Dear Parents / Carers September 2025

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.

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.

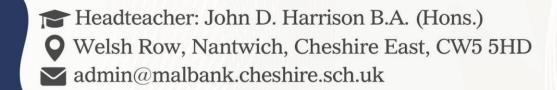
More information about the Year 8 and whole school curriculum can be found on our website - <u>Malbank</u> School & Sixth Form College - Curriculum or www.malbank.com and follow the links for curriculum.

I have also added a copy of our reading newsletter to the bottom of the letter.

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 Progress Manager or the Key Stage 3 team.

Yours Sincerely, Janine Edwards – Deputy Headteacher







Malbank School & Sixth Form College Rejoice in being the best that we can be.

Year 8

	Autumn 1 Autum	nn 2
Art	An introduction to portraiture The w	ork of Andy Gotts
Dance	Unit 1 – Greased Lightning: Stylistic Qualities, Creativity and Problem-Solving, Confidence through Performance, Evaluation.	
Drama	Detention centre - practical Urba	an 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 - Kenya Ecosys	stems
History	History through the microscope and Was telescope 'Golde	Elizabethan England really a en Age'?
ICT	Unit 1 – Graphic skills Unit 2	- Binary
Maths	Ratio and proportion Transformations Area and volume Number	
French	Holidays Celebr	rations and festivals
German	Holidays Media	
Music	Musical beginnings – Find your voice Music	al beginnings – ode to joy
PE	Indoor: Outdoor: Indoor Badminton Hockey Badmi Trampolining Football Tramp	this term r: Outdoor: inton Hockey polining Football ss Suite Netball
Reading Learn	Using a range of texts to gain a wider Using a range of texts to gain a wider knowledge of the world and how literature plays its part. Students will literature plays its part. Students will also also gain an appreciation for reading gain an appreciation for reading and and practice a range of practice a range of comprehension skills comprehension skills	
RS	Judaism Buddh	
Science	Nutrition and Digestion, Gas exchanges systems and Reproduction	
Spanish	Holidays Free time	
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.	



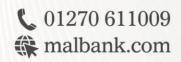
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READING **YEWSLETTER**

Key Stage 4 Formtime Reading

In years 9 and 10, students will spend one morning a week reading either a short extract of fiction or a newspaper article. These are designed so that students can finely tune their reading for information skills that will be crucial in their GCSE exams as well as in their adult lives.

Reliable news source

The Day publishes several articles every day, covering the main stories from around the world. These are designed for high school students and are a great way for pupils to keep up to date with events that are happening around the world whilst avoiding dangerous misinformation. The link is on the school website but can also be found below www.theday.co.uk/?id=FBB6BBD8-90FA-4FCB-A2FC-044514FB9802

Key Stage 3 Formtime reading

In years 7 and 8, students will spend one morning a week reading a short fiction book linked to an area of the Education for Life curriculum. Students might be reading about characters who are suffering from bullying, dealing with climate change or the challenges that technology brings. These stories have been chosen to allow the students to explore the issues through a different lense and broaden their horizons, as well as developing a lifelong love of reading

The School Library

Our school library is open every break and lunchtime. Students can borrow from a wide range of books (both fiction and nonfiction). They can also use the library as a quiet space where they can read, complete homework and revise





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