills should be taught and learned in each curriculum area, academic year, topic and in each lesson. It is also important that we are clear on how we are building on the Year 7 Curriculum.

To support with this, we have adopted a Head, Heart & Hand curriculum model which takes into account all aspects of the National Curriculum.

Head represents the key knowledge to be learned.

Heart represents the key personal skills that will be developed and also help students to understand the world around them.

Hand represents the key skills that will be developed as a result of the knowledge learned.

I have included a topic overview at the end of this letter so that you can see what topics your child will be covering this term in each curriculum area, so when if like my children they tell you that they did nothing in school that day you will be able to ask about specific topics.

More information about the Year 8 and whole school curriculum can be found on our website - [Malbank School & Sixth Form College - Curriculum](#) or www.malbank.com and follow the links for curriculum.

Please remember, that these are overviews and sometimes topics may take a little longer or not as long to get to grips with, to secure the knowledge and skills needed to move on.

I hope that this information is useful. If you have any concerns over how your child is progressing, please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's Culture Manager or the Key Stage 3 team.

Yours Sincerely,
Janine Edwards – Deputy Headteacher

 Headteacher: John D. Harrison B.A. (Hons.)

 Welsh Row, Nantwich, Cheshire East, CW5 5HD

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Year 8

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
Art	An introduction to portraiture	The work of Andy Gotts
Dance	Unit 1 – Greased Lightning: Stylistic Qualities, Creativity and Problem-Solving, Confidence through Performance, Evaluation.	
Drama	Detention centre - practical	Urban myths and legends
English	Justice and Freedom – this will be explored using different texts such as the bone sparrow and ghost boys.	
Geography	Population and migration	Studying Kenya, including tourism and sustainable development.
History	History through the microscope and telescope – Historical skills	Was Elizabethan England really a 'Golden Age'?
ICT	Unit 1 – Graphic skills	Unit 2- Binary Binary Logic. Logic gates, Binary to Denary Vice versa. How Binary images are stored. How characters are stored.
Maths	Ratio and proportion Transformations Area and volume Number	
French	Holidays	Celebrations and festivals
German	Holidays	Media
Music	Musical beginnings – Find your voice	Musical beginnings – ode to joy
PE	Pupils will cover 2 sports from the lists below this term Indoor: Badminton, Trampolining, Fitness Suite, Rugby Outdoor: Hockey, Football, Netball	Pupils will cover 2 sports from the lists below this term Indoor: Badminton, Trampolining, Fitness Suite, Rugby Outdoor: Hockey, Football, Netball
Reading to Learn	Using a range of texts to gain a wider knowledge of the world and how literature plays its part. Students will also gain an appreciation for reading and practice a range of comprehension skills	Using a range of texts to gain a wider knowledge of the world and how literature plays its part. Students will also gain an appreciation for reading and practice a range of comprehension skills
RS	Judaism	Buddhism
Science	Nutrition and Digestion, Gas exchanges systems and Reproduction	
Spanish	Holidays	Free time

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Technology	Food - Health and Safety, Healthy eating, knife skills, buying measuring and preparing ingredients – making sausage rolls, Chicken nuggets and Bolognese D&T – Making a clock and looking at Timbers, past and present designers, structures and forces.
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